




Speech By
Hon. Dr Steven Miles
MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Health, Training and Education

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services) (10.08 am): As one of the state's largest employers, Queensland Health knows the importance of training and education. The health sector will be one of the biggest contributors to jobs growth in Queensland over the next five years. That is why we are passionate about encouraging and inspiring young Queenslanders to consider a future in health care. This year we launched the Choose Your Own Health Career website to highlight the career opportunities that are available in the health sector through vocational training and education pathways.

It provides a snapshot of the different pathways available during and after secondary schooling in Queensland. The online resource is an example of how we are supporting our young people, investing in our future health workforce and the value we place on practical and vocational learning. It includes 14 career pathways, 35 job profiles and 25 case studies so far. Over 6,500 individual visits to the site have occurred since we launched it.

Whether it is the new nurses, doctors or ambos we hire, or the medical innovation jobs of the future, I would urge every young Queenslander to consider health care if they want a skilled, well paid, secure job that also has the added reward of helping people every single day. There are other important jobs in Queensland Health which deserve a mention. When you think of hospital staff your mind might not immediately turn to the trades, but they are an essential component of ensuring our hospitals run smoothly and safely. Across the state, Queensland Health employs apprentices from a variety of trades. We have seen that number increase even when compared to just a year ago. From plumbing to electrical, painters, fitters and welders, each apprentice brings a unique skill to our service. We value each and every one of our apprentices, like all of our incredibly dedicated and skilled staff and the contribution they make.

Apprentices are crucial to boosting jobs in our regions. Many of our electricians, for example, are being skilled and trained in areas like Central Queensland, Townsville, Cairns, Darling Downs and West Moreton. I am passionate about ensuring all Queensland health staff feel supported in their training, learning and working. The skills our apprentices and trainees learn today will go on to benefit all Queenslanders tomorrow and for many years to come.