Background
All Tasmanians who do not already hold a Certificate III or higher qualification have an explicit entitlement to a government subsidised training place in a Certificate III qualification from 1 January 2014. This meets the requirements of the National Training Entitlement as agreed between Governments in the National Partnership Agreement for Skills Reform.

The objective is to actively and equitably increase the stock of meaningful work skills in the Tasmanian community.

The Entitlement
The entitlement applies to any person of working age who does not have a qualification higher than a Certificate III and who has not completed a Certificate III qualification in the last 5 years. It also applies to unemployed Tasmanians. More detailed eligibility criteria for an entitlement place are outlined in program specific Guidelines for Registered Training Organisations. These may be varied periodically.

The entitlement can be taken up at TasTAFE or, in the case of apprenticeships, traineeships and other qualifications openly subsidised by Skills Tasmania, at any Endorsed Registered Training Organisation (RTO) subject to competitive tender processes. The entitlement will also include qualifications leading to the Certificate III qualification.

People who are enrolled in more than one Certificate III concurrently can only receive an entitlement level of subsidy for one qualification. In circumstances where an entry level qualification is higher than a Certificate III, the higher level qualification may be subsidised as an entitlement.

Tasmanians who do not have an entitlement will still have access to subsidised training; however this may be at a lower level than those who are eligible for an entitlement. The levels of subsidy for each entitlement qualification will be set by the Department of Education’s Skills Tasmania business unit: see Variable Price Subsidy Policy.

Enrolments under the entitlement will be subject to course eligibility criteria and the availability of places. This means a place under the entitlement may not be a student’s first choice. RTOs will be assisted by Skills Tasmania to determine a student’s eligibility to an entitlement funded place.

Apprentices and Trainees
The entitlement applies to training under an apprenticeship or traineeship, for a Certificate III qualification nominated by Skills Tasmania as a subsidised apprenticeship or traineeship, at any Endorsed RTO offering the subsidised qualification in Tasmania.

1 The term ‘entitlement’ will not be used as a brand. Rather, it will be implemented with the existing and new program specific branding such as User Choice and Career Start.
Preparation
Prepared: Susan Bayly-Stark
Checked: Mark Bowles

Clearance
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Cleared by: A/ Deputy Secretary: Paul Murphy
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