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YOUNG AUSTRALIANS ENCOURAGED TO DISCOVER NEW FACE OF MANUFACTURING

The Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance has launched Make It ManuFACTuring, a new campaign designed to show young Australians that manufacturing is a modern, innovative and future focused career choice.

Created with direct input from industry leaders, the campaign challenges outdated stereotypes and replaces them with authentic stories, showcasing real people thriving in a wide range of manufacturing roles.

"As the voice of the industry, we work closely with stakeholders, unions, government, employers and the VET sector to determine barriers and challenges in the sector," explains Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance CEO, Sharon Robertson.

"That consultation determined that the low rate of young people taking up apprenticeships in manufacturing was because there was no awareness of the range of industries and careers available.

"Young people – as well as their parents and career advisors – held outdated perceptions of manufacturing being 'dirty, dumb and dangerous'. Make It ManuFACTuring aims to break those myths."

In 2025, manufacturing will contribute more than \$100 billion to the Australian economy and employ nearly a million workers across various industries nationwide. Manufacturing also plays an important role in enhancing sovereign capability so that Australia can produce essential goods locally and respond rapidly to crises.

"Australia has a strong manufacturing sector with a proud legacy, but with an ageing workforce and skills shortages in priority areas, there is a need to attract the next generation," continues Sharon. "We want people to broaden their search and see the modern face of manufacturing that exists today."

Over the coming months, Make It ManuFACTuring will feature across television, radio, outdoor advertising, social media, and a new dedicated website. Information has been structured for three different audiences – students, parents and career advisors – and showcases the modern, high-tech, innovative careers available.

Make It ManuFACTuring will run as a pilot across Victoria, Tasmania, and Queensland for an initial period of three months, and be closely monitored through surveys and digital analytics to measure impact and inform future national expansion.





Integrity and Quality in Focus

ASQA IQ SEPTEMBER 2025: KEY THEMES FOR RTOS UNDER THE 2025 STANDARDS

ASQA's September 2025 edition of ASQA

IQ continues to explore key themes and frequently asked questions raised at their Standards workshops and webinar. This month's focus is on four key areas:

Information & Marketing

ASQA reminds providers that all marketing and student information must be clear, accurate and accessible. Course details — including code, title, duration, delivery mode, location, start dates, assessment requirements, licensing or third-party arrangements, fees, support services and student obligations — need to be fully disclosed. Importantly, providers must not guarantee outcomes such as employment, licensing, course completion, or immigration pathways. Marketing by third parties must also clearly identify the RTO as the provider by name and code.

Facilities, Resources & Equipment

ASQA notes that facilities, resources and equipment must be safe, sufficient, current, accessible, regularly maintained and fit for purpose. RTOs are expected to review these regularly to ensure they continue to support students to achieve competency and reflect industry practices. A particular emphasis is placed on ensuring accessibility and reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities. ASQA also reiterates that RTOs remain accountable for the facilities, resources and equipment of any third parties they engage.

Work Placements

Where training products require workplace experience, ASQA stresses that placements must provide opportunities for students to develop the skills necessary for assessment. Providers must be transparent at pre-enrolment about who is responsible for organising placements. While workplace supervisors may assist students with evidence gathering, ASQA makes clear that assessment decisions must remain with qualified assessors.

Professional Development

ASQA reminds providers that professional development under the 2025 Standards applies to all staff, not just trainers and assessors.

RTOs must be able to demonstrate how staff are supported to understand their roles, stay current, and meet Standards obligations.

Activities may be formal or informal, structured or self-directed, but they must be relevant, purposeful and documented.

These themes reinforce ASQA's continued emphasis on transparency, accountability, and quality across all aspects of training delivery.

For more detail and practical insights, you can read the full ASQA IQ September 2025 newsletter here.



RENEWAL AUDITS MADE CLEAR

GET CLEAR ON YOUR NEXT RENEWAL AUDIT!

