

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Skills and TAFE
Minister for Water



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BACKING VICTORIA'S TAFE TEACHERS

The Allan Labor Government is supporting TAFE and Learn Local teachers with free training to help teachers continue to provide the best quality education to Victorians.

The Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney today announced that the *Victorian Budget 2025/26* will invest \$9.3 million to support TAFE and Learn Local Teacher Scholarship Program – a joint initiative between the Albanese and Allan Labor Governments.

This program will ensure TAFE and Adult, Community and Further Education teachers have the skills, support and confidence to continue to deliver world-class educational outcomes.

With four in five future jobs attainable through TAFE training, TAFE teachers have a central role in delivering the education that Victorians need for rewarding careers while also training the skilled workers that Victoria's industries and economy demand.

To attract new TAFE teachers, the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment – which is a prerequisite for TAFE teachers – is already available free from tuition fees as part of Victoria's Free TAFE program, and other qualifications to support TAFE teacher professional development will be supported through this new scholarship program.

The Government is also investing in a modern HR system for staff across the TAFE network, which will promote recruitment and support the professional development of staff and teachers.

The \$170 million Building Better TAFE Fund is also ensuring students and teachers have the best facilities to train in, close to home.

Last week, TAFE teachers voted for a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement that will deliver wage increases, a modern classification system and more time for assessment and professional development. The Agreement is subject to final approval by the Fair Work Commission.

The Labor Government's \$4.6 billion investment in TAFE supports Victorians to get the skills they need for free, working closely with TAFEs across the state to make sure course offerings match the in-demand skills, creating a pipeline of workers for the jobs of the future in housing, renewable technology and the care economy.

Find out more information about a career in VET training visit: www.vic.gov.au/tafe-teacher

Quotes attributable to Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney

"TAFE teachers are the backbone of our TAFE network, and that's why we're expanding free training to support their careers. Their passion and expertise are helping to train the next generation of skilled workers in Victoria."

"Our TAFE and Learn Local Teacher Scholarships will enable teachers to develop and progress in their careers, ensuring they are set to deliver a world-class education to Victorian students."