



***Think TAFE is expensive now?
Premier Brumby plans to increase
TAFE fees by up to 180%***

The Victorian Government has dramatically increased the cost of TAFE for Victorian students — shifting the cost of education to those who can least afford it.

***TAFE students are being hardest
hit by these changes.***

These changes effectively privatise the public TAFE education system and reduce access to TAFE and VET courses. Enrolments are already falling and some courses have been cut. Victoria's existing skills shortage will only get worse if people cannot afford the education and training our economy needs.

***We can't afford to put TAFE and VET courses out of reach.
But time is running out.***

What John Brumby's changes mean for Victorian students

- **Higher fees:** Enrolment fees for diplomas and advanced diplomas have risen from \$887 to \$2000 per year, and will go up again to \$2,500 by 2012 — up by 180 per cent.
- **Bigger debts:** University-style loans have been introduced, leaving Victorian TAFE students with huge debts to pay off.
- **No concessions:** Thousands of TAFE students have lost the right to the annual concession rate of \$55. They must now pay \$2000.
- **Retraining out of reach:** Students aged 20 or over who already have a degree or diploma must now pay the full cost of further training at the same or lower level — in many cases around \$10,000 per qualification and often much more.
- **More to come:** Apprenticeships will be hit too, with the fee increases expected to be extended to all qualifications.
- **Bottom line:** John Brumby is pricing too many people out of tomorrow's economy.

Help the AEU make TAFE available for all Victorians

A highly-skilled workforce benefits all Victorians. So add your voice to the call for a real investment in Victoria's TAFE system, not shifting the cost of education to those who can least afford it.

Email the following people:

- Premier of Victoria, John Brumby at john.brumby@parliament.vic.gov.au
- Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation, Bronwyn Pike at bronwyn.pike@parliament.vic.gov.au



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