

MEDIA RELEASE

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NATIONAL PEAK BODY WELCOMES YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

The Career Industry Council of Australia has welcomed the announcement in the 2015 Federal Budget of an investment of \$330million on a Youth Employment Strategy to improve the employment outcomes of young Australians.

Executive Director, David Carney said: "The announcement of a youth employment strategy is a positive first step in assisting young people develop the necessary skills to become ready to actively participate in the world of work and remain engaged in employment".

The provision of quality career advice by qualified career practitioners is an essential and integral component of any successful youth employment strategy.

It is essential that community based organisations, jobactive and Disability Service organisations ensure that quality career advice by qualified career development practitioners is provided to young people under the Youth Employment Strategy, ensuring it's success.

Young people at risk of long term unemployment or at risk of welfare dependence need to be provided with career support and guidance by a qualified career professional.

Investment by all Schools across the country in Career Education and Career Advice is vital.

Young Australians must be provided with the skills and knowledge to manage their transition from school to further education, training or employment successfully.

To best prepare our young Australians, schools must ensure that they are providing high quality career education programs and that their students have access to a school career adviser who is registered as a Professional by the Career Industry Council of Australia and is a member of a CICA Member Association.

Career Advisers in schools must be provided with appropriate time and resources to ensure that programs and services meet the needs of their students.

The Career Industry Council of Australia has developed a Benchmarking Resource for use by School Leadership teams to ensure they are providing high quality career development services. A copy of the Benchmark is available for download. <https://cica.org.au/quality-benchmarking/>

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