

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1085

asked on 5 September 2018

MR S KING ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION: Will the Minister advise how the year 12 students in the electorate of Kurwongbah will benefit from the free TAFE initiative of the Palaszczuk Government?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Kurwongbah for his question.

As part of the Queensland Government's commitment to support our current Year 12 graduates to successfully transition into the workforce, the Queensland Government offers free training in high priority areas under the Free TAFE initiative.

The Free TAFE initiative offers apprenticeships, traineeships and other vocational education and training (VET) pathways for Year 12 graduates across a wide variety of industries with current and future workforce needs.

While some students may incur related costs such as uniform and resource costs if undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship, eligible Year 12 graduates taking up this training opportunity can kick start their careers without the financial burden of student contribution fees.

To be eligible, students must meet overarching Certificate 3 Guarantee or User Choice program eligibility requirements, have completed Year 12 in Queensland and hold a Senior Statement issued by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority or equivalent certification and permanently reside in Queensland.

To take advantage of the opportunity provided by the Free TAFE Initiative, Year 12 graduates must enroll and start training in a high priority qualification within the calendar year after leaving school.

With over 160 qualifications to choose from, eligible Year 12 graduates in the electorate of Kurwongbah, along with other Year 12 graduates across our State, are able to access free training and skills opportunities that not only support their individual careers and employment options, but also the growth and economic prosperity of their local communities.

While students in the Kurwongbah electorate can attend TAFE campuses across Queensland, 27 of the 160 courses are on offer locally at Caboolture and Bracken Ridge across priority subject areas, such as automotive, carpentry, engineering, electrotechnology, early childhood and individual support.