



# Media release

## Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee

### New inquiry investigates student pathways to in-demand industries

Victoria's future employment needs are the focus of a new parliamentary inquiry that is inviting public submissions.

The Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee is examining the pathways that will link students to industries that are vital to Victoria's economic development and that need skilled employees into the future.

"This is an important inquiry because actions taken today will help to determine the future economic success of our state," Committee Chair Alison Marchant said.

By 2034, over 1.4 million new workers are expected to enter the Victorian workforce to meet the demands of the economy and replace retirees.

Over 85% of expected new workers in Victoria will need a post-secondary qualification to gain employment over the next decade.

"This inquiry will be examining the types of support students need to gain employment in industries that are in demand," Ms Marchant said.

These industries include health care and social assistance, construction, technology, clean energy and education, among others.

"We'll be looking at support to enter TAFE and other vocational routes, as well as pathways to some in-demand occupations that require higher education."

Among the issues to be examined, the Committee expects to consider support that is needed for specific groups of students such as those in regional Victoria, female students considering work in male-dominated industries, and students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"We want to hear from a range of industries that are experiencing workforce shortages, as well as from students and young people so we can understand what influences the direction they choose to take after school," Ms Marchant said.

"We're also keen to hear from educators and those who have experienced barriers to participation so that we can make meaningful recommendations for the benefit of students, educational institutions and employers."

Submissions can be made online by 1 August 2025.

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