MEDIA STATEMENT
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ACPET welcomes COAG signing up to Skills for all Australians

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) today congratulated the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) for agreeing to the Skills for all Australians vocational education and training (VET) reforms at today’s COAG meeting.

ACPET CEO, Claire Field, said the Skills for all Australians reforms will help Australians get the training they need to get a job, change careers or boost their chance of getting a better-paying job.

“These reforms will provide VET students with genuine choice between a range of approved training providers, from traditional public institutions to high quality private institutions that offer alternative modes of delivery and close links with local employers,” Ms Field said.

“Many of ACPET’s members throughout Australia have made tremendous contributions to upskilling the nation’s workforce by delivering high quality, flexible and innovative training that is tailored to meet the needs of students and respond to industry’s goal to increase productivity.

“ACPET and its members look forward to contributing to the ongoing development of Australia’s skilled workforce through the proposed skill reforms.

“Reforms in Victoria have shown that when students are presented with choice that they choose high quality, flexible and industry responsive training that best suits their needs. The result has seen a tremendous spike in the number of people enrolling in courses, from all walks of life. Importantly this choice has led to an uptake of skills acquisition in areas that industry is crying out for workers in.

“This skills package is a significant breakthrough for business and employees and importantly will help more Australians access good paying jobs and will ultimately benefit many working families.

A diverse, high quality and industry responsive education and training will drive productivity and employment growth in Australia. Importantly the landmark reforms agreed upon today by COAG will deliver real benefits to students, business and industry.

“Of course, as is so often the case, the challenge for reforming Australia’s VET sector will be to implement these reforms efficiently and effectively, and to avoid duplication or added bureaucratic burden on providers that stifles innovation and diversity in the market. ACPET stands ready to work alongside the Federal and State government to do that.”

Claire Field is available for comment.

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