VELG TRAINING

eNews



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WHEN SUPPORTING LEARNERS BECOMES PART OF THE TEACHING CHALLENGE

NCVER has released new research exploring the changing nature of VET teaching and the growing psychosocial challenges affecting both teaching and learning.

The research (Strengthening teaching practice and psychosocial support) found that VET teachers are managing a mix of interconnected pressures, including compliance requirements, workload, learner diversity, student engagement and increasingly complex support needs. Rather than occurring separately, these pressures can combine and compound within the teaching environment.

Around two-thirds of surveyed teachers said student behaviour had become more challenging since they began teaching. Almost 60% reported that student behaviour affects their ability to teach at least once a week, while around half said they feel overwhelmed by student support needs at least weekly.

Importantly, the research suggests this is not simply a question of teacher capability. Most teachers reported confidence in identifying and responding to learner needs. The greater challenge is managing the volume and complexity of those needs alongside the other demands of the teaching role.

To help provide practical guidance, NCVER has developed a five-stage psychosocial support cycle: Recognise, Respond, Refer, Support and Review.

The cycle is designed to help teachers identify when something may be affecting a learner's participation or progress, begin an appropriate conversation, connect the learner with specialist support where required, continue supporting their learning, and review how the response is working.

The report is also clear that VET teachers are not expected to diagnose or provide specialised psychosocial support themselves. Their role remains focused on teaching and learning, supported by clear boundaries, referral pathways and appropriate organisational support.

Alongside the full research report, NCVER has released a suite of practical guides and resources for VET teachers and training providers.

To explore the research and supporting resources, click here.

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WHAT'S STOPPING ADULTS FROM TAKING PART IN LEARNING?

Jobs and Skills Australia has released new research examining what shapes adult participation in learning and training across Australia.

The report, *Adult learner cohorts: Unpacking adult learning participation and demand*, identifies four groups of adult learners — those whose demand for learning is met, partially met, unmet, and those with no demand for learning.

One of the key findings is that around 1.6 million Australian adults wanted to participate in learning they did not undertake in 2024–25. Time, cost and caring responsibilities were among the main barriers, with women, people with disability, and unemployed and underemployed people more likely to experience unmet demand.

The research also points to a broader decline in adult learning participation. In 2024–25, 31% of Australians aged 25 to 64 participated in formal study or work-related training — almost 10 percentage points lower than in 2013.

Workplace conditions also appear to influence access to learning. JSA found that less secure employment, including casual work, is associated with lower participation in work-related training.

The findings form part of JSA's broader work on lifelong learning and provide a clearer picture of where barriers are occurring and how different groups experience access to learning.

For RTOs and other training providers, the research provides useful context for considering how course design, flexibility and learner support may influence whether adults are able to take up learning opportunities.

To explore the full report, click here.

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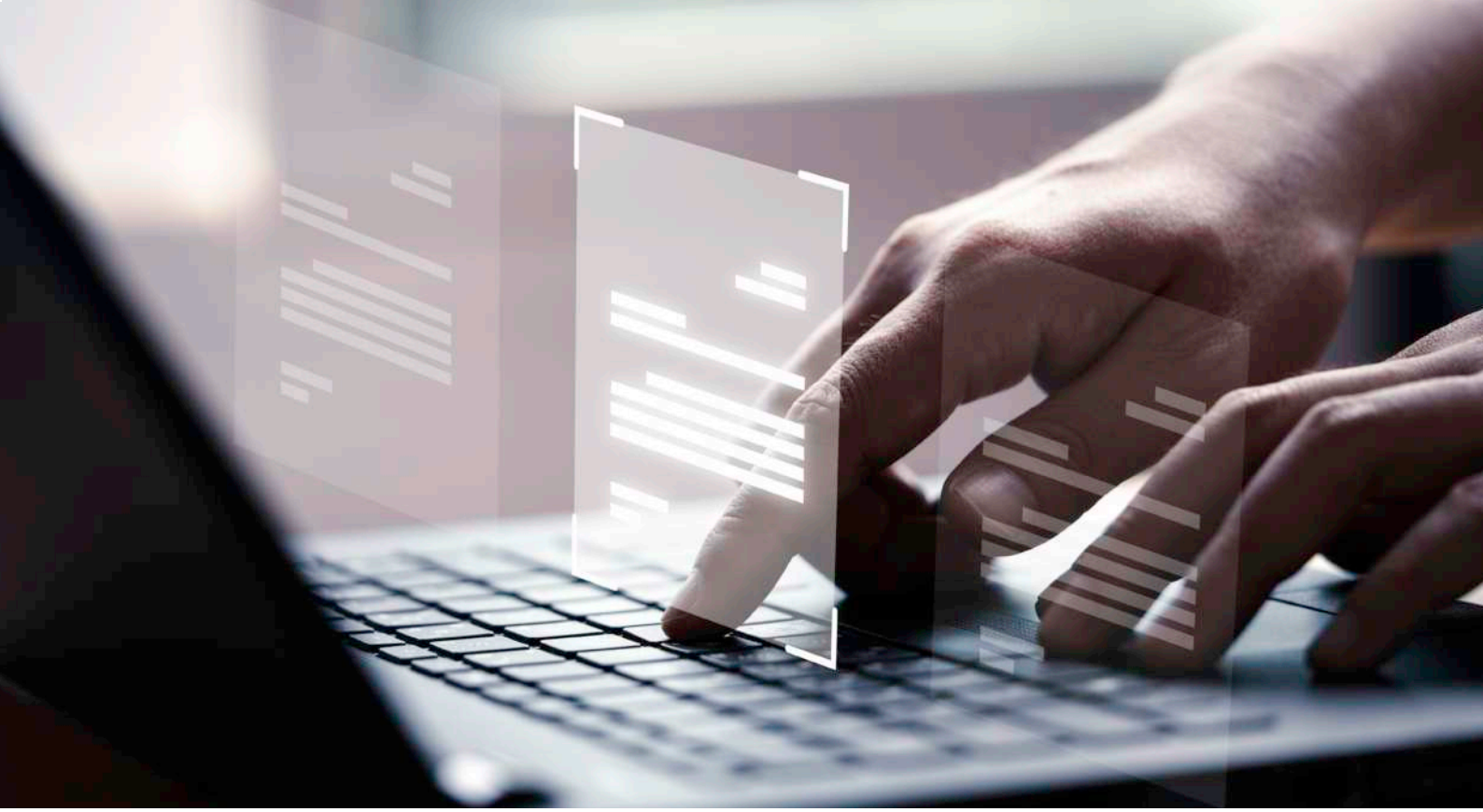
Explore the risks of AI-generated content, learn how different tools can get things wrong, and build confidence in using AI while keeping quality, accuracy and trust in focus.

