



[www.ecaskillsplan.org.au](http://www.ecaskillsplan.org.au)

#### Skills Plan Update

ECA are still waiting for a funding announcement from Skills Tasmania. We will email services when we have some news

#### Grant Opportunities - Whole Kids Small Seeds Community Grants Program – closes 30 June 2015

The Whole Kids Small Seeds Community Grants Program supports grassroots organisations and groups that are working hard in their local communities to improve children's health and wellbeing through innovative and impactful projects. You can apply for a grant for any amount between \$500 and \$5000 for each individual project.

See the Whole Kids Small Seeds Community Grants Program website for information regarding eligibility and how to apply: <http://www.wholekids.com.au/small-seeds-about-us/>

#### Guide Survey—last chance closes Friday 5th June

There has been a very small response to the Education & Care Qualifications Guide Survey. This project was funded with support from the Education and Care Unit and they would appreciate the sectors thoughts on the development and publishing of the Guide. Could sector leaders please click on the following link to complete the survey, it will only take a couple of minutes.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/qualificationsguide>



#### Environmental Scan 2015: Building a Healthy Future

The Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council (CS&HISC) is pleased to release the 2015 Environmental Scan (EScan), the eighth report in an annual series. Visit the [EScan 2015 webpage](#) to access the EScan and supporting documentation.

**EScan 2015: Building a Healthy Future** explores the impact of changes in the policy and service context on the community services and health workforce. Information in the EScan is drawn from a combination of stakeholder feedback as well as the latest industry relevant research and data.

Community Services & Health  
Industry Skills Council

#### Skills Reform

On Friday 8 May, Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, Assistant Minister for Education and Training, chaired a meeting of Skills Ministers in Melbourne. Ministers agreed to work together to:

- Review the operation of the National Partnership Agreement on Skills Reform;
- Investigate further reforms arising from the review of training packages and accredited courses;
- Resolve systemic issues around the quality of assessment; and
- Improve consumer information and the measurement of the outcomes of training.

Senator Birmingham said he expected to see this work delivering changes to address the areas of greatest concern in the training system, particularly relating to quality and relevance, in coming months.

COAG Skills Ministers also noted the establishment of the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC), a single industry-led organisation to advise the Ministerial Council on skills and oversee the development of training packages.

#### ECA & the ASbA Project in the news

Click on the following link to see the recent article 'Childcare apprenticeships offered in Tasmania in bid to attract more workers'

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-05-10/childcare-apprenticeships-to-attract-more-workers-to-industry/6458668>

#### Dates to Remember

##### June

5 Qualifications Guide Survey closes

##### July

3 Term 2 ends

23 rsvp to ECA Southern Meeting

28 ECA Southern Regional Meeting 6.30-8pm -  
Benjafield CCC Moonah

##### August

20 ECA TAS Branch Inc. AGM & State-wide Meeting -  
Tramsheds Launceston

*Cheers*  
Roger

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