

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business

Minister for Resources



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GRINNERS ARE WINNERS: MORE DENTAL JOBS FOR VICTORIA

The Andrews Labor Government is giving Victorians more reasons to smile with jobs to boost the dental care workforce.

Minister for Employment Jaala Pulford today announced the \$3 million Labor Government traineeship program, creating 100 dental assistant jobs, through Jobs Victoria.

Dental assistants are in high demand and the program will back jobseekers hardest hit by the pandemic to earn and learn while achieving a Certificate III in Dental Assisting.

Job opportunities include assisting dentists with check-ups and procedures such as fillings or crowns, patient and customer support, and equipment sterilization.

Those hired will receive at least 12 months secure employment, and on-the-job support, including one-on-one mentoring.

Jobs Victoria is partnering with Dental Health Services Victoria to coordinate recruitment and training, with the jobs to support people who have experienced challenges securing employment, including women aged over 45, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culturally and linguistically diverse Victorians, and young people.

As well as providing career opportunities, this will increase the pool of skilled, experienced and qualified oral health workers available to deliver public dental services, including the Government's free school dental program, Smile Squad.

The dental assistants' traineeships initiative is part of the Government's \$619 million investment in Jobs Victoria.

Applications for the roles are now open and employers or people looking for work can register at jobs.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Employment Jaala Pulford

"These jobs will provide a great opportunity for those who want to make a real difference in people's lives."

"Not only are we addressing the need for more dental assistants in Victoria, but we are also addressing providing training and support for those who want a new career."

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas

"This new initiative will assist in delivering public dental services, helping all Victorians achieve a healthier smile."

Quote attributable to Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney

"This is a great opportunity to receive on the job training while gaining the credentials necessary to work as a dental assistant in Victoria."

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