

Contract notification

CN number:	2025-10	Date: 12 November 2025
To:	Chief Executive Officer or equivalent	
Purpose:	Advice on Contract requirement	
Scope:	All 2024-25 VET funding contracts	
Subject:	Release of the draft 2026 VET funding contracts and guidelines, and approved course lists	

Purpose

This contract notification is to advise you about the release of the draft 2026 VET funding contracts and guidelines, and the approved course lists for 2026.

Release of the draft 2026 VET funding contracts and guidelines

We have published the following in the documents section of SVTS:

- Draft 2026 TAFE VET funding contract
- Draft 2026 dual sector VET funding contract
- Draft 2026 standard VET funding contract
- Draft 2026 guidelines about eligibility
- Draft 2026 guidelines about fees
- Draft 2026 guidelines about apprenticeship/traineeship training delivery
- Draft 2026 Skills First quality charter.

We've also published associated guides to help you understand the changes to the contract.

Minor contract changes for 2026

You now don't have to create a separate 'statement of fees' – unless you want to. You can provide information about fees in other ways, such as on an invoice.

You now must tell prospective students if their program has a practical placement.

We also clarified some of our requirements. For example:

- Students under 17 years of age don't need an exemption from school if they've completed year 12 or an equivalent qualification.
- We updated the requirements for delivering school-based apprenticeships and traineeships.

Helping you understand the changes

We've created guides to help you understand the changes to the 2026 contracts and guidelines. These guides are in clear and simple language. They are in the documents section of SVTS.

- Guide to content changes – summarises and explains the significant changes
- Guide to edits – contract – a comprehensive list of changes to the contract
- Guide to edits – guidelines – a comprehensive list of changes to the guidelines

2026 course lists

We've published the 2026 training needs list and 2026 funded programs report in the documents section of SVTS.

2026 training needs list

The 2026 list reflects the Victorian Government's overall policy for its investment in the Skills First program. We subsidise training in the highest priority areas where there is a strong rationale for public subsidy within available budget.

The training needs list states the enrolment type, program category and associated occupations and industries for each program we fund.

We've removed 95 programs from the training needs list.

The programs we removed are listed in attachment 1.

We removed these programs because there has been no or low demand for them, or poor outcomes. We made these decisions at a program level across the market and not at an individual training provider level.

From 2026 you can't deliver these programs to new students under Skills First. However, you can train continuing students in these programs, and we will pay you the Skills First subsidy until they complete their training.

2026 funded programs report

The funded programs report outlines the programs that can get Skills First funding and their subsidy rates.

In 2026, subsidy rates will continue to depend on the type of training provider, delivery location, delivery method, and program type. We kept subsidy rates the same as 2025. However, we increased the subsidy rate for the Certificate I in Developing Independence.

If you are a TAFE, dual sector university or community-based provider, rate 1 in column J of the funded programs report applies. For all other training providers, go to the funded programs report and regional postcodes tab to find what subsidy rate applies to your delivery – either rate 1 (in column J), rate 2a (column K) or rate 2b (column K).

2026 Free TAFE list

We removed 2 mental health short courses from the Free TAFE course list due to low student demand and no current delivery of the training.

- Mental Health Co-Existing Needs Skill Set
- Mental Health Peer Work Skill Set.

We will update the Free TAFE course [website directory](#).

Superseding programs

Superseding programs in a training package

For programs from a training package, unless we tell you otherwise, we will automatically add the new version of the program to your funded scope when its put on both:

- your scope of registration, as identified on training.gov.au, and
- the 2026 funded programs report.

VET accredited programs

For VET accredited programs, please contact us via SVTS once:

- the regulator adds the replacement version of the program to your scope of registration, and
- the department has added it to the funded programs report.

We will then add the new version to your funded scope and send you an updated schedule 2 – individual details and conditions.

Key dates

Category	Date
Final 2026 contracts published	December 2025
Most outcomes communicated (including 2026 Schedule 2s)	December 2025
2026 contract commences	1 January 2026

If you have a question, please submit an enquiry using the category ‘2026 contracting process’.

