

Media Release —

COAG Gets It Right With Focus On One Post-Secondary Education System

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For Immediate Release

The outcomes of today's Council of Australian Government's (COAG) meeting that sets out a vision for Australia's tertiary education system have been welcomed by the Independent Tertiary Education Council Australia (ITECA). ITECA represents independent providers in the higher education, vocational education and training sectors.

"The recognition that vocational education and higher education are equal and integral parts of Australia's post-secondary education system is a great starting point for reform," said Troy Williams, ITECA Chief Executive.

ITECA is a strong proponent of an integrated tertiary education system in which higher education and vocational education and training operate as one but retain their separate identities.

"In an environment where workers will need to acquire new knowledge and new skills throughout their working lives, an integrated tertiary education system makes sense. Increasingly, workers are going to utilise both the higher education and vocational education sectors to ensure they can play a meaningful role in the economy of tomorrow," Mr Williams said.

ITECA welcomed the outcome of the COAG meeting that saw a shared vision across government for VET delivering high quality education and training that meets the needs of students and employers.

"In terms of supporting government achieve its policy objectives, independent providers in the vocational education and training sector stand ready. They support more than sixty percent of the 4.2 million students in VET programs, offering high-quality outcomes that students and their employers are looking for," Mr Williams said.

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