



MEDIA RELEASE

13 December 2017

Continuing decline in VET funding means a system overhaul is required

An analysis that shows decade-low funding for the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector highlights the need for an overhaul of how it is resourced and governed according to the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET).

The Mitchell Institute report: [Expenditure on education and training in Australia 2017](#) highlights the continuing decline of the sector with public funding 4.7 per cent lower than a decade ago.

ACPET CEO Rod Camm said how can Australia hope to build a world-class economy and labour force if we don't invest in our young people and current and future workforce?

“At the same time, higher education funding has increased by 52.6 percent. The disparity is stark and must jolt governments into action,” Mr Camm said.

Mr Camm noted that there will be more concerns about the quality of delivery if funding is continued to be squeezed.

“The problems we see in South Australia and with record low apprenticeships and traineeships are a reflection of governments not being prepared to properly fund the sector. Funding can't be ripped out without there being consequences” Mr Camm said.

“Government funded training enrolments are in decline along with trade training. Our world-class VET sector needs to be cared for and can't be left to 'wither on the vine'.

It is a responsibility of all governments.

Mr Camm called for a bi-partisan approach to addressing the decline in the sector “It is now time for our state, territory and federal governments to put aside the politics and put students and industry first”.

Ends.

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