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Pick up the skills which lead to a job

The Australian, Australia

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ONLINE SHORT COURSES Accredited higher education certificate courses

Nu Institution available o	mber nline	Example of a qualification
Australian Catholic University	6	Grad Cert in Education
Aust College of Applied Psychology	4	Undergrad Cert in Criminology
Charles Darwin University	21	Grad Cert of Infectious Disease Prevention and Control
Charles Sturt University	10	Grad Cert in Gerontology
Federation University	5	Undergrad Cert in Creative and Professional Writing
Flinders University	2	Undergrad Cert in Aged Care
Griffith University	22	Grad Cert in Circular Economy Engineering
Health and Training Institute	1	Grad Cert in Applied Mental Health Studies
Macquarie University	1	Grad Cert of Information Technology
Melbourne Institute of Technology	4	Undergrad Cert in Cyber Security and Networking
SAE Creative Media Institute	1	Grad Cert in Creative Industries
TAFE NSW	5	Undergrad Cert in Adult Education
Australian National University	12	Grad Cert of Climate Policy
University of New England	22	Grad Cert in Agriculture
University of Notre Dame	1	Undergrad Cert in Early Childhood Learning and Developme
Torrens University	3	Grad Cert in UX and Web Design
University of Canberra	2	Grad Cert in Sports Analytics
UNSW	16	Grad Cert in Space Operations
University of South Australia	1	Undergrad Cert in Aged Care
University of Wollongong	11	Grad Cert in Electrical Power Engineering
Victoria University	3	Grad Cert in Teaching (Primary Education)
Western Sydney University	12	Grad Cert in Stockbroking and Financial Advising

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JILL ROWBOTHAM

Climate policy, agriculture, stockbroking and aged care are among the online short courses on offer as the federal government pursues its agenda to help Australians become more job-ready.

A slew of new microcredentials are listed on the government's Course Seeker web page, launched by then Education Minister Dan Tehan in June last year as the COVID-19 crisis caused massive job losses.

"Microcredentials address the most common barriers cited by adult workers who are not intending to undertake further formal training or study: time and cost," Mr Tehan said then. Higher education providers quickly pulled together courses that could be completed within the year and the website became a marketplace where job-seekers could explore what skills they could gain by further study, with a view to finding a new job or gaining promotion in an existing job.

In October a new set of more than 47,500 short course Commonwealth supported places (CSPs) for universities were announced, together with 2500 CSPs for non-university higher education providers restricted to national priority areas.

Qualifications on offer include online undergraduate certificates that apart from delivering new skills quickly, benefit students keen to get into the labour market, said Independent Higher Education Australia chief executive Simon Finn. "They can get themselves employment and then continue to study while they are working."

Beverley Oliver, principal consultant, at strategic advice company EduBrief and former Deakin University deputy vicechancellor (education) said that "astute people are looking for where safe and secure work is going to be and what is the cheapest and most secure route to get there.

"I think [microcredentials] will have a big effect on education globally ... we will see, from people already in the workforce, interest in short courses which provide access to work."