



Budget 2024–25

Investing in a Future Made in Australia

Investing in a Future Made in Australia and the
skills to make it a reality

Attracting investment in key industries

Making Australians the beneficiaries of change

A Future Made in Australia is about creating new jobs and opportunities for every part of our country by maximising the economic and industrial benefits of the move to net zero and securing Australia's place in a changing global economic and strategic landscape.

The Government's \$22.7 billion Future Made in Australia package will help facilitate the private sector investment required for Australia to be an indispensable part of the global economy.

For more information refer to the [Future Made in Australia fact sheet \[PDF 438KB\]](#)

Better deploying capital in priority areas

The Future Made in Australia package will realise Australia's potential to become a renewable energy superpower, value-add to our resources and strengthen economic security by better attracting and enabling investment in priority areas. The Government will create a Future Made in Australia Act and establish a National Interest Framework that identifies priority industries and ensures investments associated with them are responsible and targeted.

The Framework will have a focus on industries that contribute to the net zero transformation where Australia has a comparative advantage, and where Australia has national interest imperatives related to economic resilience and security.

Strengthening and streamlining approvals

This Budget provides a faster pathway to better decisions on environmental, energy, planning, cultural heritage and foreign investment approvals.

This includes:

- \$134.2 million to better prioritise approvals for renewable energy projects of national significance, and support faster decisions on environment, cultural heritage and planning approvals.
- Working with the states and territories through the Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council to accelerate electricity grid connections.
- \$20.7 million to improve engagement with communities impacted by the energy transition and accelerate the delivery of key energy projects.
- \$15.7 million to strengthen scrutiny of high-risk foreign investment proposals, enhance monitoring and enforcement activities and support faster decisions.

The Government will also encourage foreign investment by providing refunds of 75 per cent of application fees for unsuccessful competitive bids.

Promoting sustainable finance

The Government is committing \$17.3 million to mobilise private sector investment in sustainable activities. This includes extending Australia's sustainable finance taxonomy to the agriculture sector and developing a labelling regime for financial products marketed as sustainable.

The Government will also examine opportunities to improve data quality and provide \$1.3 million to develop and issue guidance for best practice transition plans.

Making Australia a renewable energy superpower

Powering Australia with cheaper, cleaner, more reliable energy

Australia's potential to produce abundant renewable energy is a powerful source of comparative advantage. To realise this, the Government is unlocking more than \$65 billion of investment in renewable capacity through the Capacity Investment Scheme by 2030.

This Budget helps Australians benefit from cheaper, cleaner energy sooner by investing \$27.7 million to integrate consumer energy resources like batteries and solar into the grid.

The New Vehicle Efficiency Standard will save Australians around \$95 billion at the bowser by 2050 and reduce transport emissions.

Unlocking investment in net zero industries and jobs

This Budget accelerates growth of new industries by establishing the \$1.7 billion Future Made in Australia Innovation Fund and delivering a 10-year extension of funding to the Australian Renewable Energy Agency. It also delivers the \$44.4 million Energy Industry Jobs Plan and \$134.2 million for skills and employment support in key regions.

The Future Made in Australia package establishes time-limited incentives to invest in new industries. The Hydrogen Production Tax

Incentive will make Australia's pipeline of hydrogen projects commercial sooner, at an estimated cost of \$6.7 billion over the decade. This Budget also expands the Hydrogen Headstart program by \$1.3 billion.

Boosting demand for Australia's green exports

The Government is making it easier for businesses and trading partners to source low-emissions products by building better markets and product standards for green products.

This Budget provides \$32.2 million to fast-track the initial phase of the Guarantee of Origin scheme, focused on renewable hydrogen, and bring forward the expansion of the scheme to accredit the emissions content of green metals and low-carbon liquid fuels. The Government is also working closely with trading partners to identify opportunities to drive greater supply chain transparency and better market recognition of high environmental, social and governance standards in the critical minerals sector.

Realising the opportunities of the net zero transformation

Australia is committed to reaching net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and is developing six sector plans covering:

- electricity and energy
- transport
- industry
- resources
- agriculture and land
- the built environment.

This Budget continues investment in effective emissions abatement, including through \$63.8 million to support emissions reduction efforts in the agriculture and land sector.

The Government is also investing \$399 million to establish the Net Zero Economy Authority and support the economy-wide net zero transformation. This Budget also invests an additional \$48 million in reforms to the Australian Carbon Credit Unit scheme and \$20.7 million to improve community engagement.

