

## SUBSIDISED TRAINING FACT SHEET

### NSW GOVERNMENT TRAINING SUBSIDIES

#### PROGRAMMES

- *Smart and Skilled Entitlement Programmes*
- *Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Programmes*
- *Smart and Skilled Adult and Community Education Programmes*

The NSW government provides training subsidies to eligible learners seeking to enrol in selected training programmes with an approved training provider. Its *Smart and Skilled* initiative is aimed at helping people get the skills they require to find a job and advance their careers. This includes providing eligible students, including trainees, with an entitlement to government subsidised training on a broad range of qualifications at levels up to and including Certificate III (or higher in selected priority areas).

Students unable to access training under *Entitlement* or *Targeted Priorities* programmes may still be eligible for a subsidy under *Adult and Community Education Programmes* such as the *Smart and Skilled Community Service Obligation (CSO)* programme. This programme specifically caters for disadvantaged students and for those living or working in regional or remote areas. Subsidies are also available for short courses relevant to small business operators and their staff through the *Tech Savvy for Small Business Programme*.

#### PROGRAMME ELIGIBILITY

##### All Smart and Skilled Programmes

You may be entitled to a *Smart and Skilled* training subsidy if you meet citizenship/residency requirements, are aged over 15 years and not at school, and you live or work in NSW:

*Smart and Skilled* eligibility criteria. You must be:

- an Australian citizen, permanent resident, humanitarian visa holder or New Zealand citizen **and**
- at least 15 years of age and not attending school **and**
- living or working in NSW (or an indigenous Australian living in a designated NSW border area<sup>†</sup>)

##### Adult and Community Education Programmes

Several additional criteria must be met in order to access training and support under *Smart and Skilled Adult and Community Education* programmes. Eligibility criteria for these programmes – *Tech Savvy for Small Business (TSB)* and *Community Service Obligation (CSO)* – are reproduced below and overleaf.

##### TSB eligibility criteria

*TSB* eligibility criteria. You must also be:

- an owner or employee of a small business with no more than 20 employees or an annual turnover under \$2,000,000

<sup>†</sup> *Adult and Community Education programmes only*

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**CSO eligibility criteria**

**Disadvantage**

1. You receive one of these benefits (or you are the dependent child, spouse or partner of someone receiving such a benefit):

**or**

You belong to one of these groups:

**and**

2. You are unable to access training under the *Smart and Skilled* entitlement programme due to:

- Age Pension
- Austudy
- Disability Support Pension
- Carer Payment (*not* Carer Allowance or Carer Adjustment Pay)
- Farm Household Allowance
- Parenting Payment (single)
- Family Tax Benefit Part A (maximum rate)
- Newstart Allowance
- Sickness Allowance
- Veterans' Children Education Scheme
- Veterans' Affairs Pensions
- Wife Pension
- Special Benefit
- Widow B Pension
- Widow Allowance
- Youth Allowance

- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Person with a disability (or the dependent child, spouse or partner of someone with a disability)
- Experiencing significant hardship (verified by a government agency, medical professional or support agency)

- Limited capabilities or educational disadvantage – such as very low literacy, numeracy and/or language skills; limited employability skills necessitating considerable additional support; or other significant educational disadvantage limiting ability to succeed in training
- Persistent and ongoing personal issues impacting on educational achievement

**Regional or Remote Location**

You do not qualify as a disadvantaged student but cannot effectively access training under the *Smart and Skilled* entitlement programme due to:

- Factors associated with living or working in a regional or remote location (i.e. locations not classified as *Major Cities* on [this website](#)).

**Evidencing eligibility for a training subsidy**

Students must be able to provide adequate evidence of citizenship/residency, age, address and current circumstances upon request. Evidence provided must be sufficient to confirm eligibility against the criteria set out above for the programme the student wishes to participate in. Prior to enrolling in a training programme funded through *Smart and Skilled*, applicants will be asked to sign a *Declaration of Eligibility* to affirm that they qualify for the relevant subsidy.

More information on *Smart and Skilled* programmes is available from the government's [Smart and Skilled website](#) or by contacting our Lismore College on (02) 6622 1903. General information on training subsidies can also be found on our website at [acecolleges.edu.au](http://acecolleges.edu.au).

**DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY****FOR A NSW GOVERNMENT TRAINING SUBSIDY****FACT SHEET**

Please refer to our *Subsidised Training Fact Sheet* prior to signing this declaration. It contains information on training subsidies currently available through the NSW government's *Smart and Skilled* initiative as well as information on eligibility for component programmes including *Smart and Skilled Entitlement*, *Targeted Priorities* and *Adult and Community Education* programmes. Further information is also available from the NSW government's [Smart and Skilled website](#).

**DECLARATION**

In relation to my eligibility to receive a training subsidy from the NSW government under *Smart and Skilled*, I declare that:

- I am an Australian citizen, permanent resident, humanitarian visa holder or New Zealand citizen **and**
- I am at least 15 years of age and not attending school **and**
- I live or work in NSW (or I am an indigenous Australian living in a designated NSW border area<sup>†</sup>).

<sup>†</sup> *Adult and Community Education programmes only*

In relation to my eligibility to access training services and support under the *Smart and Skilled Community Service Obligation (CSO)* programme, if that is my intention, I further declare that:

- I meet the definition of a disadvantaged student under CSO programme eligibility criteria **and** I am unable to access training under other *Smart and Skilled* programmes for one or more of the reasons identified as acceptable by the NSW government **or**
- I do not meet the definition of a disadvantaged student under CSO programme eligibility criteria **but** I cannot effectively access training under other *Smart and Skilled* programmes due to factors associated with living or working in a regional or remote location.

In relation to my eligibility to access training services under the *Smart and Skilled Tech Savvy for Small Business (TSB)* programme, if that is my intention, I further declare that:

- I am the owner of, or an employee in, a small business with 20 or fewer employees **or** an annual turnover under \$2,000,000.

In relation to my capacity to evidence my eligibility for any *Smart and Skilled* programme, I declare that:

- I have read the ACE Community Colleges *Subsidised Training Fact Sheet* and I understand the eligibility requirements relating to participation on training programmes subsidised under *Smart and Skilled* **and**
- I am able to provide any such evidence as may be requested by ACE Community Colleges and/or the NSW Department of Industry for the purpose of confirming my eligibility for any such programme.

Signature:		Date:	
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\* *If enrolling online, completion of the online enrolment process will be taken as equivalent to signing this declaration.*