



John Barilaro
Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional NSW
Minister for Skills
Minister for Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$3 MILLION VET TRAINING PARTNERSHIP WITH INDUSTRY

Deputy Premier and Minister for Skills John Barilaro announced a \$3 million Vocational Education and Training (VET) partnership with leading industry trade bodies, as part of National Skills Week (28 Aug to 1 Sept).

Mr Barilaro said the NSW Government is investing in a range of innovative projects with the Industry bodies as part of a new campaign to bust the myths around VET.

“This is an exciting new partnership with seven leading industry trade bodies on an ‘Industry Compact’ to promote VET career pathways on the ground - in schools and in homes as a fantastic choice for a great career.

“We’re partnering with Industry to deliver projects that will drive apprenticeships and traineeships, and build industry engagement in schools.

“Up to \$200,000 for each individual Industry Compact member has been made available this year to nominate members for projects that support participation and completion of apprenticeships and traineeships,” Mr Barilaro said.

An additional \$300,000 over 2 years is also available, nominating Compact members that develop initiatives to strengthen industry engagement with schools, including the appointment of a cohort of Industry School Partnership Officers.

These Officers will work with schools, communities, employers and training providers to promote apprenticeship and traineeship careers, facilitate work placement opportunities for VET in Schools students and support other school-based initiatives.

“For too long VET has taken a back seat when it comes to students’ choices and it’s time to change that perception,” Mr Barilaro said.

“NSW has Australia’s best performing VET sector - our students, apprentices and trainees earn while they learn and are training for the jobs of the future.”

The Industry Compact Members include: Master Builders Association NSW, Civil Contractors Federation NSW, Motor Traders Association NSW, Australian Constructors Association, Australian Industry Group, Housing Industry Association, NSW Business Chamber.

Quotes Attributable to Industry Groups:

“The Apprenticeship Compact is a fantastic initiative where HIA and the NSW State Government are working hand in glove to implement more innovative approaches to promote and communicate the diverse and exciting career opportunities available to young people that are considering a trade qualification in residential construction. NSW has a dynamic housing sector and this investment by the NSW Government will help secure the skilled workforce and industry leaders of the future for our industry.”

David Bare, Executive Director NSW, Housing Industry Association Ltd

“Commercial and residential construction in NSW is booming - there's really never been a better time to get into the building and construction trade and an apprenticeship or traineeship is a fantastic first step into the industry and into well paid work. The Master Builders Association of NSW is delighted to be partnering with the NSW Government through the Apprenticeship Compact to shine a light on our industry and on the great benefits of an apprenticeship or traineeship.”

Brian Seidler, Executive director of the Master Builders Association of NSW

“The ACA is pleased to join with the Government and other industry bodies to promote the benefits of apprenticeships as careers of the future. The building and construction industry will be the industry of choice for future employment, but it has to more effectively sell this message. Innovation and new technologies will be at the forefront of the industry in years to come and that is why the industry's peak bodies have joined with the Government to promote the opportunities the industry has to offer”.

Lindsay Le Compte, Executive Director, Australian Constructors Association

“I am delighted the NSW Government has agreed to support us with this initiative to build the next generation of civil construction workers.”

David Castledine, CEO, Civil Contractors Federation NSW

For more information, visit: <https://vet.nsw.gov.au/>

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