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1. SMART AND SKILLED TARGETED PRIORITIES PREVOCATIONAL AND PART QUALIFICATIONS (TPPPQ) PROGRAM INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING STRATEGY - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

a. Fast tracking fee free delivery of infection control training

As previously advised in Smart and Skilled Update No. 103 (23 June 2020) and in line with the recently announced *Project Agreement for the National Infection Control Training Fund* (the Agreement), Training Services NSW is now implementing transitional arrangements regarding funding for the delivery of the four nationally accredited priority Infection Control Skill Sets below:

- HLTSS00064 - Infection Control Skill Set
- HLTSS00065 - Infection Control Skill Set (Retail)
- HLTSS00066 - Infection Control Skill Set (Food Handling)
- HLTSS00067 - Infection Control Skill Set (Transport and Logistics)

The skill sets comprise one unit of competency, HLTINFCOV001 *Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures*, with the exception of HLTSS00064, which

comprises the earlier unit HLTINF001 *Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures*.

To support the re-opening of customer facing businesses, Training Services NSW will fast-track **fee free** delivery of these Infection Control Skill Sets under the Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications Program by allocating funded student places through an EOI process.

b. Online Expression of Interest (EOI) now open

The EOI is now open and will be open until **Monday 20 July 2020** for eligible Smart and Skilled Providers who wish to be considered for the delivery of the Infection Control Skill Sets.

EOIs can only be made via the online form available at <https://form.iotform.com/TSNSW/infection-control-EOI>.

The EOI must be submitted in full by **5.00 pm Monday 20 July 2020 (AEST)**.

c. Provider eligibility

To participate in the EOI, Smart and Skilled Providers must have:

1. A current Smart and Skilled contract
2. A scope of registration in NSW that includes **at least one** of the priority Infection Control Skill Sets (i.e. HLTSS00064, HLTSS00065, HLTSS00066 and/or HLTSS00067), and
3. A satisfactory Smart and Skilled performance monitoring status as determined by the Department.

Please note: Federal and State Government Enterprise-based Registered Training Organisations (delivering training to government employees) and cross border TAFEs are **NOT** eligible to apply.

d. Details regarding the EOI

The EOI must be completed by either the Chief Executive Officer or Smart and Skilled Contract Provider Representative.

Further details regarding the EOI form and information requirements are at [Attachment A](#).

e. Allocation of student places

The first stage of the allocation of student places for the priority Infection Control Skill Sets will occur prior to 31 October 2020, with delivery of training to be completed before 30 June 2021.

Further details regarding the allocation of student places are at [Attachment B](#).

f. Offer notification

Successful EOIs will be notified to Providers by one or more Provider Activity Schedule(s) (PAS) sent through the STS Online portal in conjunction with the Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications (TPPPQ) Program.

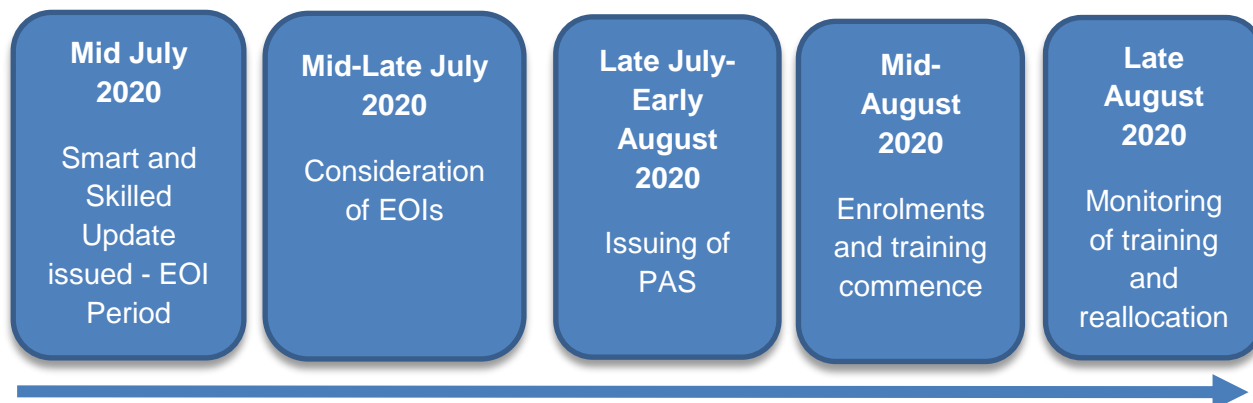
Please note: Not all EOIs may be successful.

