## **Media Release**

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP Minister for Training and Skills Minister for Higher Education Minister for Agriculture



Wednesday, 21 December 2022

## YEAR 12 STUDENTS RECEIVE FIRST-ROUND UNI AND TAFE OFFERS

Victorian Year 12 students will today see the rewards for their hard work throughout 2022, with first-round university and TAFE offers now released.

Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney announced 40,595 main round offers have been made to students for undergraduate and vocational courses across the state.

Students who may have missed out on a first-round offer should not be disheartened – with plenty of options for further study in Victoria, including further entrance rounds, alternative entrance pathways and Free TAFE courses.

Students can either wait for further rounds of VTAC offers in January and February or change their VTAC preference if they meet course requirements.

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering options for further education and training to suit every student.

In 2023, Victorians will have access to more than 70 Free TAFE courses across a range of growth industries, including early childhood education, health, construction and infrastructure, agriculture, hospitality, and community and disability services.

The Labor Government is also building on its work to restore the TAFE system and will expand eligibility for Free TAFE courses to people with higher-level qualifications who want to return to study.

Work is also underway to make the TAFE experience even better, with a huge building blitz to make sure every student has a great training experience.

The Labor Government will invest up to \$170 million to build new and improve existing TAFE campuses as part of a new Building Better TAFE Fund, which includes a \$50 million TAFE Clean Energy Fund.

Two brand-new TAFE campuses will be delivered in Sunbury and Melton – which are two of the fastest-growing communities in Australia, but don't have local skills and training facilities.

More than 125,000 Victorians have signed up to a Free TAFE course across the state since the Labor Government began the program in 2019 – saving more than \$320 million in fees.

For the full list of Free TAFE courses, visit vic.gov.au/free-tafe.

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney

"Victoria is home to world-class universities and TAFEs that provide high-quality education and training and position students to take up rewarding careers in the industries they choose."

"Congratulations to every student who received a course offer from a university or TAFE – this is an exciting step in their education and training and a milestone of which they can be very proud."

## **Quote attributable to Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins**

"Today's first round offers represent the outcome of years of hard work for students and I would encourage them to apply themselves in the same way to their future endeavours."

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