

Australia faces massive skills shortages

Who is going to:

fix your car?



build your house?



care for your children?

cut your hair?



Australia faces a shortage of 130,000 tradespeople in the next five years. There are also shortages in other professions, such as childcare workers and accountants.

More than 40,000 people are turned away from TAFE each year because insufficient places are funded. About \$180 million is needed to fund sufficient places this year alone.



IN THE FEDERAL ELECTION

Who is going to make sure TAFE is funded to provide enough student places?

The Howard Government has refused to provide enough funding for TAFE. The funding pressures on the national TAFE system have meant:

- ☒ Youth unemployment is chronic in many areas, especially in rural and regional areas
- ☒ 40,000 Australians miss out on a TAFE place each year
- ☒ High cost training areas, like the traditional trades, have been shut down or have fallen into disrepair in some TAFEs.
- ☒ Shortages of qualified TAFE teachers are emerging across the country.

What you can do:

- Contact Prime Minister John Howard and Opposition Leader Mark Latham and ask them what they are going to do about TAFE funds.
- Contact your local candidates and ask them what they intend to do about TAFE funding.
- Tell your friends and colleagues what has happened in TAFE.
- Find out what the AEU is doing to campaign for more TAFE funds.

Make your vote count for TAFE.