



Skilling Australians Fund

2017–18 Projects Factsheet

In 2017–18, ahead of the commencement of the National Partnership on the Skilling Australians Fund (National Partnership), the Australian Government provided around \$187 million from the Skilling Australians Fund (the Fund) to support approximately 50,000 additional apprentices, trainees, pre-apprentices, pre-trainees and employment-related training.

Background

The Fund is an important part of the Australian Government's commitment to the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector to grow the number of apprenticeships and traineeships, working in partnership with the state and territory governments. The Fund commenced on 1 July 2017.

The former Prime Minister wrote to First Ministers to advise that the Australian Government would make available \$250 million in 2017–18 on an equal per capita basis for projects that aligned with the intent of the new National Partnership.

The projects had to meet matched funding requirements, and deliver additional training places in priority areas including occupations in demand and sectors of future growth. The Hon Karen Andrews MP, the former Assistant Minister for Vocational Education and Skills, supported funding for projects that met the criteria outlined in the Prime Minister's letter and that were consistent with the intent of the National Partnership. In addition, decisions were made in accordance with obligations under the *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The training opportunities in 2017–18 were delivered through a range of innovative and successful employer and apprentice incentives across all states and territories. All projects approved supported commencements in priority industries and occupations in demand and demonstrated engagement with, and support from, key industry and employer groups – central requirements for the National Partnership.

In June 2018, the Australian Government provided funding to all state and territory governments in recognition of their achievements.

Funding amounts

Funding provided to the states for 2017–18 SAF projects is as follows:

State	Funding Provided (millions)
New South Wales	\$63.4
Victoria	\$52.2
Queensland	\$39.4
Western Australia	\$9.8
South Australia	\$11.2
Tasmania	\$5.3
Australian Capital Territory	\$4.2
Northern Territory	\$1.9
Total	\$187.3