The PAS may include a number of special instructions, including, but not limited to, reference to Smart and Skilled policy, student eligibility, delivering the training within required timeframes and the importance of complying with training package and workplace assessment requirements (especially with online delivery).

Upon acceptance of the PAS, to the maximum extent possible, the Smart and Skilled contract terms and conditions will apply to the delivery of the training.

g. Timeline

The indicative timeline for the implementation of the EOI is summarised below.



h. Other helpful Information

Further information regarding the *Project Agreement for the National Infection Control Training Fund* is available at <https://www.employment.gov.au/newsroom/subsidised-infection-control-training-fast-tracked-re-opening-businesses>.

Additional information, including Frequently Asked Questions, is also available on the Training Services NSW website at <https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/links/eoi-faqs/>.

For more detail regarding Infection Control Skill Sets, the following links may be of assistance:

- ASQA information on approval to support RTOs to deliver new infection control training skill sets
<https://www.asqa.gov.au/news-events/news/asqa-support-rtos-deliver-new-infection-control-training-skill-sets>
- Australian Industry Skills Committee (AISC) implementation of the new Infection Control Skill Sets
<https://www.aisc.net.au/sites/default/files/documents/AISC%20Statement%20Infection%20control%20skill%20sets%20implementation%20June2020.pdf>
- AISC RTO Fact Sheet
<https://www.aisc.net.au/sites/default/files/Final%20RTO%20Factsheet%20-%20Infection%20Control%20Skill%20Sets.pdf>
- AISC Contextual advice
<https://www.aisc.net.au/content/communiques-and-training-package-updates>

i. For assistance

For technical issues with the online form, please contact Training Market Customer Support at Training.Market@det.nsw.edu.au.

For any other questions regarding the EOI, please first check the Frequently Asked Questions on the Training Services NSW website at <https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/links/eoi-faqs/> to see if

your query has already been addressed. Frequently Asked Questions will be updated as required throughout the EOI opening period.

If your question has not already been answered, then please contact Training Market Customer Support at Training.Market@det.nsw.edu.au. Answers to specific questions will be posted on the Training Services NSW web site at <https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/links/eoi-fags/> as soon as possible.

2. SMART AND SKILLED TARGETED PRIORITIES PREVOCATIONAL AND PART QUALIFICATIONS (TPPPQ) PROGRAM FOR 2020-21

The Department is pleased to support the continuation of the Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications (TPPPQ) Program in the 2020-21 Activity Period and invites all Smart and Skilled providers to participate.

The Department will consider Training Needs Identification (TNI) applications where training commences on or after 1 July 2020 and completes by 31 May 2021.

The program supports:

- training to help people develop the skills they need for their current or future employment, undertake further education, and upskill into new processes or technology
- pre-apprenticeship and pre-traineeship training to assist individuals with choosing the right career
- NSW Government priorities for 2020-21 including:
 - Disaster Recovery (including drought, bushfires, COVID-19 impacts including infection control)
 - Infrastructure Skills Legacy Program (ISLP)
 - Pre-apprenticeships/pre-traineeships, including those related to the GTO Recruitment Program
 - Retrenched workers
 - Refugee Employment Support Program (RESP)
 - Disability
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
 - Jobseekers, and
 - School leavers.

