# QUALITY APPrenticeships and traineeships FOR THE MODERN ECONOMY

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| **Apprenticeships and traineeships** enable Victorians to learn on the job while earning an income, and develop the skilled workers who build our homes and infrastructure, care for our vulnerable, and contribute to the ongoing growth of our modern economy. Building on its focus on quality training through Skills First, the Victorian Government is introducing reforms to strengthen and recognise quality apprenticeships and traineeships. These key reforms will ensure that Victorian apprenticeships and traineeships produce workers with industry-standard skills who are ready for the workforce of the future. **Key Reforms**Independent testing will raise the bar on qualityIndependent testing will ensure apprentices and trainees develop knowledge and skills to the standard demanded by industry. It will give confidence to employers hiring newly completed apprentices or trainees and to people paying for their services.Typically, completing a qualification and getting employer sign-off was enough to finish an apprenticeship or traineeship. We are introducing independent assessment to ensure graduates are not only able to demonstrate competence but also occupational proficiency.Starting with a limited roll-out, the independent assessment will be built in collaboration with industry. Training and support will be in place to make sure our apprentices and trainees are supported to gain the skills they need. | Trade papers to recognise quality completionsPeople who complete their apprenticeship or traineeship work hard and deserve recognition. Currently, they get a VET qualification. Trade Papers are a separate certificate awarded to those who successfully complete their apprenticeship.. It will serve as a signal to employers and customers that this person has done the hard yards and is able to apply occupational skills on the job. **Up to date learning materials to make sure apprentices and trainees have the skills needed by industry**We will work with industry and TAFEs to review apprenticeship and traineeship curriculum and develop new learning materials for training providers. This will ensure that apprenticeship and traineeship training reflects current technology and modern workplace practices. Industry will be able to have confidence in the training and skills development of apprentices and trainees, as well as direct input into learning materials. Apprentices and trainees will be able to be confident their skills are at an industry approved level and are both current and transferable.  |

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| **Leveraging connections with industry**All of these reforms come from consultation with industry and will be rolled out with input from industry. Since apprenticeships and traineeships are jobs as much as they are training, it is crucial that we maintain the system in such a way that keeps industry engaged and wanting to hire. We are making sure that any changes to the apprentice and trainee system get industries tick of approval so that apprentices and trainees can trust in a strong career pathway, employers can trust in an effective training program and all Victorians can share its success.**What’s the timeline for this initiative?*** Independent assessment will undergo a phased roll-out. Two occupations will be included in the pilot program starting in 2019 and this will expand to cover the majority of apprenticeships and traineeships over time.
* Trade papers will be awarded alongside the rollout of independent testing.
* The updating of training material will begin mid-2018.
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