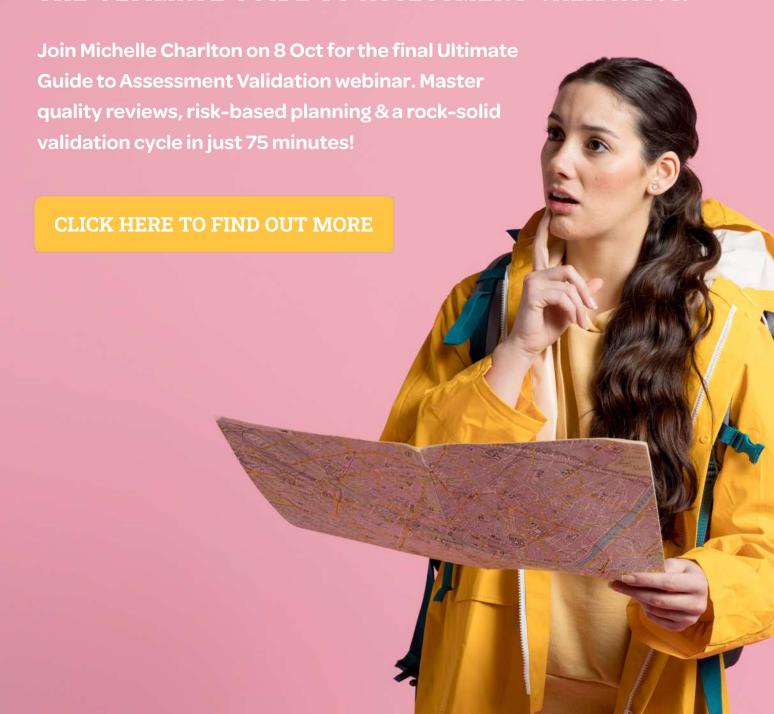
Join Angela McGregor in this 90-minute webinar as she unpacks a real audit success under the new Standards for RTOs 2025. Learn what was asked, how it was done, and how to align your evidence for a smooth renewal.

CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE!



CLOSE THE LOOP ON VALIDATION!

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO ASSESSMENT VALIDATION





NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS GENDERED PATHWAYS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The new paper, Education and Training Divides: Gendered Skills, Pathways and Outcomes, explores how education and training systems continue to reflect — and reinforce — gendered divides. While women now make up nearly half of all VET enrolments and 60% of higher education enrolments, stark divides remain in field-of-study choices. Women account for only 17% of VET enrolments in STEM programs and just 12% in engineering-related technologies. By contrast, they dominate enrolments in nursing, personal care and community services.

These patterns flow through into outcomes. Male graduates continue to secure higher median incomes across most qualifications, including female dominated fields. The study also highlights how entrenched social and cultural norms shape training choices from an early age, reinforcing stereotypes about "men's work" and "women's work" that limit occupational mobility and feed skills shortages.

Intersectional analysis provides further insights: CALD female graduates often face weaker economic returns; First Nations

women fare better in female-dominated pathways; while First Nations men achieve stronger results in pathways such as trades. The paper also highlights the issue of a "leaky pipeline," describing the steady loss of individuals across specific career pathways. For example, women leaving male dominated building and trades careers due to workplace culture or discrimination.

JSA stresses that these divides have direct implications for skills priorities in the Net Zero transition, digital transformation, and the care sector. Without tackling gendered pathways, training pipelines are unlikely to shift labour market segregation or ease workforce shortages.

This report sets the stage for the third and final paper in the Gender Economic Equality Study, which will move from data findings to concrete recommendations for change.

To read the full report, click here.



JOBS AND SKILLS COUNCILS & TRAINING PACKAGE NEWS





News Updates:

- Internet Vacancy Index August 2025
- Recruitment Experiences and Outlook Survey
- Occupation Shortage Report June 2025
- Our Gen Al Transition Implications for Work and Skills - Analysis Paper
- Our Gen Al Transition Implications for Work and Skills – Case Studies
- Paper 2 Education and training divides Gendered skills, pathways and outcomes
- Read more on the JSA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- FSO Future Skills News 2 September 2025
- ICT Scoping Webinar 2 October 2025
- ICT Training Package Update
- Specialist Artificial Intelligence Update
- Specialist Cyber Security Skills Update
- Sustainable Finance Disclosures
- Read more on the FSO's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- CPP Swimming Pool and Spa Review
- Experienced Water Sector Leader Joins BuildSkills
- Housing Workforce Capacity Study
- Read more on BuildSkills' LinkedIn



Industry Skills Australia

News Updates:

- 2025 Workforce Plans
- Autonomous Train Operations Project
- <u>Building Awareness and Pathways for the Future</u> of Rail
- Insights from the 2025 Aviation Summit
- Sign up for our Industry & RTO Roundtables
- Validation Survey: VET Workforce Project
- Read more on Industry Skills' LinkedIn

News Updates:

- Aged Care, Disability, Leisure and Health Qualifications Review Project
- Career Development and Employment Services Review
- Current Consultation Workshops
- Earn While You Learn Research Project
- Enrolments and Completions Research
- Sterilisation Services Consultation
 Workshops
- VET Workforce Research
- Read more on HumanAbility's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- 2025 Manufacturing Workforce Plan
- Current Projects
- Engage With Us
- Make IT Manufacturing Website
- Stay informed Manufacturing Matters
- Read more on MISA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- 2025 Workforce Plan Evolving Together
- <u>Automotive Research Bulletin</u> September 2025
- Mining Research Bulleting September 2025
- National Roundtable Consultations
- The Journey September 2025
- Read more on AUSMASA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- 2025 Workforce Plan Feedback
- Certificate II Gateway Survey
- Creating an Energy Sector Gateway Consultation
- Energise Newsletter September 2025
- High Load, Short Supply Bridging the gap to 2030
- Join Our Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs)
- July TAG Workshops Recording Available
- PSO Insight Update Webinar
- V2X Accreditation Vehicle to Everything
- Read more on Powering Skills' LinkedIn



News Updates:

- Communications Officer (Technical)
- Jobs and skills audit for local government
- Police Crash Investigation and Analysis Review
- Review of Government Investigations
 Qualifications
- Review of Procurement and Contracting Qualifications
- Read more on Public Skills' LinkedIn



News Updates:

- Apply to join a Technical Committee
- CUA: Unit Currency Audit
- New Perspective on Old Problems: What the Latest JSA Research Reveals
- SaCSA The Latest August 2025
- Read more on SACSA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- Career pathways for Agriculture Trades How to Provide Feedback
- Consultation on Core Skills Occupation List (CSOL)
- Furnishing apprenticeship guidance project
- Workforce Plan 2025-2026
- Read more on Skills Insight's LinkedIn



UPDATES FROM THE REGULATORS



AS()A

Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)



Training Accreditation Council (TAC)



TEQSA

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)



Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA)

News Updates:

- <u>ASQA IQ</u> 15 September 2025
- ASQA Update August 2025
- <u>Dual Sector Regulatory Strategy</u> 25 September
- <u>Fact Sheet Delivering elective units</u>
- <u>Fact Sheet Health and safety requirements for educational premises</u>

News Updates:

- Compliance Standards & FPPR Registration Standards
 2025
- Data Provision Requirements
- Fact Sheet: Training Product Equivalence
- Outcome Standards Registration Standards 2025
- TAC Registration Standards 2025 Hub
- TAC Special Bulletin 17 September 2025
- <u>TAC Update Issue 110</u> 19 September 2025
- VET Data Policy

News Updates:

- Gen Al Knowledge Hub
- TEQSA e-News 17 September 2025

News Updates:

- 2025-26 enforcement and compliance priorities
- Effective supervision of apprentice electricians
- Employer of fabrication apprentices banned
- VRQA e-News 3 September 2025

YOUR VET NEWSLETTERS AND PUBLICATIONS

NEWSLETTERS

- AAIR Announcement 29 August 2025
- Ai Centre for Education and Training #40 8
 August 2025
- ASQAIQ 15 September 2025
- ASQA Update 28 August 2025
- AUSMASA The Journey September 2025
- Automotive Research Bulletin September 2025
- Community Education Australia
- FSO Future Skills News 2 September 2025
- <u>L&D Insights</u> September 2025 Edition
- Mining Research Bulleting September 2025
- NCVER News Edition #613 24 September 2025
- NCVER Data Support Bulletin September 2025

- Powering Skills Organisation Energise
 Newsletter September 2025
- SaCSA The Latest August 2025
- TAC Update Issue 110 19 September 2025
- TAC Special Bulletin 17 September 2025
- <u>TAFE Directors Australia News</u> 22 September 2025
- <u>Tafe Directors Australia News</u> 15 September 2025
- <u>TEQSA eNews</u> 17 September 2025
- VOCEDplus News NCVER September 2025
- VRQA e-News 3 September 2025

PUBLICATIONS

- Australian youth online: findings from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC)
- Australia's economic and labor market outlook
- Education and training divides: gendered skills, pathways and outcomes
- Education and training divides: gendered skills, pathways and outcomes
- Education at a glance 2025
- Equity insights 2025: policy, power, and practice for a fairer Australian tertiary education system
- High Load, Short Supply Bridging the gap to 2023
- Housing Workforce Capacity Study BuildSkills
 Australia
- Internet Vacancy Index

- Quality of governance at Australian higher education providers – September 2025
- Review of the Jobs and Skills Australia Act
- Social media minimum age: regulatory guidance
- Occupation Shortage Report June 2025
- Our Gen AI transition: case studies
- Our workforce, our future: implementation guide
- Supporting mental health in the workplace
- Third-Party Al Assessment Framework
- Total VET students and courses 2024
- Women in Highly Technical Occupations: The Leaky Pipeline







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