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| Higher Education and Skills Group**Participation Branch Memo****Department of Education and Training** |

***NUMBER:*** *2016 / February / 02*

**TO:**

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| Learn Local organisations *– ALL* | ACFE Board | ACFE Regional Councils |

**FROM:** Jane Dewildt, Acting Director, Participation Branch

**DATE: 02 February 2016**

**SUBJECT:** *Pre-accredited Training Project – An Outcomes Based Framework*

**ACTIONS / CRITICAL DATES:**

* *Please participate in online and onsite consultations by providing feedback and working towards the implementation the Outcomes Based Framework for Pre-accredited Training that can improve the lives of disadvantaged people our communities.*

**Background**

On 5 March 2015, the Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board approved the scoping and implementation of the Pre-accredited Training Project: Development of an Outcomes Based Framework for Government Subsidised Pre-accredited Training.

The development of the framework focused on the following objectives:

* + Increase educational participation and attainment of disadvantaged learners;
	+ Create a clear and consistent understanding of the intent of pre-accredited training (determining the what, who and how of pre-accredited training); and
	+ Better target the Board’s investment in providing outcomes driven, quality programs for disadvantaged learners.

Learn Local Organisations (LLOs) had an opportunity to consider and provide feedback on the draft framework at LLO Provider Forums conducted across the State of Victoria during July 2015. The consultation process was an extensive workshop with robust discussions and your views and insight were essential in shaping the outcomes based framework.

The Outcomes Based Framework for Pre-accredited Training (please see **Attachment A**) was approved in July 2015 by the ACFE Board. It provides a clear and consistent understanding of the intent of pre-accredited training by explaining the what, who and how of pre-accredited training.

The framework identifies four key components of delivering pre-accredited training:

* + **Outreach / Engagement:** A key part of a successful program lies in the ability to identify and engage disadvantaged persons for participation in education and training;
	+ **Learner Support & Wellbeing:** Identifying and acting upon the welfare needs of disadvantaged learners is paramount to any successful program. Recognising that the sector is dealing with people who have a variety of structural or situational obstacles before them that affect their ability to learn is essential. An effective pre-accredited program must make available the necessary and appropriate learner support and wrap around services for the learners;
	+ **Andragogy:** This is crucial to the learning gained through the pre-accredited program and the richer the learning, the more meaningful the program. Engaging andragogy needs be designed with an understanding of what disadvantaged learners require, acknowledging their learning interests and building upon their pre-existing knowledge and skills; and
	+ **Pathways:** A pre-accredited education program must have the intent of developing skills and capabilities necessary to participate in accredited education and/or employment.

**Next Steps**

URBIS has been engaged to work with you to progress towards the practical implementation of the Outcomes Based Framework for Pre-accredited Training. It is therefore essential to gain your insight and work together to improve the outcomes for some of the most disadvantaged people in our communities.

Across February and March 2016, URBIS will work with you to collect your feedback and insight. You will have two opportunities to engage in this process:

* Online Survey available to all LLOs (more details will be available shortly); and
* Onsite consultations (with your cooperation and support, URBIS will visit up to 80 randomly selected LLOs across the four regions to obtain your insight and feedback).

The collected feedback and insight will be provided back to the ACFE Board in May 2016 in the form of recommendations in implementing the Outcomes Based Framework for Pre-accredited Training. This will be shared with the LLOs in June 2016.

We hope you will provide the same enthusiasm and engagement as you did in the July 2015 Provider Forums in providing feedback and working towards the implementation the Outcomes Based Framework for Pre-accredited Training that can improve the lives of disadvantaged people our communities.

You will be contacted shortly to participate in the consultation process.

Queries about the Pre-accredited Training Projectshould be addressed to your Regional Office or via email to acfe@edumail.vic.gov.au. Attachments including further information to this Memo can be found at: