

# News Release Minister Grace Portolesi

Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills  
Minister for Science and Information Economy

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## Partnership with industry to increase skills for workers

The State Government has awarded more than \$200,000 to the wine, defence and technology industries for initiatives to help meet skills demands over the coming years.

Minister for Skills Grace Portolesi said the funding is going to industries of strategic importance where investment will help stimulate economic growth and further job opportunities.

“The Government has a strong focus on supporting South Australians to ensure that sectors have the skills they need to work in areas of emerging opportunity,” she said.

“These grants are a co-investment with industry, and are a good example of the Government working with employers to ensure they have a highly skilled and capable workforce.

“Three groups have been successful in winning funding in the latest round of grants, and will use the funding to plan for the future staffing needs in their industries.”

The South Australian Wine Industry Association has been awarded \$107,910 to assist in workforce development planning across South Australia’s seven key wine regions. This will help the wine industry to better attract, retain and upskill their employees.

Funding has also been provided to the Defence Teaming Centre and the Technology Industry Association that will receive \$100,000 and \$10,000 respectively.

The Defence Teaming Centre will be working with major defence industry companies and their supply chains to develop a long term workforce management and skilling plan.

The Technology Industry Association will develop workplace planning strategies that foster innovation, enabling companies to meet emerging challenges.

“Employers can apply for government funding to pay for staff to study higher qualification levels, from Certificate IV to Advanced Diploma level, National Skill Sets or in Skill Clusters,” Ms Portolesi said.

“Skill Clusters are short courses that staff can do to upskill in areas of industry need.

“For employers in specific industry areas, government grants will provide from 50 per cent to 90 per cent of funding to help with the cost of training staff in industry-critical skills.

“Through this program we have provided funding to employers in the resources, advanced manufacturing, infrastructure, agrifood, health and community services industries.

The Government has invested strongly in skills and training, increased by a further \$27 million in the recent budget.