

## Backing good jobs

# Darling Downs – Maranoa including Toowoomba

- \$1.1 billion Big Build investment creating 3,000 jobs
- Queensland's food bowl
- Transport and logistics hub
- Southern Queensland Renewable Energy Zone
- Innovative manufacturing sector
- New Toowoomba Hospital
- Expanding Aerospace Industry

More than  
**155,600**  
employed  
by 2025-26

Jobs Queensland (2023), *Anticipating Future Skills (AFS) Series 4.*



**BACK TO WORK\*** **1,150** job seekers  
**608** local businesses  
supported by **\$13.79 million**

**SKILLING QUEENSLANDERS FOR WORK\***

**4,096** employed  
**\$47.11 million**  
in community programs

Big Build figures: *Darling Downs Regional Action Plan, Queensland Budget 2023-24.*

\*As at 30 April 2024

## Top 5 largest employing industries



**24,851** employed

**Health care and social assistance**

Aged and disability carers, registered nurses, child carers, nursing support and personal care workers



**15,132** employed

**Agriculture, forestry and fishing**

Livestock farmers, livestock farmer workers, mixed crop and livestock farmers, crop farmers



**14,093** employed

**Education and training**

Primary school teachers, secondary school teachers, education aides, university lecturers and tutors



**13,862** employed

**Retail Trade**

Sales assistants (general), retail managers, checkout operators and office cashiers, shelf fillers



**13,780** employed

**Construction**

Electricians, carpenters and joiners, construction managers, plumbers

Toowoomba plus Darling Downs and Maranoa projected workforce sizes by 2025-26. Source: Jobs Queensland (2023), *Anticipating Future Skills (AFS) Series 4.*

Good Jobs, Great Training

Queensland Skills Strategy 2024 – 2028 delivering for

# Darling Downs – Maranoa

# 5,056

## Free TAFE students and apprentices

Commencements from 2023 (as at 30 April 2024)

Popular free courses Darling Downs – Maranoa	Aligned jobs	Average salaries seek.com.au
Certificate III in Individual Support	Aged and disability carers	\$60,000 - \$70,000
Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care	Early childhood educator	\$60,000 - \$65,000
Certificate III in Engineering - Fabrication Trade	Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers	\$70,000 - \$75,000
Certificate III in Hospitality	Waitperson	\$65,000 - \$75,000
Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	Electricians	\$90,000 - \$110,000



**More Free TAFE** upskilling Queenslanders while driving costs down



**More local training** delivering for local communities



**More TAFE Trade Tasters** plus skills for school students aligned to good, local jobs



**Apprentices and trainees** supported across traditional and emerging industries, plus more pre-apprenticeships and Work Skills Traineeships



**Skills employers need** expanded industry input on workforce needs and priorities



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**Tameika Brett, Toowoomba** | Individual support student

## Free TAFE proves life-changing for Tameika

Tameika Brett's motivation to study was to support others who were facing life-changing challenges, drawing from her own experiences.

"I'm going to look after people like me because I know how hard it is — every day is a challenge," Tameika said.

Tameika enrolled in a Certificate III in Individual Support with TAFE Queensland.

"I love, love learning," she said.

"It's been years because I've had a family — I've always just concentrated on my family.

"This year, it's about me doing something for me and my goals and what I want in life."

Tameika's study experience has been life-changing for her and she aims to have a positive impact in the lives of others as well.

"I want to inspire my own people. I want to encourage people to get out there and achieve their career goals."

Tameika said Free TAFE provided the support she needed to pursue her dream career.

"With the government's Free TAFE, the cost of learning doesn't have to be a barrier," Tameika said.



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