

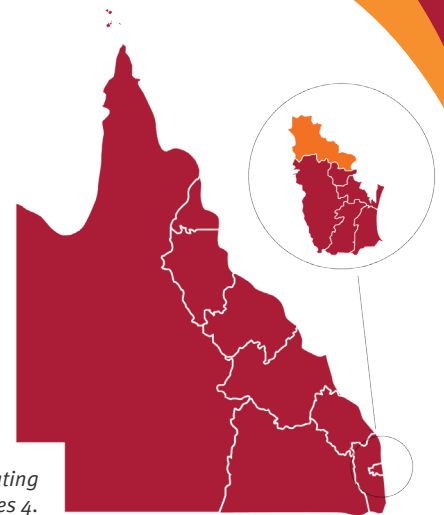
## Backing good jobs

# Sunshine Coast

- \$1.2 billion Big Build investment creating 3,400 jobs
- Maroochydore City Centre project
- Australia's fastest east coast data connection to Asia
- Caloundra South Priority Development Area
- Sunshine Coast University Hospital Stage 3 development
- Sunshine Coast Industrial Park Stage 2
- Palmview State Secondary College

More than  
**203,900**  
employed  
by 2025-26

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



**BACK TO WORK\***

**623** job seekers  
427 local businesses  
supported by \$7.75 million

**SKILLING QUEENSLANDERS FOR WORK\***

**3,578**  
employed

**\$42.58 million**  
in community programs

Big Build figures: *Sunshine Coast Regional Action Plan, Queensland Budget 2023-24.*

\*As at 30 April 2024

## Top 5 largest employing industries



**39,999** employed

**Health care and social assistance**

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



**25,040** employed

**Construction**

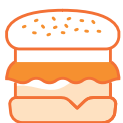
Electricians, carpenters and joiners, construction managers, plumbers



**22,589** employed

**Retail trade**

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



**19,397** employed

**Accommodation and food services**

Waiters, kitchenhands, bar attendants and baristas, chefs, sales assistants (general)



**18,830** employed

**Education and training**

Primary school teachers, secondary school teachers, education aides, private tutors and teachers, child carers

Sunshine Coast region 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 the

# Sunshine Coast

# 6,374

## Free TAFE students and apprentices

Commencements from 2023 (as at 30 April 2024)

Popular free courses Sunshine Coast	Aligned jobs	Average salaries seek.com.au
Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	Electricians	\$90,000 - \$110,000
Certificate III in Individual Support	Aged and disability carers	\$60,000 - \$70,000
Certificate III in Carpentry	Carpenters	\$75,000 - \$90,000
Certificate III in Air-conditioning and Refrigeration	Airconditioning and Refrigeration mechanics	\$80,000 - \$100,000
Diploma of Nursing	Enrolled nurses	\$65,000 - \$75,000



**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



Scan to learn more  
[qld.gov.au/SkillsStrategy](https://qld.gov.au/SkillsStrategy)

**Michaela Sykes, Sunshine Coast** | Support worker

## Free TAFE helps Mickey help others

Michaela ‘Mickey’ Sykes is drawing her lived experience to support others, enrolling in a Certificate IV in Mental Health through Free TAFE.

After spending 35 years as a seamstress, Mickey took a leap of faith to change careers and study full-time from July 2023.

Her 58-year journey with mental health is what inspired Mickey to enter the field herself.

“Jumping into the unknown was quite scary,” she said.

“I decided I needed to give back and help people find hope and happiness in their life like I have.”

Mickey finished her course in March 2024 and is now employed as a mental health support worker.

“I couldn’t be happier,” she said.

“I owe it all to TAFE Queensland and my teachers, especially Tracy Galaud. She helped my confidence, gave me encouragement and guidance.

“I started the course scared and thinking ‘what have I done?’ but, because of Tracy and the teachers, I have thrived and found my confidence.

“Now I have a job, a new career and believe in myself again.”



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