

A Stronger Training System



A MAJORITY LIBERAL GOVERNMENT WILL:

- Invest an additional \$15.5 million over the next five years into TasTAFE to build a stronger training system that supports more jobs
- Increase the number of apprentices and trainees through \$16.9 million of small business grants and payroll tax rebates
- Provide TasTAFE with a 70% minimum funding guarantee



Investing in skills for jobs

TasTAFE – Centres of Excellence for Training

The vocational education and training system is critical to Tasmania's growing prosperity. It provides the skills needed to support industry productivity and for individuals to reach their career potential.

TasTAFE is vitally important to Tasmania - training around 25,000 students each year. As the sole public vocational education and training provider, under a Hodgman Liberal Government, TasTAFE has received around 80% of training funds and we expect that to continue. We are committed to ensuring TasTAFE's ongoing success in partnership with industry.

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will provide an additional \$15.5 million to establish TasTAFE Centres of Excellence in key industry areas, including:

- \$7 million to establish a Trades and Water Centre of Excellence
- \$5 million to establish an Agriculture Centre of Excellence based at Burnie's Freer Farm
- \$2 million for Drysdale to establish a delivery point in Hobart's northern suburbs
- \$1.5 million for a Drysdale training kitchen within the Devonport Living City project.

This is significant capital expenditure on skills and education infrastructure for Tasmania's key growth areas of trades and water, agriculture, and tourism and hospitality.

TasTAFE Centres of Excellence were recommended by the same independent consultant who recommended the establishment of TasTAFE and the Labor Green Government ignored the advice.

Industry Leadership

Industry will be a key driver of the Centre of Excellence model with each Centre of Excellence driven by an industry-based Board. This will ensure the operations and training align with the skill needs of employers.

Supporting Small Business to Employ More Apprentices and Trainees

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government would provide \$2.5 million annually for a Small Business Grants for Apprentices and Trainees Program.

The grant would provide small businesses up to \$5,000 for each new apprentice or trainee in an area of identified skills demand. It will fund 500 new apprenticeships and traineeships each year.

Relevant Targets

#3: A 40% increase in apprentices and trainees in the private sector by 2025.

#11: A 10% increase in small business employment by 2022.

#12: 50,000 tourism-related jobs by 2022.

#15: A 25% increase in people employed in the building and construction sector over the next five years.

For the full list of our Targets: www.buildingyourfuture.com.au

Why Tasmania Needs This

By investing in real skills for real jobs our plan will ensure that all Tasmanians can share in the rewards of a growing economy.

Better TasTAFE facilities providing cutting-edge training will ensure our apprentices, trainees and students are ready and prepared for the jobs of the future.



Investing in skills

Extend the Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme

We will extend our successful Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme for apprentices and trainees to 30 June 2021, with a focus on addressing identified skill shortages in our economy.

The extended scheme would provide a payroll tax rebate for apprenticeships and traineeships in identified skill shortage areas of our growing economy.

This initiative would support around 3,000 new apprenticeships and traineeships in the construction trades, manufacturing, and tourism and hospitality.

Guaranteed funding to TasTAFE

To provide ongoing funding certainty for TasTAFE in a competitive training market, a re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will guarantee a minimum of 70% of the state training budget to TasTAFE.

We know this is possible because since coming to government, we have ensured TasTAFE receives around 80% of the state training budget – we expect this current level of support to continue.

Independent Audit

The independent audit, triggered by the Integrity Commission report into TasTAFE followed by the resignation of the Labor-Green appointed CEO, continues.

As recommended by the TasTAFE Board, when the full audit is completed, we will release as much as possible taking into account privacy issues. In the meantime, interim recommendations are already being implemented with significant improvements being made to the organisation. The recent appointments of a new CEO and Board Chair will help drive the necessary changes to improve TasTAFE.

Cost

The total cost of these investments is \$32.4 million over 5 years.

Only a majority Hodgman Liberal Government has the track record to show it can invest in training and education and keep Tasmania in the black.

Key Facts

In our first term in government the Hodgman Liberal Government put Tasmanian jobs first and reduced the unemployment rate to the national average.

In total we have already created more than 10,900 jobs and business confidence is at its highest level in a decade.

By working closely with local employers and industry we have been able to halt the shocking decline in apprentice and trainee numbers that occurred under Labor.

We are committed to the centre of excellence model for TasTAFE and have already invested over \$3 million dollars transforming Drysdale as a centre of excellence for Tourism and Hospitality training.



Labor Green Record

Labor and the Greens tore TAFE Tasmania apart at the seams, through their disastrous Tasmania Tomorrow reforms.

Under their watch more than 4,000 Tasmanian apprentice and trainee jobs were destroyed and youth unemployment peaked at over 20% as young people and families fled the state in droves.

Labor's plan is to increase bureaucracy by resurrecting the failed Industry Advisory Council model instead of working directly with employers. Tasmanians can't afford a return to another job-destroying and spendthrift Labor-Green Government.