

# FACT SHEET – 2021 FUNDED COURSE LIST

The 2021 Funded Course List (FCL) is the list of all courses that attract a Victorian Government subsidy for eligible students who commence training from 1 January 2021.

## BACKGROUND

The Funded Course List (FCL) is the list of courses that attract a Victorian Government subsidy for eligible students who commence training from 1 January each year.

The FCL is reviewed on an annual basis and released to providers during Q3 each year to inform the settling of Allocations and Funded Scope for training providers to be contracted in the following year.

The subsidies the courses attract are intended to reflect the costs of training (with the student contributing an appropriate fee) and generally include courses that:

- align with industry needs and workforce demands
- represent government priorities, including rolling out the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), responding to family violence, and completing Victoria's infrastructure projects
- have strong job outcomes, such as apprenticeships
- meet other social needs, such as foundation skill courses.

The changes in the 2021 FCL ensures that training is focussed on courses that benefit the Victorian economy and ensures a sustainable TAFE and Training sector.

## DETERMINATION OF COURSES ON FCL

The FCL is a central element of the Skills First reforms, designed to promote a stable, sustainable VET model that meets the current and future needs of Victorian industry, employers and students.

The Department regularly reviews and assesses funded courses to ensure current training meets future industry and student demand, incorporating the latest research and analysis on labour market trends and training activity, along with input from subject matter experts and industry representatives.

The Department undertakes a thorough process to ensure that a recommendation for removal of a course from the FCL is evidence-based and incorporates up-to-date information and stakeholder feedback.

Each course is assessed for its economic and social contribution, as well as an assessment of the student outcomes achieved from the course. All courses are also reviewed to determine whether they are on-scope for any Victorian government contracted provider, whether they are servicing a niche occupation or an occupation in shortage, and whether they are important for regional employment and the needs of students in regional areas.

Advice from industry representatives and a range of subject matter experts is incorporated into the assessment for each course. Industry representatives and subject matter experts will recommend courses for retention or removal from the FCL, based on wider stakeholder feedback on the quality of a course and its utility for the industry/occupation it is designed to service.

For 2021, the assessment of courses has also included a review of those courses that will be of greatest benefit for students in gaining employment and in assisting industries with the economic recovery.

## IMPLICATIONS FOR SKILLS FIRST PROVIDERS

There are around **700** courses on the FCL for 2021. Selected courses are funded as a traineeship or apprenticeship only, in line with the preferences of industry.

The 2021 FCL has been published in the Documents section of SVTS and will be available on the Department's website in **early 2021**.

Students who are still in a course that has previously received government-funding will be able to continue their course with no changes to their funded status. This 'grandfathering' arrangement will be in place until they either complete or withdraw from their studies.

A list of current funded courses and 2020 rates for non-funded courses can be found in the funded courses report at <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/svts>.

Training Providers can still deliver accredited courses that are not on the 2021 FCL to new students, however, these new students will not be eligible for Victorian Government subsidies.

From 1 January 2021, training providers offering qualifications relevant to family violence or the National Disability Insurance Scheme are strongly encouraged to import accredited family violence and/or NDIS units of competency as electives delivered within the broader qualification. Please see the fact sheet on 'Inclusion of Family Violence/NDIS Training Within Relevant Qualifications' for further details.

## ADDITION OF COURSES TO FCL

Courses that have either been previously removed from the FCL, or new courses that have never been on the FCL before, can be added to the FCL throughout the year.

A business case may be submitted to the Department supporting the inclusion of a course not currently on the FCL (including courses that have been removed), outlining the rationale for its inclusion and evidence of industry/student demand. If you wish to submit a business case, you are encouraged to submit it through the relevant Industry Advisory Group of the Victorian Skills Commissioner. For further details about the business case process, including how to obtain a business case template, email: [skills.analysis@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:skills.analysis@education.vic.gov.au).

All courses that are superseded that are currently on the FCL, are automatically included throughout the year. This is dependent upon the release of the Victorian training package purchasing guides for maximum hour allocations, and approval of training schemes for apprenticeships and traineeships by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority.

## HELPFUL LINKS

Victorian Skills Gateway: <https://skills.vic.gov.au/victorianskillsgateway/>

2021 Funded Course List: Available in the Documents section of [Skills Victoria Training System \(SVTS\)](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/svts): [www.education.vic.gov.au/svts](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/svts)

2020 Funded Course List:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/fundedcourses.aspx>

Skills First: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/skillsfirst.aspx>

Free TAFE: <https://www.vic.gov.au/free-tafe>

2020 Jobs and Training Needs reports:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/market/Pages/jobs-training-needs.aspx>