



Awareness of Government Funded Training Entitlements

What is Skills First?

The Skills First Program is a Victorian State Government scheme that provides access to government subsidies training to eligible individuals for specific courses. If an individual is eligible, the government will contribute to the cost of the training.

For Australians Citizens and Permanent Residents

Am I eligible for a Skills First government subsidised training place?

You are eligible for Skills First funding government subsidised place if you are:

- an Australian or New Zealand citizen, or permanent resident of Australia, or eligible for the Asylum Seeker VET Program;
- not enrolled in a school except if you are doing a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship)
- will not be:
 - commencing more than 2 Skills First AQF qualifications in the same year
 - commencing more than 2 Skills First Skills Sets in the same year
 - doing more than 2 Skills First programs at the same time; and
- (if applicable) are enrolling in a Foundation Skills Program, and they:
 - do not currently hold a qualification at AQF level 5 (Diploma) or higher,
 - are not enrolled in the Commonwealth Government’s ‘Skills for Education and Employment’ (SEE) program.

and

- have a physical presence in Victoria or a border region with one of the following postcodes:

VSW	SA
2546, 2548-2551, 2625-2633, 2640-2648, 2650, 2651, 2653, 2655,2656, 2650, 2651, 2653, 2655, 2656, 2658-2660, 2700, 2707, 2710-2717, 2720, 2730-2739	5262,5263, 5267-5272, 5277-5279, 5290,5291, 5302-5304, 5311, 5333, 5340, 5342-5345

If you are eligible, the government will contribute to the cost of training.

Your eligibility will be determined by New Futures Training friendly staff when you enrol.



For Asylum Seekers - Eligibility requirements for State Government initiatives

New Futures Training offers eligible students access to the following specific State Government initiatives in order to access a government subsidised fee for your course.

1. Asylum Seekers and Victims of Human Trafficking Initiative

The Training Provider may exempt an individual from the citizenship/permanent residence eligibility criterion. Asylum Seekers must meet all Skills First eligibility criteria except the citizenship/residency requirements. Student should meet one of the followings:

- i) are referred to training via the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre or the Australian Red Cross Victims of Human Trafficking Program and they present a 'Referral to Government Subsidised Training – Asylum Seekers' form;
- ii) hold, or are a dependant of an individual who holds, a valid humanitarian, protection or refugee visa;
- iii) hold a bridging visa and have lodged an application for a humanitarian, protection or refugee visa; or
- iv) hold a bridging visa and have lodged an application under section 417 or section 48B of the Migration Act 1958 (Cth) which is yet to be determined; and
- v) have study and if relevant, work rights.

2. Skills First Youth Access Initiative

The Skills First Youth Access Initiative is to support participation in training by young people (24 years of age or under) who have been, or are currently on, Youth Justice Orders or Child Protection Orders, or are residents of an Education First Youth Foyer.

List of acceptable evidence to prove eligibility

Evidence of Eligibility means evidence of an individual's eligibility for Skills First subsidised training in accordance with the eligibility requirements set out in this Contract and the Guidelines About Eligibility.

The following is a list of all acceptable evidence you can use to prove your eligibility	
Australian Birth Certificate (not Birth Extract)	New Zealand Birth Certificate
current Australian Passport	New Zealand Citizenship Certificate
current New Zealand Passport	a proxy declaration for individuals in exceptional circumstances as per Clauses 2.13 – 2.17 of the Guidelines About Eligibility* (Please refer to Guidelines for details)
Australian Citizenship Certificate	Formal confirmation via the Visa Entitlement Verification Online System (VEVO) of permanent residence AND the student's foreign passport or ImmiCard
current green Medicare card	Confirmation that the student meets the eligibility criteria for the Asylum Seeker VET Program.
Australian Certificate of Registration by Descent	a Referral to Government Subsidised Training - Asylum Seekers' form from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre or the Australian Red Cross
<i>If an individual will be under 17 years of age at the time their training commences, unless they are undertaking training as part of a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship, to be eligible for Skills First subsidised training, they must have received an exemption from school attendance.</i>	