

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 656

asked on 25 May 2021

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**MR S ANDREW** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HON D FARMER) —

### QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland TAFE system and the delivery of Electrical Theory to our Electrical apprentices—

Will the Minister advise (a) whether block release has been cut by 25 percent, from 4 Weeks to 3, with students left critically short in the area of Electrical Theory and principles, (b) if so, why the government has slashed such a vital component of the critical Electrical Trade learning sector and (b) what other similar cuts has the government made, across the whole of Queensland's education/training system?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

I can confirm there has been no reduction by TAFE Queensland in the block release training schedules for theory and practical delivery across the state.

As would be expected, there has been some adjustments to ensure training continuity during COVID-19 restrictions. Where required, the theory and practical training components have been split to allow theory to be delivered remotely via online learning platforms and the practical component delivered on-campus. In most cases, theory components have returned to on-campus delivery, with the online option also available to students.

In response to industry feedback, TAFE Queensland on the Gold Coast has recently rearranged their Stage 1 and Stage 3 electrical block delivery schedule. The actual hours of delivery remain the same.

Currently, TAFE Queensland is finalising a delivery plan for the new UEE30820 Certificate III in Electrotechnology (Electrical) qualification to enhance state-wide continuity and consistency.

I have also been advised by Central Queensland University (CQU) that no reduction by CQU's electrical apprentices has occurred for attendance at block training, with block delivery required for four weeks and not three weeks.