MEDIA RELEASE
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South Australian Training Funds Will Benefit Communities, Economy

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) today welcomed the South Australian Government’s announcement that it would invite registered training organisations to tender for $16 million in funding to train job seekers in skills shortage industries.

The SA Government has formally opened the final round of the federally funded Productivity Places Program (PPP), which ACPET Executive Officer for SA, Joy DeLeo, says demonstrates the State Government’s commitment to ensuring equity in its drive to develop the state economically and socially.

“These training funds underpin two important agendas for productivity and social development in South Australia, the first being to address skills shortages that are hurting many local industries, and the second being to target funds towards disadvantaged jobseekers, including indigenous youth, unemployed or retrenched workers, learners with disabilities or jobseekers from regional areas,” said Ms DeLeo.

“Many of ACPET’s members in South Australia have made a tremendous contributions to up-skilling our State’s workforce through the PPP, delivering high quality, flexible and innovative training that is well tailored to meet the needs of today’s learners and responsive to the demands of industry.”

“I am certain the private education and training sector will continue that contribution through the current tender process.”

Ms DeLeo said that while this is the final round of the federally funded PPP for job seekers, ACPET members remain committed to expanding their contribution to skills development for disadvantaged learners through the SA Government’s Skills for All reforms to be introduced next year.

“The Skills for All program will provide students in South Australia with a genuine choice between a range of approved training providers in which to commence their educational journey, from traditional public institutions to innovative private institutions with alternative modes of delivery and close links to local industry,” she said.

“South Australian industry needs a highly skilled workforce if it is to remain competitive and productive in years to come. ACPET and its members look forward to contributing to the development of that skilled workforce through both the Productivity Places Program and the SA Skills for All reforms in future.”

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