

Media Release

Mr Danny Pearson MP

Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs

Minister for Finance

Minister for Government Services



Tuesday, 3 March 2026

DIGITAL TRAINING FOR FUTURE-PROOF JOBS

Labor is backing workers with a digital skills boost to prepare for the jobs of the future.

Minister Pearson said a new round of the \$4.25 million Digital Jobs program will deliver 1,000 training places over the next two years.

The free training will help Victorian construction and advanced manufacturing businesses gain a competitive edge.

Developed in consultation with industry, the program equips workers with cutting-edge, in demand skills, such as:

- Artificial intelligence and machine learning
- Data analytics
- Digital marketing
- Computer-aided design
- Industry 4.0 technologies

Labor has already supported more than 6,200 Victorians to upskill in digital skills.

Bar Crusher, based in Dandenong South, is one of many businesses reaping the benefits.

Its employees are using their new Industry 4.0 skills to streamline operations and boost efficiency.

Their machine operator now inputs technical drawings into factory machinery, including lasers, presses and routers.

This removes the need for design team coordination and speeds up production.

In addition to this program, Labor's *AI Mission Statement* is investing \$8.1 million in the Digital Jobs – AI Career Conversion program.

This will upskill tech professional to become AI specialists, with the first courses beginning in mid-2026.

To learn more, visit business.vic.gov.au/djp

Quotes attributable to Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs Danny Pearson

"We're investing in digital skills to create secure, future-proof jobs for Victorians."

"This program ensures Victorian workers and businesses can take advantage of new digital technologies and stronger career pathways."

Quote attributable to Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney

"We're helping Victorians build rewarding careers while giving businesses the skilled workforce they need to grow."

Quote attributable to General Manager Sam Holmes Bar Crusher

"Taking our team's informal understanding and on-the-job learning and topping that up with a formal and structured training program is invaluable and brings new ways and efficiencies immediately into the business."

Media contact: Lukas Jamieson 0477 373 170 | lukas.jamieson@minstaff.vic.gov.au