



NSW Adult and Community Education Infrastructure Maintenance Submission: Executive Summary

Shovel ready projects to support the NSW economy and train the state's vulnerable workers

Help us prepare facilities and campuses to be in great shape when our students return

Thanks to the early intervention and support by the NSW Government, providing COVID-19 relief funding for the state's adult and community education (ACE) providers, we can now look to post-pandemic medium-term economic recovery activities.

Community Colleges Australia (CCA) proposes that the NSW Government implement a 2020/21 ACE infrastructure maintenance program of \$150,000 per provider, a total of \$4.8 million state-wide.

Infrastructure investment by the NSW Government in not-for-profit community education providers is an investment in local communities, built by local tradespeople, ensuring these jobs and the associated benefits stay local. People who study with adult and community education (ACE) providers will return to modern facilities designed to provide them with the best skills for a post-pandemic economic recovery.

The current need for economic stimulus in NSW presents an important opportunity to build on the 2019/20 NSW ACE infrastructure maintenance program. Most of the current projects are now complete; the students and their communities have begun to utilise and appreciate this important new infrastructure. To support the NSW Government in delivering targeted economic stimulus, NSW ACE providers have identified practical and "shovel ready" projects that will enhance their ability to provide better quality training to their communities while simultaneously delivering the economic injection into local economies across the state.

Funding will ensure NSW ACE providers have the capacity to undertake appropriate, timely and targeted upskilling and training in professional environments. They will deliver accredited VET and foundation skills to priority groups such as the large number of newly unemployed, small businesses in trouble and other vulnerable and disadvantaged people. Funding will underpin the operational continuity of the NSW state-wide network of ACE providers, so their training capacity will survive now and thrive in the future.

This infrastructure maintenance funding:

- can be delivered almost immediately to support NSW Government economic stimulus objectives;
- will support existing NSW jobs throughout the life of each project;
- will provide a pipeline of projects for contracted builders and suppliers;
- supports NSW Government regional economic development;
- aligns with existing NSW state training and state infrastructure policies;
- builds on the ability of NSW ACE providers to deliver infrastructure improvements;
- ensures a "long tail" of positive impacts arising from infrastructure investment;
- helps NSW ACE providers meet documented building management challenges; and
- provides substantial return on investment to the NSW Government.

[View the full infrastructure submission on the CCA website](#)