Strengthening resources and economic security

Backing a strong resources sector

The Government is investing \$8.8 billion over the decade to add more value to our resources and strengthen critical minerals supply chains. This Budget establishes a production tax incentive for processing and refining critical minerals at an estimated cost of \$7 billion over the decade. It commits up to \$1.2 billion in strategic critical minerals projects through the Critical Minerals Facility and the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, and pre-feasibility studies for common user precincts.

This is in addition to \$566.1 million to support Geoscience Australia to map all of Australia's critical minerals, strategic materials, groundwater and other resources essential for the transition to net zero.

Manufacturing clean energy technologies

The Government is committing \$1.5 billion to manufacturing clean energy technologies, including the \$1 billion Solar Sunshot and \$523.2 million Battery Breakthrough Initiative. These investments will be delivered by ARENA.

Strengthening supply chains

To support the delivery of the 82 per cent renewable energy target, the Government has formed the National Renewable Energy Supply Chain Action Plan with states and territories. The Government will invest an additional \$14.3 million working with trade partners to support global rules on unfair trade practices and to negotiate benchmarks for trade in high quality critical minerals.

Digital, science and innovation

Investing in new technologies and capabilities

The Government is investing \$466.4 million to partner with PsiQuantum and the Queensland Government to build the world's

first commercial-scale quantum computer in Brisbane.

The Government will undertake a strategic examination of Australia's research and development (R&D) system with \$38.2 million invested in a range of science, technology, engineering, and maths programs.

The Government is providing \$448.7 million to partner with the United States in the Landsat Next satellite program to provide access to critical data to monitor the earth's climate, agricultural production, and natural disasters.

Modernising and digitising industries

This Budget commits \$288.1 million to support Australia's Digital ID System. A National Robotics Strategy will also be released to promote the responsible production and adoption of robotics and automation technologies for advanced manufacturing in Australia.

Reforming tertiary education

The Government is committing \$1.6 billion over 5 years, and an additional \$2.7 billion from 2028–29 to 2034–35 to reform the tertiary education system and deliver Australia's future workforce.

This includes \$1.1 billion for reforms to university funding and tertiary system governance.

Over \$500 million will be provided for skills and training in priority industries and to support women's participation in these sectors.

The Government will set a tertiary attainment target of 80 per cent of the working-age population by 2050.

Supporting students on placements

The Government will establish Commonwealth Prac Payments (CPP) for students undertaking mandatory placements. From 1 July 2025, the payment will provide more than 73,000 eligible students, including teachers, nurses, midwives and social workers with \$319.50 per week during their placements.

Felicity is a full-time student receiving Youth Allowance, living by herself. She is studying a Bachelor of Nursing and must stop paid work during her mandatory prac placement. During her prac, Felicity receives \$712.05 per week from the Government including: \$319.50 of CPP, \$285.55 of Youth Allowance (YA), \$103.50 of Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA) and \$3.50 of Energy Supplement.

Felicity receives \$351.55 a week more than she would have in 2023 before indexation and the changes to YA, CRA and CPP in the current and 2023–24 Budget

Broadening access to university

From January 2026, needs-based funding will provide per student funding contributions for under-represented students. The Government will also provide \$350.3 million to fully fund university enabling courses and increase pathways for prospective students to university.

Skills pipeline for priority industries

Skills and training for Future Made in Australia industries

The Government will expand eligibility to the New Energy Apprenticeships Program to include work in the clean energy sector, including in construction and advanced manufacturing. This will provide access to \$10,000 incentive payments and support our target of 10,000 new energy apprentices.

The Government will commit \$30 million to turbocharge the VET teaching workforce for clean energy courses and \$50 million to upgrade and expand clean energy training facilities.

The Government will invest \$55.6 million to establish the Building Women's Careers program to support women's participation in key

industries including clean energy and advanced manufacturing.

Supporting apprentices and building the construction workforce

The \$5,000 support payments to apprentices in priority occupations will be maintained for another 12 months to 1 July 2025, up from \$3,000 in the absence of any changes. Employers of these apprentices will receive a \$5,000 hiring incentive, up from \$4,000 in the absence of changes. This will provide certainty to apprentices while the Strategic Review of the Apprenticeship Incentive System is underway.

The Government will also invest \$88.8 million to deliver 20,000 new fee-free TAFE places including pre-apprenticeships in courses relevant to the construction sector. The Government will provide \$1.8 million to deliver streamlined skills assessments for around 1,900 migrants from comparable countries to work in Australia's housing construction industry.

Strengthening our defence industry capability

An integrated and focused approach to defending Australia

The Government is investing an additional \$50.3 billion over ten years to implement the 2024 National Defence Strategy to meet Australia's strategic needs.

