

# Media Release

**Mr Danny Pearson MP**

Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs  
Minister for Finance



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## SKILLS BOOST FOR VICTORIAN WORKERS AND BUSINESSES

The Allan Labor Government is ensuring more Victorians can get the digital skills they need through a nation-leading program – supporting workers and businesses in key sectors.

Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs Danny Pearson today visited iBuild Building Solutions in Heidelberg West to announce that applications are now open for the highly successful and newly extended \$4.25 million Digital Jobs program.

The program will provide 1,000 free places in training courses over the next two years for workers to get the latest skills in construction and advanced manufacturing sectors – ensuring Victorians have access to high-skilled jobs into the future.

The Digital Jobs program is one of more than 40 initiatives included in the Labor Government’s Economic Growth Statement, which will deliver a stronger, more inclusive and more sustainable economy for Victoria.

Victoria is leading the way in digital technology and preparing workers for jobs including artificial intelligence. This program will support workers and leaders to develop digital skills that are critical for using new technologies as they emerge.

Industry-endorsed training courses will cover computer-aided manufacturing, digital marketing, modern methods of construction, artificial intelligence, data analytics and more.

The roll out of training for the priority sectors of advanced manufacturing and construction builds on the success of the program which was launched in 2021. To date the program has supported more than 5,500 Victorians to move into digital careers and helped upskill more than 500 workers in the manufacturing sector.

In 2023, iBuild upskilled six staff through the program, supporting the award-winning kit home business to digitally transform its capabilities across production, design and manufacturing, allowing them to take on more work and staff.

Victoria is emerging as a prominent data centre hub, embracing advances in digital technology and supporting Victorian jobs into the future.

Leading companies like NEXTDC, AirTrunk, Amazon Web Services, CDC, Stack Infrastructure, Microsoft and Equinix are investing in Victoria – driving jobs and growing the economy, thanks to our competitive energy market, land availability, skilled workforce, strong research commercialisation and a culture of innovation and growth.

Only Labor will support Victorian workers to get the skills they need to find secure employment in key industries. Under the Liberals you’re on your own.

For more information about the program visit [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au).

**Quote attributable to Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs, Danny Pearson**

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*“This program is ensuring Victoria’s workforce has the critical digital skills we need in key sectors like construction and advanced manufacturing now and into the future – supporting workers and businesses to keep pace with a rapidly evolving digital landscape.”*

**Quote attributable to Member for Ivanhoe Anthony Carbines**

*“Businesses and workers in Heidelberg know first-hand the benefits of this program, it helps workers build the skills they need for high-skilled jobs in the local community.”*

**Quote attributable to CEO of iBuild, Jackson Yin**

*“The change for our business has been phenomenal; our higher capabilities have boosted our capacity, allowing us to produce structural components for much needed housing with the push of a button.”*