Smart and Skilled qualifications are subsidized by the NSW Government. Eligible Aboriginal students are entitled to fee-free government subsidized training in priority skill areas, up to and including Certificate III, with approved training providers. Subsidised training is also available for higher qualification levels.

This training gives you the chance to gain the skills you need to get a job and advanced your career.

The Skills List defines the qualifications eligible for government funding

The NSW Skills List covers the subsidized qualifications, from Certificate II to Advanced Diploma, selected Foundation Skills courses, all apprenticeships and part qualifications. Qualifications on the Skills List are those that will lead to jobs and further career options.

Am I eligible for Smart and Skilled?

To be eligible for Smart and Skilled training you must:

- Be an Australian citizen, permanent resident, humanitarian visa holder or New Zealand citizen
- Be aged 15 years or older
- Live or work in NSW, and
- No longer be at school.

(Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in specific defined interstate border areas with NSW may be eligible for Smart and Skilled. You can find out the areas covered from your training provider.)

How do I prove I am Aboriginal?

When you enroll with your training provider you will be asked if you are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. This means you identify as Australian Aboriginal (or Torres Strait Islander), are Aboriginal by descent and your community recognises you as Aboriginal. You may be asked to provide documentary evidence of these three areas.

What about student fees?

Eligible Aboriginal students do not pay a fee for any Smart and Skilled qualification they undertake, regardless of the number of qualifications in which they enroll, or the level of the qualification.
Where can I get training?
If you are eligible for Smart and Skilled you can choose an approved training provider that best meets your needs, including TAFE NSW.

What other support is available?
Additional assistance is given to training providers to support training for Aboriginal people.

Training Services NSW Aboriginal staff can provide advice and assistance on vocational training pathways, and apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities.

Aboriginal Employment Advisory Support Services
The New Careers for Aboriginal People (NCAP) program employs Aboriginal employment advisors who can assist Aboriginal people in the labour market by identifying and supporting opportunities for education, training and employment. Aboriginal employment advisor services include:

- Career planning
- Writing a resume
- Training advice
- Job referral
- Interview preparation
- Mentoring support.

Aboriginal Business Advisory Support Services
The Aboriginal Enterprise Development Officer (AEDO) program employs Aboriginal Business Advisors who assist Aboriginal clients to set up a business by providing:

- Help to develop business plans
- Small business training
- Ongoing business support and mentoring.

Find out more about Smart and Skilled
You can read more about Smart and Skilled at www.smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au

The Smart and Skilled website also helps you to select courses and approved providers and to check your eligibility and fee arrangements.

For information about Aboriginal support services

- Call direct on 13 28 11
- Email at us: sts.aboriginal.services@industry.nsw.gov.au

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