The *Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications Program Provider Guidelines* are available in STS Online > Smart and Skilled Contract Management > Support Documents for your reference. If you require further information on the TPPPQ program, please contact your local Regional Office listed in the guidelines.

For all technical support in relation to this update, contact Training Market Customer Support at Training.Market@det.nsw.edu.au.

Please note that this update is for the information of approved Smart and Skilled providers only. If providers require further information for students or employers, please contact Training Market Customer Support, as above, unless otherwise instructed.

ATTACHMENT A: DETAILS REGARDING THE EOI

a. Online form

The online form comprises questions regarding:

- Organisation and contact details;
- Capacity to deliver student commencements in up to four (4) Infection Control Skill Sets and in up to six (6) Smart and Skilled Regional Clusters;

Please note: Persons in secondary education (excluding those already participating in VET in schools programs) will be eligible to participate.

and

- Other information associated with Infection Control Skill Sets and Regional Cluster combinations including main target industry, main target group and main delivery mode.

Please note: As Training Needs Identification (TNI) applications are not required for this strategy, the answers to questions regarding capacity and other information will need to be representative of the **overall** student commencements proposed for each of the Skill Sets and Regional Cluster combinations.

For example, selecting 'Existing Workers' as a main target group could mean that all student commencements will be Existing Workers or that a greater proportion of students will be Existing Workers rather than Jobseekers. Similarly, selecting 'Retail' as the main target industry could mean that more student commencements are proposed for 'Retail' than other target industries, but will not necessarily exclude these industries.

The online form will include an opportunity to provide other relevant supporting information.

A declaration will also be required before submission of the EOI.

b. Completing the EOI

To complete the EOI, eligible Providers should:

- Prepare prior accurate information and provide realistic forecasts to complete the questions regarding their capacity for student commencements in different Infection Control Skill Sets and different Smart and Skilled Regional Clusters (i.e. up to a total of 24 Skill Sets and Smart and Skilled Regional Cluster combinations) across 2020-2021 including the following periods:
 - mid July 2020 – 31 October 2020
 - 1 November 2020 – 31 December 2020
 - 1 January 2021 – 31 March 2021
 - 1 April 2021 – 31 May 2021.
- Set aside at least 30 minutes to complete the online form.

Please note: You will be required to complete and submit your organisation's EOI in a single user session. You will be able to resubmit your EOI if you make a mistake.

- Submit the completed EOI as soon as possible **prior to 5.00 pm Monday 20 July 2020 (AEST).**

Please note: The last version of your EOI that is submitted will be the one that the Department will consider.

Providers are advised to retain the confirmation email which will be sent to their nominated email address as a record of the completed EOI submission.

Please note: This email will also contain a link to a PDF document with the details of your submission.

ATTACHMENT B: ALLOCATION OF STUDENT PLACES

The allocation of student places will be undertaken in line with the *Project Agreement for the National Infection Control Training Fund* and will include a number of considerations, including (but not limited to):

- Training that can be delivered and completed for workers (including managers and supervisors) in customer-facing businesses as soon as possible to assist these businesses to reopen and remain viable.
- Priority for industries such as retail, food and beverage, tourism, hospitality, cleaning, security services, transport and logistics and other sectors such as aged care and disability care.
- Distribution across Smart and Skilled Cluster Regions, as below:
 - South West Cluster (Riverina, Murray and Capital Region)
 - Southern Cluster (Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven and Illawarra)
 - Western and Northern Cluster (Far West and Orana, Central West, New England and North West)
 - North Coast Cluster (Richmond Tweed, Coffs Harbour – Grafton, Mid North Coast)
 - Hunter and Central Coast Cluster (Newcastle and Lake Macquarie, Central Coast and Hunter Valley excluding Newcastle), and
 - Sydney Region (Sydney).
- Minimum and maximum allocation amounts for provider viability and to minimise underutilisation.
- A part qualification price of \$620 per student place (with any applicable Smart and Skilled needs and location loadings being additional to this price), and
- Provider capacity and history of provision of this training.