



THE VALUE OF TAFE IN REGIONAL NSW

ECONOMIC VALUE

- ▶ TAFE Western contributes 870 jobs to central and western NSW. This is equivalent to \$90 million of household income per year.
- ▶ Total TAFE expenditure contributes over \$200 million to the central and western regions of NSW each year.
- ▶ \$128 million is also contributed in gross regional product each year.

CASE STUDY

MUDGEES LEARNING HUB

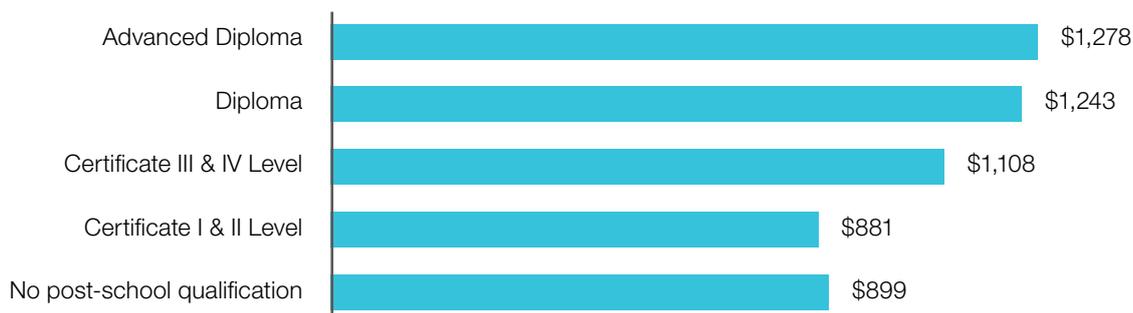


TAFE Western's Mudgees Learning Hub has been designed to respond to changing educational and employment patterns in the Mudgees region, and support improved service provision – including flexible learning opportunities, and academic support services – to the Mudgees community.

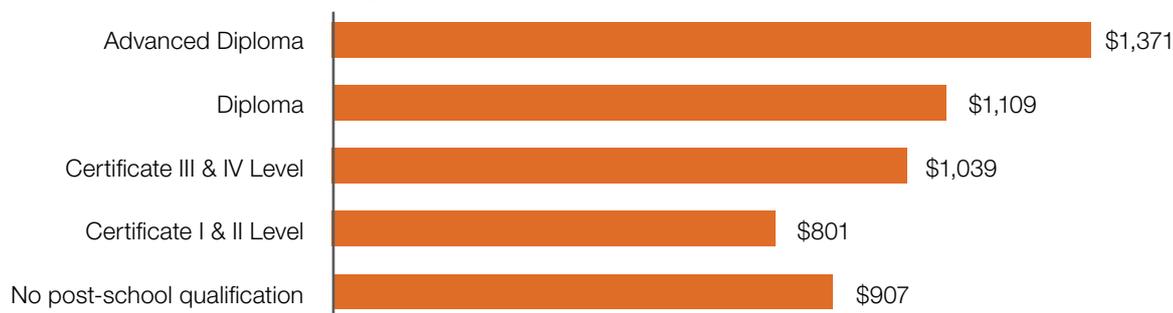
- > The Hub is a 'living laboratory', demonstrating Australian excellence in innovative, sustainable infrastructure design and environmental performance.
- > The Hub also increases facilities utilisation rates and demonstrates a more flexible use of infrastructure and equipment.
- > The Hub is a 5 Star Green Star Education Design Green Building Council of Australia certified building – the first certified rating of its kind for a TAFE NSW building.
- > This building cost approximately \$7 million and contributed economically to many local contractors, suppliers and businesses.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO COMPLETE TAFE TRAINING

Individuals who gain a Certificate III or above increase their weekly earnings.



The same is true for Aboriginal students.



MICHAEL PARRIS

Diploma of Community Services Work



Michael is a very giving and community-focused person and his story was one of personal triumph and success.

While studying a Diploma of Community Services Work he had several personal issues arise. To Michael's credit, no matter how difficult things became, he remained committed to his studies and

was respected among his classmates – who appreciated his gentle, thoughtful, compassionate and considerate nature.

It was these attributes, along with courage that helped Michael not only graduate with distinction, but successfully transition into an exciting position with the NSW Ombudsman.

SHAUN GORDON

Certificate III in Painting and Decorating



Shaun started training as an apprentice painter and decorator, and his successful transformation during his time at TAFE Western was inspirational.

When Shaun commenced his apprenticeship he was quite shy. As his skills developed, assisted by one-on-one tutorial support, so did his self-belief

and confidence. He quickly became an enthusiastic class member and someone his classmates turned to for advice and assistance.

Shaun was a real success story, overcoming adversity which ultimately led to his main aim of becoming a tradesman when he completed the Certificate III in Painting and Decorating course at the end of 2015.

He is now working with a local Dubbo painting business and enjoying life in the country.

Unemployment levels are lower for all students once they gain at least a Certificate III level qualification.

Post-school Qualification	Central West and Far West & Orana	New South Wales	Aboriginal Peoples
	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate
Advanced Diploma	2.1%	3.8%	11.4%
Diploma	2.7%	4.8%	7.7%
Certificate III & IV	3.8%	4.5%	11.3%
Certificate I & II	9.9%	10.0%	21.3%
No post-school qualification	8.3%	8.7%	22.7%
Total Region	5.7%	5.9%	17.8%

The lifetime benefit of additional income earned by 2015 TAFE Western graduates is \$125 million above what would be earned if those same students had no post school education.

