

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**DATE:** Friday, 6 August 2021

**HEADLINE:** MPA Skills welcomes first post-summit initiatives from WA Government

MPA Skills welcomes the first post-summit initiatives proposed by the WA Government after its Skills Summit last week – particularly the bringing forward of 100 places for mature-age apprentices under the WA Adult Apprentice Employer Incentive scheme.

This move which will directly result in MPA Skills being able to offer even more mature age apprentices an opportunity to start working and training immediately and meet the demands of plumbing and painting businesses in WA.

MPA Skills CEO Mr Ben Dahlstrom, said that this and other initial areas of action from the government are positive for the apprenticeship training and employment sector.

“We know that this a challenging time for plumbing and painting companies in WA who are faced with a critical shortage of apprentices to help their businesses grow and take advantage of current market conditions,” said Mr Dahlstrom.

“Alongside the Mature-Age incentive, it is encouraging to see the direct assistance for Aboriginal jobseekers through the Wirrpanda Foundation and critical support for disadvantaged learner drivers to obtain their driver’s licence. This is of particular importance to young apprentices who often face an added barrier to employment by not being able to drive.

“MPA Skills acknowledges the swift response of Premier McGowan and Minister Ellery who have moved quickly to support the training sector with these initiatives and thanks both for their efforts in this critical area,” added Mr Dahlstrom.

**Ends**

### **Contact details:**

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### **Note to editors:**

MPA Skills is WA’s biggest employer of plumbing and painting apprentices. MPA Skills is also renowned in the sector for its industry-leading apprentice and advanced training solutions. Visit [www.mpaskills.com.au](http://www.mpaskills.com.au) to learn more.