Great skills. Real opportunities.
The Queensland Government reform action plan for further education and training

**Great skills. Real opportunities.** will make TAFE a more competitive, responsive, innovative and flexible training provider.

**Great skills. Real opportunities.** will reform Queensland’s further education and training sector. The needs of students and employers will underpin the state’s training system. This will enable every Queenslander to obtain great skills for real job opportunities and boost economic and social prosperity for all.

**Great skills. Real opportunities.** reforms commenced in 2013 with roll out continuing over the next five years.

Creating a stronger TAFE Queensland

The Queensland Government has made a commitment to clearly define the role, purpose and strategic direction of TAFE Queensland.

- Legislation to establish TAFE Queensland as an independent statutory body from 1 July 2013 has been finalised. The TAFE Queensland Act 2013 allows for the future creation of seven amalgamated TAFE institutes, the formation of a commercially focused board and the appointment of a chief executive officer.
- A change process for TAFE Queensland is underway to build its capacity to deliver high quality training and effectively compete in the training market. To lead the change process for institutes, seven Directors of TAFE Reform have been appointed.
- Negotiation of a new certified agreement for TAFE educational employees has commenced.
- Applications for membership of the TAFE Queensland Board are being shortlisted with the Board to be appointed in July 2013.

**TAFE is open for business**

The Queensland Government is working to improve the state’s training and TAFE system.

TAFE Queensland will be supported to change and become more commercially focused.

While these changes take place, it is business as usual for TAFE students, clients and those considering studying at TAFE.

In 2013, students, apprentices, trainees and employers will be able to access the same courses and services.

TAFE Queensland will be an even better study choice now and in the future.
• Work is underway to develop a strategic asset plan which will outline the use of government-owned training assets in the future in line with the Queensland Government Response to the Independent Commission of Audit Final Report.

Better asset management
Smarter approaches to investing in and managing TAFE assets (such as property) to reflect the future needs of TAFE’s business are part of the planned reform of TAFE.

The Government has accepted the recommendation within the Independent Commission of Audit Final Report for asset ownership to be separated from TAFE and transferred to a specialist commercial entity with a view to rationalise the asset base, facilitate third-party access and improve asset use.

This change to the ownership of TAFE’s training assets will not mean a reduction in services. These strategies will work to build the capacity of Queensland’s training market and increase access to further education and training in Queensland.

It will also allow TAFE to focus on what it does best — delivering training.

The Government will develop a strategic asset plan by the end of 2013 to set out TAFE’s infrastructure needs to ensure assets are being used in the best and most efficient way.

Transparent funding for TAFE
Government funding for training in Queensland is changing. From 1 July 2013, additional contestable funds will be made available to more high quality private and public training providers across the state.

From 1 July 2014, all training funding will be fully contestable, ensuring that Queensland is well on the way towards having the nation’s most open training market.

A new, transparent funding model for TAFE Queensland will be implemented from 1 July 2013. This model will facilitate increased productivity and efficiency and support TAFE Queensland through the changing market conditions.

TAFE Queensland will remain a key player in the training sector and funding will specifically recognise the services TAFE provides to its students and communities that cannot be delivered by the private sector.

TAFE will also be given the additional funding it needs to support the transition to a more commercially viable and efficient training organisation.