



# Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### NSW LEADING THE NATION IN SKILLS AND TRAINING

The latest national data on apprentices and trainees shows the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government's record investment in skills continues drive nation-leading results, with more than 115,000 apprentices and trainees in training across the State.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said the recent National Centre for Vocational Education and Research (NCVER) report shows NSW continues to lead the nation, with more apprentices and trainees than any other state or territory.

"It's great to see the number of apprentices and trainees continuing to grow across the State off the back of the NSW Government's record investment in skills and training," Mr Williams said.

"Across the board, the number of people commencing and completing apprenticeships and traineeships is up, which is further strengthening the pipeline of skilled and job-ready workers in our State."

The report also reveals that over the last two years, NSW has recorded a 42 per cent increase in apprenticeship and traineeship commencements. For females alone, commencements are up 59 per cent.

Minister for Skills and Training Alister Henskens said the NSW Government is removing barriers to vocational education and training for young people through unprecedented investments in fee-free training and programs like the Educational Pathways Program and Careers NSW.

"The NSW Government's record \$3.1 billion investment in skills and training in the Budget will further turbocharge the take-up of vocational education and training, securing a brighter future for people in NSW," Mr Henskens said.

"NSW is leading the nation when it comes to skills and training, with more people in training than any other state, ensuring that we continued to build a strong pipeline of skilled, job-ready workers to help grow our economy."

Reforms to the HSC and ATAR will also increase the take-up of vocational education and training, by significantly expanding the education and employment pathways available to young people.

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