

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP

Minister for Skills and TAFE

Minister for Water



Thursday, 17 April 2025

STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER FOR SKILLS AND TAFE

Peter Dutton and the Liberal Party are finally showing their true colours – they don't believe in Free TAFE, and they don't support our TAFEs.

Victorians remember the carnage caused to the VET system when the Liberals sacked more than 2,000 TAFE teachers, shut 22 TAFE campuses and ripped \$1 billion from TAFEs across Victoria when they were last in Government.

Will Brad Battin oppose Peter Dutton's cuts to TAFE, or will Victorians have to wait until 4 May to find out?

The Liberal Party cannot be trusted with TAFE.

The Labor Government saved TAFE in Victoria, rebuilt a crumbling vocational education sector and then strengthened it with Free TAFE.

Free TAFE has been a gamechanger for Victorians, with over 200,000 students saving on average \$3,000 per course

TAFE gives Victorians the skills they need for in-demand jobs and rewarding life-long careers.

The Liberal Party's cuts to TAFE are a cut to new houses, hospitals, schools and the projects Victorians need.

Experts are already saying that cutting Free TAFE would result in fewer houses getting built because there will be less skilled workers.

There will also be fewer nurses, early childhood educators and energy workers to help in our energy transition.

Only Labor can be trusted to protect Free TAFE and make sure Victorians have the skills they need for the future.

