

CONTRACT NOTIFICATION

CN No.	2021-17	Date: 1 December 2021
To:	Chief Executive Officer or equivalent	
Purpose:	General Information	
Scope:	All 2021 VET Funding Contracts (version 3.0)	
Subject:	Release of the final 2022 VET Funding Contracts, Guidelines and associated guides	

Purpose

This Contract Notification is to inform training providers about the release of the final:

- 2022 Standard VET Funding Contract (version 1.0)
- 2022 TAFE VET Funding Contract (version 1.0)
- 2022 Dual Sector VET Funding Contract (version 1.0)
- 2022 Guidelines About Eligibility (version 1.0)
- 2022 Guidelines About Fees (version 1.0)
- 2022 Guidelines About Apprenticeship/Traineeship Training Delivery (version 1.0)
- 2022 Skills First Quality Charter (version 1.0).

We've also published a series of guides to help training providers understand changes to the Contract and Guidelines:

- Guide to content changes
- Guide to edits – Contract
- Guide to edits – Guidelines.

All these documents are published in the Documents section of SVTS.

Background

The current 2021 VET Funding Contract (the 2021 Contract) expires on 31 December 2021.

On 10 August 2021 (CN 2021-12), the Department of Education and Training (the Department) announced it will conditionally enter into one-year 2022 Skills First VET Funding Contracts (the 2022 Contract) with currently contracted training providers.

On 31 August 2021 (CN 2021-15), we published the draft 2022 Contracts as part of the 2022 contracting process. The 2022 contracting process closed on 15 October 2021. We are currently in the process of finalising 2022 Contract offers.

We will soon be contacting each training provider to advise them of the outcome of their 2022 contracting process and our determination of their Funded Scope and Allocations.

By today publishing the final 2022 Contracts, Guidelines and associated guides, training providers can read and understand the terms and conditions before accepting any 2022 Contract offer.

The Department will shortly write directly to all TAFEs and Dual Sector Universities to execute their Contracts, including providing Schedules 2 and 3.

Main Points

We've made some changes to the 2022 Contract since the draft was published on 31 August 2021.

JobTrainer is extended and expanded

JobTrainer is extended to 31 December 2022. So, you can now start new commencements in JobTrainer until this date.

JobTrainer is expanded so that students enrolling in a JobTrainer priority program don't need to be a young person or a jobseeker to receive the JobTrainer benefits. The specific JobTrainer priority programs are identified in the JobTrainer Funded Programs Report, and include aged care, early childhood education and care, disability care, and digital skills programs.

We've also clarified that a student who is a dependent of an accepted concession card holder is also eligible for JobTrainer.

You should refer to the 2022 JobTrainer Funded Programs Report for the full list of programs available under JobTrainer.

Eligibility Exemptions Initiative – **ALL** training providers can offer exemptions in 2022

All training providers can now offer exemptions under this initiative.

You'll receive a fixed number of exemptions you can offer in the 2022 calendar year. This will be documented in your Schedule 2 – individual details and conditions.

For **TAFEs, Dual Sector Universities and Learn Locals**, this number will be based on **30%** of your projected 2021 full year commencements.

For **private and independent training providers**, the number will be based on **10%** of your projected 2021 full year commencements, with a minimum number of 5 exemptions.

All **new Skills First training providers** for 2022 will get **20** exemptions each. This calculation is based on the average number of exemptions we've allowed for all private and independent training providers.

Eligibility documents and checking

We've added New Zealand Citizenship Certificates as an additional way to prove New Zealand citizenship.

We've clarified what evidence training providers must sight and retain when using Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) to check evidence of eligibility.

Visa subclass numbers under the Asylum Seeker VET Program

To ensure equitable access to the Asylum Seeker VET Program, we've removed the specific visa subclass numbers from the list of visa types a student must hold to be able to enrol under this program.

Support for VCE and VCAL students

VCE and VCAL students who've had VET studies interrupted by COVID-19 will once again have the option to continue their training at a TAFE or Dual Sector university in 2022. The qualifications completed by these students will not be considered in any future assessment of the 'upskilling' or '2 at level in a lifetime' requirements. Their training is to be treated the same way as any other VET certificates completed as part of senior secondary study.

Additional Free TAFE Fee Waiver for Early Childhood qualifications

Students who have to do the Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care as a prerequisite for the new version of the Diploma can access the Free TAFE fee waiver for both programs.

Two new 'Free at TAFE' skill sets

We've added two new 'Free at TAFE' skill sets for delivery by TAFEs and Dual Sector universities:

- Course in Gender Equity
- Course in Identifying and Responding to Family Violence Risk.

A student's participation in these skill sets will not impact a their 'Free TAFE' entitlement.

Reporting change for skill sets

In 2021, if you are a non-TAFE delivering specific 'Courses in' that are government priorities, you are asked to report this training using Funding Source Identifier – State Training Authority 'PSP'.

You won't need to use this separate Funding Source Identifier in 2022. From 2022, you can report all skill set delivery using the Funding Source Identifier – State Training Authority 'GSP'. The only exception is when you need to use a specific Funding Source Identifier associated with an initiative such as JobTrainer.

Help understanding the changes

We've updated the guides we published to help you understand the draft 2022 Contract and Guidelines, and highlighted the changes since the 2022 draft Contract was published:

- Guide to content changes – this summarises and explains more significant changes (new additions are highlighted in grey)
- Guide to edits – Contract – this is a comprehensive list of specific changes (new additions are identified in a new column)
- Guide to edits – Guidelines – this is a comprehensive list of specific changes (new additions are identified in a new column).

You can find these guides in the Documents section of SVTS.

For questions about the 2022 Contract, please submit an enquiry on SVTS using the category '2022 Skills First Contracting'.

Critical Dates

The 2022 Contract commences on 1 January 2022.

Ryan Collins

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