

Inquiry into the delivery of vocational education and training in regional, rural, and remote Queensland

Submission No: 1
Submitted by: Narbil Training
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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Gladstone CQ 4680 currently has a significant shortage of options for its local high schools. There are numerous students who are unable to complete vet qualifications under VETiS due to skills shortages in this region. There are numerous students in Gladstone who are wanting to enroll into Certificate I & II pathway qualifications that relate directly to the local industries that support the community. The issue is there are not enough SAS approved RTOs that are physically based in Gladstone that employ Gladstone Trainer Assessors. DESBT has refused new SAS applications for 2 years consecutively and provided no guidance for RTO's who are actively seeking funding as a direct result of the invalid statistical evidence they have gathered. Their stance is there is sufficient suppliers to meet regional QLD demands. Whilst on paper that may seem the case at the coal face it is a completely different story. The RTO I represent is proving 3 local high schools' vet qualifications for free as we do not have funding and they do not have providers.

Submitter Recommendations:

The Department of Employment, Small Business and Training must investigate the actual physical addresses/locations of their Skill Assure suppliers. Gladstone is a town that has a long history of suffering from out-of-town businesses setting up temporary fronts and servicing with workers (Trainers in this case) who are not residents. This creates a multitude of issues, primarily a lack of ongoing support for students. Gladstone is QLD's major economic hub that generates a significant portion of the state's revenue. Yet somehow is always neglected, as an example we currently do not even have a maternity ward in a town of over 40,000. Parents must travel 2 hours north to Rockhampton to give birth. Gladstone's private vet sector is in dire need of support.

Please briefly describe your experience with, or interest in, vocational education and training:

I have been involved in the Vet sector for approximately 10 years which has included the roles of Senior Trainer Assessor, Resource Developer, Program Co-Ordinator and Compliance Manager working in Gladstone Central Queensland.

What do you think would help to improve vocational education and training in regional, rural and remote Queensland?

More funding support for private registered training organisations to support regional high school students who wish to participate in pathway qualifications.