TAFE Centres of Excellence

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – EDUCATION AND SKILLS

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule</th></tr>
<tr><td>Parties</td><td>Commonwealth
The Northern Territory</td></tr>
<tr><td>TAFE Centre of Excellence</td><td>Regional and Remote Essential Care Services Centre of Excellence (RRECS CoE)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Duration</td><td>This Agreement will expire on 31 December 2028 (in line with the National Skills Agreement [NSA]), or on completion of all milestones in Table 2 below, including final performance reporting.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Purpose</td><td>This Project Plan will support the delivery of the RRECS CoE. The RRECS CoE is being established under Part 6 of the NSA.
This Project Plan outlines the additional activities funding for the RRECS CoE through the Turbocharging TAFE Centres of Excellence and Advancing Higher Apprenticeships (Turbocharging) measure. The Turbocharging measure was announced as part of the Working Future: The Australian Government's White Paper on Jobs and Opportunities. The purpose of this additional funding is to fast-track the establishment of the RRECS CoE and to support work to expand the use of higher apprenticeship pathways.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Estimated financial contributions</td><td>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the Northern Territory of $5.295 million in respect of this Project Plan.
<table>
<tr><th>Table 1
($ million)</th><th>2024-25</th><th>2025-26</th><th>2026-27</th><th>Total</th></tr>
<tr><td>Estimated total budget</td><td>1.600</td><td>2.454</td><td>1.241</td><td>5.295</td></tr>
<tr><td>Less estimated National Partnership Payments</td><td>1.600</td><td>2.454</td><td>1.241</td><td>5.295</td></tr>
<tr><td>Balance of non-Commonwealth</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td><td>0.0</td></tr>
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Part 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Milestone	**Deliverable/Evidence**	**Estimated milestone delivery and payment date**	**Payment Value (Commonwealth Funded)**
Milestone 1 Commonwealth agreement to and signing of this Project Plan for the *Turbocharging TAFE Centres of Excellence and Advancing Higher Apprenticeships* measure for the RRECS CoE.	Final TAFE Centres of Excellence Schedule Final Turbocharging RRECS CoE Project Plan	31 March 2025 For payment by 30 May 2025	$1,600,000
Milestone 2 Commonwealth acceptance that the RRECS CoE has continued operation, to be demonstrated by: • ongoing consultation with community (including First Nations organisations), employers, unions and peak industry bodies to ascertain composition of higher-level apprenticeship qualifications and the workplace environment • developed fit-for-purpose resources for Higher Apprenticeship pilot programs • established two remote learning hubs • constructed and fitted out the clinical care, allied health, and higher apprenticeships mobile learning units • developed and delivered a regional pilot training program, delivering training and assessment qualifications, micro credentials and culturally fit-for-purpose higher apprenticeship models, and	Report signed by Northern Territory senior official with responsibility for skills or their appropriate delegate that provides an update on progress of the RRECS CoE in the reporting period (signing – 31 March 2026) and attaches: • a Stakeholder Engagement Framework • a Progress Report on higher-level apprenticeship qualification scoping and program and resource design • a Project Plan outlining key deliverables over the life of the agreement for the establishment of the two remote learning hubs and the procurement and fit-out of critical infrastructure and resources for the three remote learning units • an Evaluation Report assessing student engagement and pilot outcomes, to be presented to the National TAFE Network • a Project Plan for scaling and developing the pilot program and its Higher Apprenticeship models beyond 2026.	31 March 2026 For payment by 30 June 2026	$2,454,000

• conducted ongoing development of higher apprenticeship models, based on the six-month pilot program.			
Milestone 3 Commonwealth acceptance that the RRECS CoE has continued operation and met key project deliverables to be demonstrated by: • the operation of two remote learning hubs • ongoing deployment of three mobile learning units, and • successfully scaled pilot program to implement higher apprenticeships.	Report signed by Northern Territory senior official with responsibility for skills or their appropriate delegate that provides an update on completion of deliverables of the RRECS CoE in the reporting period (1 April 2026 – 31 March 2027) and attaches a final outcomes and evaluation report covering: • the operation of two remote learning hubs • ongoing deployment of three mobile learning units, and • successfully scaled pilot program to implement higher apprenticeships.	31 March 2027 For payment by 30 June 2027	**$1,241,000**

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Project Plan as follows:

Signed *for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by*

The Honourable Andrew Giles MP
Minister for Skills and Training
26 / 3 / 2025

Signed *for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by*

The Honourable Jo Hersey MLA
Minister for Education and Training
/ /
27 MAY 2025