



# Microcredentials Pilot in Higher Education

The Australian Government is providing \$18.5 million to pilot the development and delivery of microcredentials in the higher education sector, aimed at assessing the value these shorter forms of learning provide to learners and employers in addressing workforce needs.

- Under the Microcredentials Pilot in Higher Education, higher education providers were able to apply for a share of \$2 million in funding to develop microcredentials in partnership with industry.
- \$16.5 million is available from 2023-24 to 2025-26 to subsidise the delivery costs of microcredentials to up to 4,000 students.

Piloted microcredentials must target occupations in shortage, based on Jobs and Skills Australia's [Skills Priority List](#) and be in national priority fields of education. The priority fields of education are:

- 01: Natural and Physical Sciences
- 02: Information Technology
- 03: Engineering and Related Technologies
- 06: Health
- 07: Education
- 0907: Behavioural Science.

Microcredentials funded under the Pilot need to meet **specific criteria** including:

- being between 0.25 and 0.49 Equivalent Full Time Student Load
- provide credit towards a formal qualification
- robust assessment and quality assurance
- demonstrated industry engagement

An evaluation is planned for 2025 to inform the Australian Government's future direction of the program.

The Pilot has been informed by the [University-Industry Collaboration in Teaching and Learning Review](#), led by former vice-chancellors Professor Martin Bean CBE and Professor Peter Dawkins AO, which recommended seven immediate actions to promote collaboration. A key recommendation of the review was to scale up industry-focused microcredentials.

## Expansion of the Australian Skills Classification

The Pilot will be supported by the expansion of the [Australian Skills Classification](#), led by Jobs and Skills Australia. This will inform the development of microcredentials and promote a consistent approach to describing the skills acquired from the learning. The expansion of the Classification will prioritise occupations within the Pilot's national priority fields of education and help map the skills to higher education qualifications.