



**Government of Western Australia**  
**Department of Training**  
**and Workforce Development**

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**  
**DELIVERED TO SECONDARY STUDENTS FUNDING POLICY**

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## **POLICY STATEMENT**

The Department of Training and Workforce Development (the Department) is committed to ensuring that its funding for vocational education and training (VET) delivered to secondary students is prioritised for training that:

- industry deems is appropriate for school students;
- is consistent with workforce development priorities for Western Australia; and
- assists school students to achieve the requirements for the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

The Policy also promotes the development of career discovery skills to assist students to make informed choices for their senior secondary VET program.

## **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all training providers contracted by the Department to deliver training to enrolled school students in Western Australia. It does not apply to training delivered on a fee-for-service basis or training funded by another government agency.

## **PRINCIPLES**

The *VET delivered to secondary students funding policy* is based on the following principles.

1. *Transparency* – Department funding arrangements for VET delivered to secondary students are transparent to all stakeholders including training providers, schools and students.
2. *Maximising Access* – funding available for courses undertaken outside of school-based apprenticeship or traineeship arrangements will be managed to ensure that the maximum number of school students have access to high quality training at a TAFE college or with one of the Department's preferred private providers.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Department is responsible for funding all school-based apprenticeships and traineeships in Western Australia.

The Department also provides a fixed amount of funding for other VET delivered to secondary students that is aligned to the workforce development needs of the State. This funding is prioritised for students in their final two years of compulsory schooling who undertake VET as part of the requirements for achieving the WACE.

The list of courses eligible for funding through a Department funded program for school students is the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list*, available on the Department's website. The list is comprised of:

- courses undertaken as part of a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship;
- courses considered by industry as suitable for delivery to school students; and
- courses subject to program-specific funding arrangements.

Some courses are designated only for funding when delivered to school students in regional areas. This occurs where the Department considers, in liaison with the Department of Education, that there are sufficient course delivery options for the school sector in the metropolitan region, or where existing levels of course delivery to school students are high relative to labour market demand.

This policy outlines the eligibility of enrolled school students to access funded courses listed in the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list*. The list is reviewed annually and may be updated throughout the year to reflect changes in training package qualifications and accredited courses.

## DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

**Enrolled school student** means a student who is of compulsory school age and enrolled full time at school.

**School** means a government school or a non-government school, as defined in the *School Education Act 1999*.

**School-based apprenticeship or traineeship** means a structured paid employment based training program that leads to school-based apprentices or trainees gaining a nationally recognised qualification. School-based apprenticeships and traineeships are part time and subject to conditions stipulated on the *Register of Class A and B qualifications*.

**VET** means vocational education and training.

**VET delivered to secondary students** means any VET undertaken by an enrolled school student.

***VET delivered to secondary students funded list*** means the list of courses funded by the Department for delivery to secondary students.

**WACE** means the Western Australian Certificate of Education.

## PROCEDURES

1. The *VET Fees and Charges Policy* applies to Department funded VET delivered to secondary students. This means enrolled school students are exempt from course and resource fees if they are undertaking a Department funded VET course.
2. An enrolled school student is eligible to access any school-based apprenticeship or traineeship listed on the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list*, provided that the student is legally able to be employed.
3. There is no restriction on the number of funded school-based apprenticeships or traineeships listed on the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list* that an enrolled school student may access.

An enrolled school student in Year 11 or 12 is eligible to access a funded course on the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list* where it is undertaken outside of a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship arrangement, if the student has not previously completed a course funded by the Department.

4. An enrolled school student in Year 9 is eligible to access 52891WA – Course in Early Career Discovery. Completion of this course does not prevent an enrolled school student from accessing an additional funded course on the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list* in Year 10, 11 or 12.
5. An enrolled school student in Year 10, 11, or 12 may be eligible to access specific courses included in the Department’s Aboriginal School-based Training (ASBT) program, subject to meeting the program’s eligibility requirements.
6. Completion of a course through the Department’s ASBT program does not prevent an enrolled school student from accessing an additional funded course on the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list* in Year 11 or 12.
7. An enrolled school student cannot undertake two funded courses or a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship and a funded course—on the *VET delivered to secondary students funded list* concurrently.

## **RELATED POLICIES AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS**

- *VET Fees and Charges Policy*
- *Apprenticeship and Traineeship Policy*
- *VET Qualifications Register for Secondary Students*

## **RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

- *Vocational Education and Training Act 1996*
- *Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996*
- *Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009*
- *School Education Act 1999*
- *School Education Regulations 2000*
- *Children and Community Services Act 2004*

## **REVIEW DATE**

This policy is to be reviewed by 31 December 2022.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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