Overall funding for Defence will reach \$765 billion over the decade. Defence's Integrated Investment Program has been rebuilt to create a focused Australian Defence Force, accelerate delivery of priority capabilities, and provide certainty to grow Australia's defence industry. This includes funding for the Royal Australian Navy's surface combatant fleet and establishing a guided weapons and explosive ordnance manufacturing capability earlier.

The Government is reforming Defence's budget to support the National Defence Strategy and delivery of priority capabilities.

Developing defence industry and skills

Industry development grants funding of \$165.7 million will also help businesses to scale up and deliver the Sovereign Defence Industrial Priorities, which include continuous naval shipbuilding and sustainment, and development and integration of autonomous systems.

The Government is providing \$101.8 million to attract and retain the skilled industrial workforce to support Australian shipbuilding and delivery of conventionally armed, nuclear powered submarines. This includes a pilot apprenticeship program in shipbuilding trades and technologies.

Investing in civil maritime capabilities

The Government is providing \$123.8 million to maintain and enhance civil maritime security capabilities. This includes \$71.2 million to increase the Australian Border Force's on-water response and aerial surveillance capabilities.

Securing Australia's place in the world

Strengthening relationships and simplifying trade

A stable, prosperous and resilient Pacific region

The Government is delivering over \$2 billion in development assistance to the Pacific in 2024–25. This includes the Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union.

Investing in our relationship with Southeast Asia

Following the launch of Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040, the Government is committing \$505.9 million to deepen ties with the region.

Australia recently celebrated 50 years of partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). At the

ASEAN-Australia Special Summit, the Government announced a range of new and expanded initiatives, including a \$2 billion Southeast Asia Investment Financing Facility to boost Australian trade and investment.

Simplifying trade

The Government will abolish 457 nuisance tariffs from 1 July 2024, streamlining \$8.5 billion in annual trade and eliminating tariffs on goods such as toothbrushes, fridges, dishwashers, clothing and sanitary products.

The Government will provide \$29.9 million to coordinate trade simplification and deliver the Digital Trade Accelerator program, and \$10.9 million to enhance the Go Global Toolkit to support exporters.

The Government is expanding the Australia-India Business Exchange, diversifying trade and helping more Australian businesses build commercial ties with India and across South Asia. There will be \$2 million to support Australian agricultural exporters entering the Chinese markets.

Support for small businesses

Helping small businesses

This Budget's Small Business Statement reaffirms the Government's commitment to deliver a better deal for small businesses, with \$641.4 million in targeted support.

For more information refer to the [small business fact sheet](#)
[\[PDF 0.98MB\]](#)

Improving cash flow

The Government is providing \$290 million to extend the \$20,000 instant asset write-off for 12 months. There will be \$25.3 million to improve payment times to small businesses and \$23.3 million to increase invoicing adoption.

Easing cost pressures and reducing the administrative burden

This Budget provides \$3.5 billion of energy bill relief, including rebates of \$325 to around one million small businesses.

The Government is reducing the administrative burden for small business by abolishing 457 nuisance tariffs and delivering \$10 million to provide additional support for small business employers administering the Paid Parental Leave scheme.

Supporting confidence and resilience in the small business sector

This Budget invests a further \$10.8 million in tailored, free and confidential financial and mental wellbeing supports for small business owners.

The Government is providing \$20.5 million to the Fair Work Ombudsman to help small businesses understand and comply with recent workplace relations changes.

There will be \$3 million to implement the Government's response to the Review of the Franchising Code of Conduct, including remaking and enhancing the Code, and an additional \$2.6 million to support more small businesses through alternative dispute resolution.

A more resilient Australia

Preparing for the future

The Government is preparing Australia for future droughts and heightened risk of natural disasters.

Disaster resilience and preparedness

The Government will provide \$138.7 million to improve Australia's response and resilience to natural hazards and disasters. Support includes: funding for the National Emergency Management Agency to supply communities with vital goods, equipment, and temporary accommodation during an emergency, aerial firefighting capability, and mental health support. This is in addition to the \$11.4 billion

previously committed for Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements for the states and territories.

The Government is establishing a pilot program for Australia's Strategic Fleet. These vessels will improve Australia's capacity to respond and support communities and supply chains during crises.

Preparing for drought and climate change

This Budget provides \$174.6 million from the National Water Grid Fund to deliver new water infrastructure projects that will enhance water security, boost agricultural production and help drought proof regional communities.

The Government will provide \$519.1 million from its Future Drought Fund to help farmers and rural communities manage the impacts of climate change and prepare for future droughts.

This investment will build the drought resilience of more farmers like Victorian cropper Ed Rickard.

The Fund supported Ed in developing a better farm business plan, which identified his need for weather stations and soil moisture probes. It also helped him implement a succession plan that ensured his farm's long-term viability.