

Backing good jobs Wide Bay region

- \$1.9 billion Big Build investment creating 5,200 jobs
- New Bundaberg Hospital
- Queensland Train Manufacturing Project – Torbanlea
- Growing food and beverage manufacturing industry
- Majority of states' softwood plantation resources
- Paradise Dam improvement project – planning and enabling works

Big Build figures: Wide Bay Regional Action Plan, Queensland Budget 2023-24.

More than
133,200
employed
by 2025-26

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



BACK TO WORK* **5,345** job seekers
2,401 local businesses
supported by \$59.18 million

SKILLING QUEENSLANDERS FOR WORK*

4,158 employed
\$63.52 million
in community programs

*As at 30 April 2024

Top 5 largest employing industries



28,291 employed

Health care and social assistance

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



14,975 employed

Retail trade

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



11,709 employed

Education and training

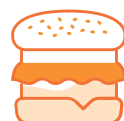
Primary school teachers, secondary school teachers, education aides, university lecturers and tutors



10,550 employed

Construction

Electricians, carpenters and joiners, construction managers, plumbers



9,917 employed

Accommodation and food services

Waiters, kitchenhands, bar attendants and baristas, chefs

Wide Bay region projected workforce sizes by 2025-26. Source: Jobs Queensland (2023), Anticipating Future Skills (AFS) Series 4.

V1.1 (20 May 2024)

Good Jobs, Great Training

Queensland Skills Strategy 2024 – 2028 delivering for the Wide Bay region

5,642

Free TAFE students and apprentices

Commencements from 2023 (as at 30 April 2024)

Popular free courses Wide Bay	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 Engineering - Mechanical Trade	Metal fitters and machinists	\$70,000 - \$90,000
Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care	Early childhood educators	\$60,000 - \$65,000
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



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Jakeb Nicolaou, Hervey Bay | Nursing student

Free TAFE helps Jakeb forge caring career

Jakeb Nicolaou is determined to forge a career in caring for others, enrolling in a Diploma of Nursing with TAFE Queensland after completing health courses at school.

The 19-year-old has faced plenty of challenges, including family health and support needs – and his own neurodivergence which he was told would prevent him from completing further study.

Undeterred and with support from TAFE Queensland, Jakeb is excelling and gaining praise from teachers and health care providers he is placed with.

With a work offer already on the table and encouragement

from his teachers to continue his studies to become a registered nurse, Jakeb's future looks bright.

"It hasn't been easy ... but the teachers and the facilities at the Hervey Bay campus are exceptional," he said.

Having training covered through Free TAFE has also helped Jakeb.

"I'm a lot more likely to go on to study registered nursing knowing I have this experience behind me, minus the debt," he said.

"I've been able to save and buy a car that supports my needs.

"Having the support of TAFE Queensland has made the difference."