WAYNE WRIGHT

Certificate III in Community Services Work



Wayne is a fine example that persistence pays off. After 25 years in the construction industry, a degenerative eye condition left him without a driver's licence. His decreasing eyesight meant he needed a career change.

He decided he wanted to work in Community Services so enrolled at TAFE

Western. Initially, studying was difficult for Wayne, but thanks to his "never give in" attitude, and a strong commitment to his studies, he successfully graduated in 2015.

Wayne's willingness to overcome adversity and his hard-working attitude also caught the eye of Mission Australia in Orange, where he was offered full-time employment upon the completion of his training – a great story of success!

KELLIE LANE

Certificate IV Leisure and Health



Kellie's commitment and knowledge of holistic care saw her become an integral part of the Bathurst Seymour Centre, where she has been employed since 2013.

Kellie thrived during a Certificate IV in Leisure and Health course with TAFE Western, developing skills that ensured she transformed into an exceptional carer.

These quality skills are extremely beneficial for her local community – especially the frail, aged and disabled who attend Bathurst Seymour Centre.

Some of Kellie's greatest attributes include compassion, empathy, enthusiasm and understanding – skills she continues to demonstrate without reservation every day.

Kellie and her family relocated to Bathurst from Sydney and are very happy with their tree change.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WRI was commissioned to undertake an analysis of the economic impact of the organisation and understand TAFE Western's impact on the region's human capital in 2015.

WRI's study considered the value of TAFE Western to its regions in terms of:

- > Economic impact – Operations, capital expenditure, non-local student expenditure, total student expenditure
- > Human capital for graduates – employment and average income (general graduate population and Aboriginal graduates), private value of human capital (general graduate population and Aboriginal graduates).

Human capital is, "the skills, knowledge, and experience possessed by an individual or population, viewed in terms of their value or cost to an organisation or country". By considering the economic impact of relevant organisational income and expenditures and certain key indicators of human capital, TAFE Western can provide a more holistic picture of its positive impact on the region.

In 2005 and 2011, the Western Research Institute (WRI) conducted a similar economic impact study for TAFE Western. Of note, this is the first time that WRI has looked at the human capital for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates of TAFE Western.

KEY FINDINGS

Findings demonstrate that in 2015 the economic impact of TAFE Western included:

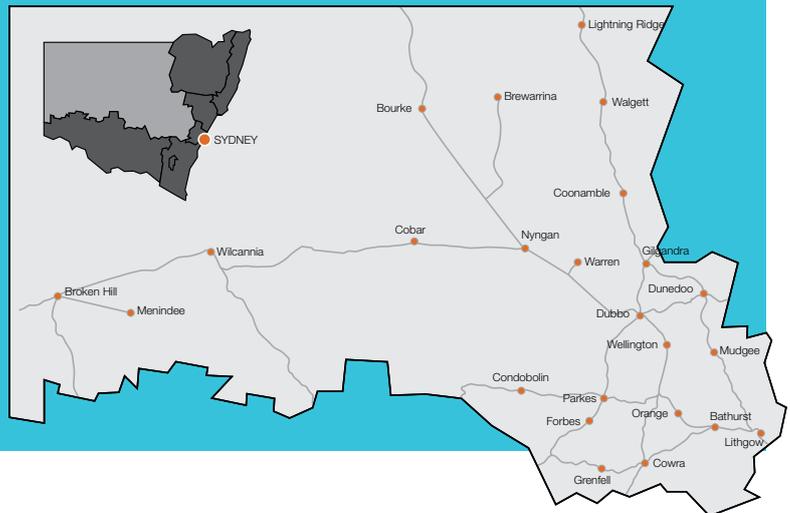
- > contributing 870 jobs to the central and western region of NSW
- > generating \$90 million of household income
- > investing more than \$200 million through operational and capital expenditure
- > adding an additional \$128 million to the gross regional product of the central and western regions of NSW.

TAFE Western's impact on the region's human capital was found to be:

- > \$125 million of additional income will be earned by the TAFE Western graduates of 2015 across their lifetime (when compared to a similar group with no post school qualifications)
- > unemployment levels are lower than state and regional levels for all graduates (including Aboriginal graduates) who have at least a Certificate III qualification
- > graduates with at least a Certificate III qualification or higher earn more per week than those who don't.

ABOUT TAFE WESTERN

TAFE Western services an area covering more than half of New South Wales, taking in the Central West and Far West Orana SA4 regions. The organisation has 24 physical colleges located across the region and offers over 500 courses, including online and distance education offerings.



TALK TO US

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- Live Chat: tafewestern.edu.au
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ABOUT WESTERN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

WRI is a regional development research organisation located in Bathurst, New South Wales. WRI holds a wealth of knowledge on employment, business development and investment issues affecting regional Australia. It has worked with Commonwealth, State and Local Governments and industry groups on numerous investment and development programs in regional areas.

WRI has strong credentials in business and commercial market consulting and applied economic modelling including input-output analysis, shift-share, agribusiness and regional socio-economic surveys and analysis.