

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Training and Skills
Minister for Higher Education



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Wednesday, 8 May 2019

FUNDING BOOST FOR INNOVATIVE TRAINING PROJECTS

The Andrews Labor Government today announced a \$2.4 million funding boost for innovative training projects that will train the next generation of workers across Melbourne.

Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney joined Member for Eltham Vicki Ward at Melbourne Polytechnic's Greensborough campus to announce the major investment and meet with students enrolled in Free TAFE courses.

Minister Tierney announced three grants from the Workplace Training Innovation Fund towards projects that will expand and strengthen Melbourne Polytechnic's partnerships with industry.

The boost includes more than \$888,000 to establish the North West Melbourne Data Analytics Hub with North Link, focusing on manufacturing and health. The project will deliver 105 business training events to 1350 businesses and individuals over two years.

Almost \$900,000 has been provided to develop new Certificate III and IV courses in design and architectural glass.

More than \$660,000 will enable trainers, students, businesses and their employees to better engage Chinese customers in retail, tourism and hospitality.

These courses have been developed to respond to industry needs and students undertaking these courses will have the skills they need to begin careers in industries where there are plenty of jobs.

The Labor Government invested \$10 million to re-open the Greensborough campus of Melbourne Polytechnic in 2017, which was closed under the previous Liberal Government.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney

"Our Workplace Training Innovation Fund is investing in projects that ensure we have the skilled workers Victoria needs."

"These projects are yet another example of the work we're doing to develop cutting-edge training solutions to meet the needs of students and industry."

Quotes attributable to Member for Eltham Vicki Ward

"Since reopening in 2017, Melbourne Polytechnic's Greensborough campus has become a vibrant education hub, giving people in Melbourne's north-east the opportunity to get the skills they need for the jobs they want."

"Free TAFE will help local job seekers find ongoing work and provide a steady stream of workers for industries with skills shortages."