Ryan Collins

Executive Director

Training Operations and Assurance

Attachment 1: The 95 programs removed from the training needs list

Program code	Program name
MST60122	Advanced Diploma of Apparel, Fashion and Textiles
ICT60220	Advanced Diploma of Information Technology
22565VIC	Advanced Diploma of Legal Practice
BSB60520	Advanced Diploma of Marketing and Communication
PSP60822	Advanced Diploma of Translating
SIT60122	Advanced Diploma of Travel and Tourism Management
FSK10119	Certificate I in Access to Vocational Pathways
MEA20518	Certificate II in Aircraft Line Maintenance
ICT20120	Certificate II in Applied Digital Technologies
CUA20225	Certificate II in Creative Industries
FWP20122	Certificate II in Forest Operations
MSF20413	Certificate II in Glass and Glazing
AHC21624	Certificate II in Landscaping
AMP20316	Certificate II in Meat Processing (Abattoirs)
AUR21020	Certificate II in Motor Sport Technology
CUA20620	Certificate II in Music
AHC20724	Certificate II in Nursery Operations
AHC20324	Certificate II in Production Horticulture
AHC21216	Certificate II in Rural Operations
22573VIC	Certificate II in Signage and Graphics
SIT20125	Certificate II in Tourism
AHC21425	Certificate II in Wool Handling
ACM30219	Certificate III in Animal Technology
SIT31121	Certificate III in Asian Cookery
AUR31316	Certificate III in Automotive Engine Reconditioning
SIT30921	Certificate III in Catering
MEM30422	Certificate III in Engineering - Electronic Trade
MEM31419	Certificate III in Engineering - Fixed and Mobile Plant Mechanic
MEM30522	Certificate III in Engineering - Technical
MEM31519	Certificate III in Engineering - Toolmaking Trade
MSF30122	Certificate III in Furniture Finishing
UEG30122	Certificate III in Gas Supply Industry Operations
PSP30122	Certificate III in Government
SIT30322	Certificate III in Guiding
ACM30821	Certificate III in Horse Care
AMP30516	Certificate III in Meat Processing (Slaughtering)
AMP31016	Certificate III in Meat Processing (Smallgoods - Manufacture)
TLI30122	Certificate III in Mobile Crane Operations
SIS30619	Certificate III in Outdoor Leadership
HLT37415	Certificate III in Pathology Assistance

MSF30518	Certificate III in Picture Framing
MEM31322	Certificate III in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning
FWP31021	Certificate III in Saw Technology
22607VIC	Certificate III in Science
FWP30622	Certificate III in Timber Building Products Supply
NWP30222	Certificate III in Water Industry Operations
BSB30719	Certificate III in Work Health and Safety
AHC41024	Certificate IV in Agribusiness
MEA40922	Certificate IV in Aircraft Surface Finishing
ACM40222	Certificate IV in Animal Facility Management
AUR40116	Certificate IV in Automotive Management
CHC41215	Certificate IV in Career Development
CHC42315	Certificate IV in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care
UEE40420	Certificate IV in Electrical - Instrumentation
UEE40720	Certificate IV in Electronics and Communications
SFL40115	Certificate IV in Floristry
SIT40222	Certificate IV in Guiding
SHB40216	Certificate IV in Hairdressing
HLT41120	Certificate IV in Health Care
22697VIC	Certificate IV in Integrated Technologies
AHC41124	Certificate IV in Irrigation Management
BSB40720	Certificate IV in Library and Information Services
CUA40425	Certificate IV in Live Production and Technical Services
TLI40724	Certificate IV in Mobile Crane Operations
AHC40324	Certificate IV in Production Horticulture
TLI40122	Certificate IV in Specialist Driving Operations
FWP40222	Certificate IV in Timber and Wood Products Operations
FWP40420	Certificate IV in Timber Systems Design
CONISS013	Commission and maintain hot and heated water temperature control systems
22625VIC	Course in Intermediate Risk Assessment and Management of Family Violence
22587VIC	Course in Light Gauge Steel Detailing
22661VIC	Course in Minimising Risks in the Use of 1080 and PAPP Bait Products for Vertebrate Pest Control
UEE51220	Diploma of Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Engineering
MEM50822	Diploma of Applied Technologies
CHC52121	Diploma of Community Development
SFL50115	Diploma of Floristry Design
FWP50121	Diploma of Forest Operations
SIS50421	Diploma of Outdoor Leadership
FNS50422	Diploma of Payroll Services
AHC50324	Diploma of Production Horticulture
SIR50217	Diploma of Visual Merchandising

ICTSS00095	Fibre Splicer Skill Set
FBPSS00004	Food Safety Auditor Skill Set
CHC81315	Graduate Certificate in Career Development Practice
CHCSS00132	Individual Support - Home and Community (Disability)
CHCSS00088	Induction
CONISS018	Licence to operate a slewing mobile crane (up to 20 tonnes)
CHCSS00137	Palliative Approach
RIISS00059	Traffic Controller Skill Set for High Volume Roads
RIISS00058	Traffic Controller Skill Set for Urban Streets and Low Volume Rural Roads
RIISS00061	Traffic Management Implementer Skill Set for High Volume Roads
RIISS00062	Traffic Management Implementer Skill Set for Motorways and Freeways
RIISS00060	Traffic Management Implementer Skill Set for Urban Streets and Low Volume Rural Roads
SIRSS00018	Understand the use of social media for business purposes
TAESS00028	Work Skill Instructor Skill Set