

10 000 Trainees and Apprentices in 4 Years Territory Government Plan to Skill Territorians

Budget 2005 delivers a significant investment into skilling Territorians and backing business.

Over the next four years, the Territory Government will support the training of 10 000 trainees and apprentices.

Building a skilled workforce is one of the biggest challenges facing the Territory.

That's why the Territory Government introduced the Territory's first-ever Jobs Plan.

JOBS PLAN 2 SKILLING THE TERRITORY

Budget 2005 introduces Jobs Plan 2 following on from the success of the first ever Jobs Plan.

The Jobs Plan is building a skilled, flexible workforce for local business and Territorians.

Under the Jobs Plan, our labour market is closely analysed every year to ensure training is focused on the needs of business and industry.

Initiatives under the Jobs Plan include financial incentives are now available to employers who take on trainees and apprentices.

These strategies are showing success with more than 3100 Territorians in training – a record for the Territory.

WORK WEAR WORK GEAR CASH BONUS

\$300 to every new trainee and apprentice to help them get started in their career –
\$500 for apprentices in hard to fill trades.

This bonus can be used to buy work clothing, boots, tools and other equipment needed for their new trade.

VET SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

From 2006, Territorians studying a Certificate III up to a Diploma level course with a Registered Training Organisation will be eligible for new scholarships.

40 Vocational Education and Training scholarships per year worth \$4000 each will be available to assist students with course fees and material costs.

UPSKILLING – HELPING TERRITORIANS IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS

The Territory Government is also backing Territorians already in work to upgrade their skills through training.

\$500 000 will be invested in Budget 2005 targeting workers in the automotive, building, construction, hospitality and mining industries.

These funds will be provided to industry so they can support workers to develop new skills.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS

\$400 000 will be provided for pre-employment training programs for the unemployed.

The program aims to provide unemployed and unskilled or semi-skilled Territorians with training that will lead to skilled work or prepare them for an apprenticeship or traineeship.

A NEW WORK READY PROGRAM

Government will invest an extra \$200 000 for the Work Ready Program to assist secondary students with the transition from the classroom to the workforce.

The funds will be industry driven, and directed towards skills shortage areas.

VET IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM

\$4.4 million is included in Budget 2005 for the VET in Schools program to support 1100 students.

It includes:

- \$2.27 million for training delivery and career advice in schools
- \$950 000 for the Building Better Schools VET expansion
- \$200 000 for School-to-Work Transition
- \$1 million for the Driver Training and Licensing (DTAL) program.

SUPPORTING CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY

Budget 2005 lifts funding for Vocational Education and Training at Charles Darwin University by \$1.5 million, taking total VET funding for CDU to \$35.2 million.

The additional funds will be directed at the Trades Schools.

CDU will also receive \$2.6 million in VET infrastructure funding in calendar year 2005.

SUPPORTING BATCHELOR INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS TERTIARY EDUCATION

Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education will receive \$9.6 million for training.

TRAINING FOR REMOTE WORKERS

Budget 2005 includes \$4.4 million to better skill Territorians living in remote areas, with:

- Flexible Response Funding of \$1.8 million for training or employment on-site
- \$1 million for the Training for Remote Youth (TRY) program
- \$300 000 for the Community Response Program, so remote Territorians gain work-ready skills, such as driver training and first aid training
- \$1.3 million for regional and remote training centres.

OTHER TRAINING ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE

- The Government will provide \$1 million in Budget 2005 for the Territory's six Training Advisory Councils.
- \$980 000 will be provided for public sector traineeships.