

Skills First Program – government subsidised training

The Skills First Program (SF) is an entitlement to government subsidised training in Victoria. SF is about making vocational education and training more accessible to people who do not hold a post-school qualification, or who want to gain a higher level qualification than they already hold. SF is the Victorian Government’s agenda for ensuring a strong, stable, high-quality training system that gives all Victorians the opportunity to develop the skills they need – and the skills employers want – for jobs, today and tomorrow.

More information: <https://www.vic.gov.au/skills-first>

Am I eligible for a government subsidised training place (SF)?

From 1 January 2023, you need to meet these requirements to be eligible for Skills First subsidised training:

Citizenship

You must be:

- an Australian citizen, or
- an Australian permanent resident, or
- a New Zealand citizen.

Physical location

You must be physically present in Victoria while participating in training and assessment.

Course limits

Skills First funding is limited to:

- two courses at a time
- two courses in a year.

However, exceptions also may apply:

- Participants undertaking Foundation Skills Courses (eg: Certificate I in Transition Education and Certificate I in Work Education) are exempt from the above limitation rules. *Lifeskills* will assess and make a recommendation based on your interest, suitability and eligibility into Accredited Courses.

More information: <https://www.skills.vic.gov.au/s/how-to-check-your-eligibility>

Skills First Program

What if I want to study and I do not meet the eligibility criteria?

If you are not eligible for government-subsidised training, the Fee-For-Service Tuition Fee schedule will apply to you (refer to RTO Schedule of Fees 2017). *Lifeskills* can provide suggestions to requested study options.

What funded courses are available through the Skills First Program?

The following Foundation Skills (disability-specific) Courses are approved for funding:

- 2255VIC Certificate I in Initial Adult Literacy and Numeracy
- 22567VIC Certificate I in Transition Education
- 22566VIC Certificate I in Work Education

When can I begin in an Accredited Course / next intake?

Lifeskills collects Participant applications and expressions of interest all year round. Accredited Courses will commence depending on confirmed Participant enrolment numbers. Due to the demand for our Accredited Programs, places may be limited. Please contact *Lifeskills* today to find out more.

Accredited Courses - Participant Fees and Subsidies Information

The Participant tuition fees as published are subject to change given individual circumstances at enrolment.

Skills First (SF) Standard Tuition Fees

Only applies to Participants who are eligible for government subsidies. With the introduction of Skills First, *Lifeskills* is currently waiving SF Standard Tuition Fees. Please contact Lifeskills to determine and confirm your eligibility.

Skills First Concession Tuition Fees

Government-subsidised Participants who are eligible for concessions will pay no more than 20% of the SF Standard Tuition Fee per scheduled hour applicable to their course of study. Eligibility for Concession applies if a Participant is:

- An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (including Diploma or Advanced Diploma course categories),
- A non-indigenous student enrolling in all other course categories (i.e. excluding all Diploma or Advance Diploma) who holds one of the following that is current and valid at the time of enrolment:
 - Commonwealth Health Care Card
 - Pensioner Concession Card
 - Veterans' Gold Card
- On a Disability Support Pension (will need to provide evidence including):
 - Letter from the Department of Human Services (Centrelink) confirming receipt of the Disability Support Pension, or
 - Current Disability Pensioner Concession Card, or
 - Current Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Income Statement.

Fee-For-Service Tuition Fees

These fees apply to any applicant who are not subsidised or are ineligible to access Skills First. Payments of fees in instalments can be discussed with *Lifeskills*.

RTO Schedule of Fees 2024-25

Foundation Skills Course Fees

| Qualification Code | Qualification Title | Total nominal hours | Skills First (SF) Funded Rate (per student contact hour) | Approximate Government contribution for Skills First per eligible Participant (per qualification) | Per qualification | | | | | | Qualification Duration & Government Contribution per year | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|--|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | | | Skills First Standard Tuition Fees | | Skills First Concession Tuition Fees | | Fee-For-Service Tuition Fees | | Years to complete | Yearly approximate Government contribution for Skills First per eligible Participant to RTO |
| | | | | | Hourly Rate (per student contact hour) | Skills First Standard Tuition Fees | Hourly Rate (per student contact hour) | Skills First Concession Tuition Fees (20% of Standard Tuition Fees) | Hourly Rate (per student contact hour) | Fee For Service Tuition Fees (non-SF) | | |
| 22567VIC | Certificate I in Transition Education | 1090 | \$14.50 | \$15,805 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$14.00 | \$15,805 | 2 | \$7,902.50 |
| 22566VIC | Certificate I in Work Education | 1030 | \$14.50 | \$14,935 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$14.00 | \$14,935 | 2 | \$7,467.50 |

Delivery location: Latrobe Lifeskills Bundoora or Bendigo (on La Trobe University Campus grounds)
Delivery method: Face-to-face, RTO structured classroom delivery

- Skills First Program, also known as SF funding, is subject to eligibility. Visit website: <https://www.skills.vic.gov.au/s/how-to-check-your-eligibility> for information.
- This training is delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government Funding.
- The Participant tuition fees as published are subject to change given individual circumstances at enrolment.
- Latrobe Lifeskills encourages individuals with disabilities to access training subsidised through the Skills First Program.

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RTO Schedule of Fees 2024-25



Foundation Skills Course Fees

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| | | | | | Hourly Rate (per student contact hour) | Skills First Standard Tuition Fees | Hourly Rate (per student contact hour) | Skills First Concession Tuition Fees (20% of Standard Tuition Fees) | Hourly Rate (per student contact hour) | Fee For Service Tuition Fees (non-SF) | Years to complete | Yearly approximate Government contribution for Skills First per eligible Participant to RTO |
| 22555VIC | Certificate I in Initial Adult Literacy and Numeracy | 600 | \$14.50 | \$8,700 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$14.00 | \$8,700 | 1 | \$8,700 |

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