Launch of TAFE NSW Tertiary Arm boosts student opportunities

The NSW Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli recently launched TAFE NSW Higher Education, the tertiary arm of TAFE NSW.

“TAFE NSW Higher Education will enhance and expand study options for people across the State by providing tertiary level qualifications including bachelor degrees,” Mr Piccoli said.

“As a long-standing industry leader, TAFE NSW has joined with universities and employers to increase student study choices to deliver job-ready, skilled graduates in high-growth areas such as early childhood, finance, information technology and animation.

“An Access Economics analysis shows there will be more jobs available that need higher-level qualifications by 2025 than those requiring low-level qualifications.

“TAFE NSW Higher Education will help fill this need by increasing opportunities for satisfying employment through tertiary qualifications.

“This new TAFE entity will contribute to national targets of increasing the participation of students from low socioeconomic backgrounds in higher education to 20 per cent of undergraduate enrolments by 2020.

“It will also contribute to meeting our State target of 44 per cent of 25 to 35 year olds holding a bachelor level qualification or above by 2025.

“As part of the State Government’s commitment to improving educational outcomes for all students, TAFE NSW Higher Education will give students another option to study for a higher qualification.

“This is a major advantage for people who are socially or geographically disadvantaged or those who may not ‘fit the mould’ of the traditional university student.

“TAFE Illawarra is also currently offering the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education and Care at our Shellharbour Campus which has been very well received by students,” said Lucy Arundell, Relieving Institute Director.

“We also have several joint programs with the University of Wollongong such as the Bachelor of Digital Media, Bachelor of Commerce (Event Management)/Diploma of Event Management, Bachelor of Commerce (Hospitality Management) and the Bachelor of Commerce (Tourism Management),” she added.

“With 130 TAFE campuses across the state and a strong online presence, almost half of TAFE NSW 550,000 annual enrolments come from rural or regional areas, TAFE NSW Higher Education’s links with industry and its geographic reach will enable greater overall student participation.”

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