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Questions? Visit our website or call us for more information.



ASQA UPDATES PRACTICE GUIDES FOR THE 2025 STANDARDS

ASQA has released Version 2 of its Practice Guides to support RTOs in understanding and meeting the requirements of the 2025 Standards.

The updated guides continue to provide examples of compliant activities, risks to quality outcomes and self-assurance questions, but now include additional practical content designed to reflect issues emerging across the sector.

New additions include more examples of compliant practice and risks to consider, including those relating to the use of artificial intelligence in VET. The guides also include case studies showing how components of the Standards may be applied in different operational settings, along with responses to frequently asked questions raised through ASQA's provider workshops and engagement activities.

The layout has also been simplified to improve readability and accessibility.

One area receiving additional attention is the use of AI. For example, ASQA's updated Assessment Practice Guide includes considerations around AI-related assessment risks and a case study exploring how an RTO could allow students to use AI while still ensuring assessment evidence remains valid, sufficient, authentic and current.

ASQA emphasises that the Practice Guides are not prescriptive. Rather, they provide examples and questions that RTOs can consider in the context of their own operations, student cohorts and scope of delivery. They should also be read alongside the relevant legislation and policy guidance.

For RTOs already using the Practice Guides as part of their self-assurance activities, Version 2 provides an opportunity to revisit the guidance and explore the additional examples, case studies and frequently asked questions now available.

To explore the updated Practice Guides, click here.

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JOBS AND SKILLS COUNCILS & TRAINING PACKAGE NEWS

Australian Government | Jobs and Skills Australia

News Updates:

- Australian Labour Market for Migrants – October 2026
- Internet Vacancy Index Report – September 2026
- Jobs ads hold steady nationally in September 2026
- Jobs and Skills Roadmap for Regional Australia: Evidence, findings and opportunities
- Occupation Shortage List
- REOS spotlight articles
- Read more on the JSA's LinkedIn

BuildSkills Australia

News Updates:

- 2026-27 Workforce Plan
- Crane, Hoist or Lift Operator training product review
- Entry-Level Pathways into Plumbing
- Home energy efficiency and sustainability
- Fencing and Gate Industry
- Read more on BuildSkills' LinkedIn

Industry Skills Australia

News Updates:

- Airport Operations Training Product Review – Expression of Interest Survey
- Diploma of Aviation – Flight Instructor
- Fatigue Management Training Product Update
- New Livestock Transport Driver Skill Set Endorsed
- Projects
- Rail Digital Skills Analysis
- Remote Pilot Licencing Alignment
- Read more on Industry Skills' LinkedIn

FSO FUTURE SKILLS ORGANISATION Finance Technology Business

News Updates:

- BSB Training Package Update: BSB80120 Graduate Diploma of Management (Learning) Workshops
- Building confidence with AI: lessons from profession-led learning pilot
- From pathways to possibility: helping Australians see themselves in digital careers
- FSO Activate Newsletter – November 2026
- FSO Activate – Education Edition – November 2026
- FSO Workforce Planning Roundtables: Registration
- Projects
- Read more on the FSO's LinkedIn

HumanAbility

News Updates:

- Aged Care, Disability, Leisure and Health Qualification Review
- HumanAbility Newsletter – November 2026
- Productivity that protects the human work
- VET Workforce Research
- Workplace Mental Health First Response
- Read more on HumanAbility's LinkedIn

Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance

News Updates:

- 2026/27 Industry Consultation Series
- Australian Manufacturing Talent Shines on World Stage
- Manufacturing Matters – October 2026
- Manufacturing Workforce Plan 2026
- Read more on MISA's LinkedIn

Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance

News Updates:

- AUSMASA Membership
- Certificate III in Automotive EV Technology
- Mobile Plant Technology
- The Journey – October 2026
- Workforce Insights Report
- Working Safely in the Electric Vehicle Supply Chain
- Read more on AUSMASA's LinkedIn

PUBLIC SKILLS AUSTRALIA

News Updates:

- Correctional Services Training Implementation (Phase 2)
- Maintenance of PSP Public Sector Package
- Review of Government Investigations Qualifications
- Review of Procurement and Contracting Qualifications
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Workforce Study
- Read more on Public Skills' LinkedIn

Powering Skills Organisation Ltd

News Updates:

- $5 Million for More Tradies to Train the Tradies of the Future
- Electrical Licence Mapping
- Powering Educator Pipelines
- Project Update
- Read more on Powering Skills' LinkedIn

Skills Insight

News Updates:

- Agriculture Trade Apprenticeship consensus gathering
- Help shape the conversation on one of industry's biggest challenges
- Meat Processing Training Resources broad consultation
- Textiles, clothing and footwear skills mapping project
- What's driving workforce shortages across your industries?
- Veterinary Nursing Review
- Read more on Skills Insight's LinkedIn

SaCSA Service and Creative Skills Australia

News Updates:

- Chef shortages are now nationwide: What the 2026 Occupation Shortage List means for hospitality
- Shaping Creative Futures: Designing a Vocational Degree Framework for Creative Producers - Workshops
- The Latest – October 2026
- Update of Travel and Tourism Qualifications
- What the 2026 Occupation Shortage List means for the service and creative industries
- Read more on SACSA's LinkedIn

UPDATES FROM THE REGULATORS

Australian Government
Australian Skills Quality Authority
ASQA

Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)

News Updates:

- ASQA Annual Report 2026-26
- ASQA's Corporate Plan 2026-27 published
- ASQA IQ – 14 October 2026
- Statement of Regulatory Expectations - Provider obligations on Cancellation of Qualifications
- Read more on the ASQA LinkedIn

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WA.gov.au

Training Accreditation Council (TAC)

News Updates:

- Fact Sheet: Records Management – 20 October 2026
- Mastering Assessment Webinar
- RTO Reporting Requirements
- TAC Annual Report
- TAC Update – Issue 123 – October 2026
- Read more on TAC LinkedIn

Australian Government
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency
TEQSA

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)

News Updates:

- Annual Report 2026-26
- A recipe for integrity on International Day of Action for Academic Integrity
- TEQSA eNews – October 2026
- TEQSA 2026 Annual Conference
- Read more on the TEQSA LinkedIn

Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority

Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA)

News Updates:

- Changes to the Working with Children Check
- New standards for RTOs are here
- Reforms in place for Australia's international education sector
- Review or re-registration next year? We're here to help
- Read more on the VRQA LinkedIn

CLICK HERE FOR OTHER NEWS + OTHER MEDIA RELEASES

YOUR VET NEWSLETTERS AND PUBLICATIONS

NEWSLETTERS

- ASQA IQ - 14 October 2026
- ASQA Update – 25 August 2026
- Australian Industry Group – Centre for Education & Training – Newsletter – Edition 53 – 30 October 2026
- FSO Activate Newsletter – November 2026
- FSO Activate Education Edition – November 2026
- HumanAbility Newsletter – November 2026
- Manufacturing Matters – October 2026
- Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance – The Journey – October 2026
- National AI Centre – Issue 32 – 6 November 2026
- NCVER News – Edition #640 – 4 November 2026
- Service and Creative Sills Australia – The Latest – October 2026
- SkillsAware Newsletter – 12 November 2026
- TAC Update – Issue 123 – October 2026
- TAFE Directors Australia – 16 November2026
- TAFE Directors Australia – 9 November 2026
- TEQSA eNews – October 2026
- Universities Australia Newsletter – 6 November 2026
- VDC News – Edition 16 – 2026 – 14 October 2026

PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 Graduate Outcome Survey – Longitudinal
- 2026 Manufacturing Workforce Plan
- A Digital Detox
- Adult learner cohorts: Unpacking adult learning participation and demand
- ASQA 2025-26 Annual Report
- ATEC Statement of Strategic Priorities 2027-28 Consultation Paper
- Australian Labour Market for Migrants – October 2026
- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations Annual Report 2025-26
- Government-funded students and courses – January to June 2026
- Jobs and Skills Roadmap for Regional Australia
- Jobs and Skills Outlook 2026
- Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance – Workforce Insights Report
- NCVER – Government funding of VET 2025
- Professional learning research insights: considerations for online professional learning
- REOS – September quarter results
- Strengthening teaching practice and psychosocial support
- TEQSA's Annual Report 2025-26

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A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR VALUED PLATINUM SPONSOR FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL VET CONFERENCE.

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