

Statement of Australian Government priorities Industry Skills Australia

This Statement sets out the Australian Government's priorities for **Industry Skills Australia**.

Government policy priorities and objectives for all JSCs

We expect your organisation to be actively involved in:

- addressing Australia's productivity challenges, including undertaking activity that supports building a skilled, adaptable and inclusive workforce
- working with my department, First Nations peoples, industry (employers and unions) and other JSCs to progress the priority reforms under the Closing the Gap National Agreement
- addressing system inclusivity in gender-segregated industries including by examining education and training pathway choices, and how these intersect with the gender make-up of occupations and industries
- using strategic workforce planning and strong stakeholder engagement to continue building a shared, evidence-based view of the challenges and opportunities for your industries and across JSCs
- reflecting the possible impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and broader digital transformation in workforce planning analysis, particularly emerging and changing skills needs within your industry sectors, and incorporating data, digital and AI learning outcomes into the design and review of qualifications and training products.
- ensuring all updates to training products embed Qualification Reform principles to deliver streamlined, relevant, and future-ready qualifications. This includes reducing duplication, aligning with current and emerging workforce needs across jurisdictions, and responding proactively to industry and learner expectations.

Government policy priorities and objectives for Industry Skills Australia

We acknowledge that Industry Skills Australia has a significant program of work underway in support of the transport and logistics sectors.

Recognising your existing workplan and government priorities as they relate to your industries, we expect Industry Skills Australia to also:

- continue to support major national policies and strategies by developing and implementing industry-led skills, training, and workforce solutions in collaboration with government, including initiatives that contribute to the establishment of the Strategic Fleet, improve rail interoperability and mutual recognition of rail skills across jurisdictions to enhance workforce mobility, and advance the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and the Aviation White Paper
- consider how to improve diversity through identification of barriers to workforce participation for under-represented cohorts and engaging with industry (employers and unions) to determine potential strategies
- consider how to support workforces in the transition to net zero and digital transformation by determining the skill requirements associated with the adoption of zero emission fuels and technologies, automation and artificial intelligence
- identify and progress actions to improve entry and career pathways, including apprenticeship pathways, with a focus on occupations experiencing critical shortages such as heavy vehicle drivers, train drivers and commercial pilots.

Partnering for success

Success of the JSC Program depends on your organisation working in close partnership with your industries, employers, unions and other stakeholder groups, my department and other government agencies. This includes establishing and strengthening formal partnerships with First Nations peoples, enabling shared decision-making, and supporting projects that empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to determine and drive their own economic development. Our department will support your efforts to bring together industry (employers and unions) and government to shape and drive workforce solutions across the economy, including by providing information and fostering connections across government.