

Smart and Skilled

SMART AND SKILLED UPDATE – NO. 213 - 214

September 2023

Contents

1. Skills Compare updated with course comparison features.....	1
a. Duration.....	1
b. Course outcome classification	1
2. Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Upgrade Initiative.....	2
a. What we are looking for.....	2
b. The assessment criteria.....	2
c. What is needed.....	2
3. Offer notification	2
4. Offer conditions	3
5. Enquiries	3

1. SKILLS COMPARE UPDATED WITH COURSE COMPARISON FEATURES.

The [Skills Compare search tool](#) on the Skills NSW website allows students to discover NSW Government-subsidised and Fee-Free VET courses.

Skills Compare has recently been updated to include new course comparison features, designed to help students choose the most suitable training for them.

When searching the course catalogue, students can shortlist their favourite courses by logging into their [Service NSW](#) account and compare courses against two additional metrics:

a. Duration

The length of time (in months) in which a full-time student can expect to complete a qualification. This change will help students determine which course is suitable for them. Duration information is based on aggregated data reported to the Department by Smart and Skilled Providers, representing the typical duration across all providers. Please note that durations for full qualifications and apprenticeships & traineeships are calculated separately.

b. Course outcome classification

This classifies courses according to the student's expected outcome after completing the course (further study, entry-level employment or mid-career employment). This new feature will help students assess their suitability for a course and understand their career trajectory after training. Course outcome information is drawn from the 2020 and 2021 Student Outcome Surveys, which is based on observed job benefit by occupation prior to training. Classifications were reviewed and validated by the NSW Industry Training Advisory Bodies to determine the classification applicable to each qualification.

If you have any questions or comments relating to Skills Compare, please email MarketDesign.Implementation@det.nsw.edu.au

2. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE (ECEC) RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) UPGRADE INITIATIVE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Smart and Skilled providers are invited to express their interest to participate in a full qualification RPL Initiative to support 825 educators in the ECEC sector (excluding family day care).

The initiative will assist existing educators (students) in upgrading their outdated qualification and attain the CHC30121 Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care to meet the pre-requisite requirements for entry into the CHC50121 Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care.

Providers will be incentivised to use the online RPL assessment tool and work in partnership with the Human Services Skills Organisation (HSSO) and early childhood employers to facilitate the RPL process to students. Providers will be required to participate in six (6) hours of professional development to use the RPL online tool before enrolments can commence.

Enrolments under this Initiative are expected to occur from September 2023 to April 2024. The dates will be confirmed once the EOI process is complete.

Refer to the ECEC RPL Upgrade Policy for further information. A copy of the Policy is attached.

a. What we are looking for

Providers who are committed to working with HSSO, early childhood employers and students to facilitate the RPL process via an online assessment tool.

b. The assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed against the Smart and Skilled Contract Terms and Conditions and the NSW Quality Framework, while examining the applicant's eligibility, capacity and capability to provide the requested training.

The following will be considered when assessing applications:

- Must be a current Smart and Skilled Provider and have CHC30121 approved on the Entitlement Full Qualification (EFQ) Approved Qualification Activity Schedule (AQAS).
- Have sufficient financial cap to deliver under this initiative.
- Have existing relationships with ECEC employers.
- Have no current non-compliance orders or sanctions.

3. OFFER NOTIFICATION

Successful applications will result in providers being notified via a letter of acceptance with specified numbers of student enrolments and locations approved.

4. OFFER CONDITIONS

By accepting the offer, Smart and Skilled providers will accept the conditions as set out in the Smart and Skilled Early Childhood Education and Care Recognition of Prior Learning Upgrade Policy and the Provider Code of Conduct and Guiding Principles for the Early Childhood RPL Upgrade Initiative

Please Note:

- When delivering the CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care qualification to a student, providers are reminded they must meet training package requirements.
- Providers must use their existing entitlement full qualification cap allocation for the approved student enrolments specified in the acceptance letter.
- Due to the limited student places for this initiative, the department will assess market needs via the employer letters of support, submitted via the EOI application process.
- Any decision relating to the EOI application, and the number of student enrolments approved in this initiative remain at the department's discretion.

5. ENQUIRIES

For any enquiries, please contact your Regional Provider Support Manager or send an email to tsnsw.ece.workforce.development@det.nsw.edu.au

Unless otherwise directed in the information above, please refer enquiries regarding specific operational matters such as programs/initiatives to your Strategic Relationship Manager.

Please contact Training Services NSW Customer Service & Operation at TSNSWCust.Service@det.nsw.edu.au:

