

Quality Career Services Essential for Australia Emerging from COVID-19

1 June 2020

Coronavirus restrictions have impacted the jobs and education of millions of Australians', with further government support required to help people re-establish their careers.

Career Development Association of Australia National President Wanda Hayes says, "What COVID-19 highlights is the need for Australia to establish a highly visible, lifelong career guidance system."

"This system should ensure all people have access to career support across their lifespan, when they need it, and in a form that suits them."

CDAA has made a submission to the Senate Select Committee on the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, identifying eight pandemic-linked issues impacting people's careers.

The submission, [COVID-19: Reshaping Working Australia](#), uses research on what makes career support effective to recommend 26 government actions to help people get their working lives back on track.

If the recommendations are enacted, the support will provide people with the skills they need to make informed choices and decisions about jobs, work, education and training.

"Thousands of people now face the daunting task of figuring out how the jobs and education systems work, during a time when they are possibly stressed, uncertain or afraid," Ms Hayes said.

"Issues impacting people's careers include digital exclusion, insecure work, financial stress, social isolation and anxiety, and uneven access to quality career services.

"Each of these areas needs further government attention so that people who need help can access the career support they need from qualified professionals.

"Career professionals know how the system works, where to find credible information, and have the specialised skills to adapt information to a person's interests, skills, ambitions, age and circumstances."

COVID-19: Reshaping Working Australia is available [here](#).

The Career Development Association of Australia (CDAA) commenced as the Australian Association of Career Counsellors in 1989, and is Australia's largest cross-sectoral association of career development professionals working in a diverse range of roles, delivering services in industry, government, education, employment programs and community organisations. The primary purpose of the CDAA is to support its members by leading, building and growing the career development profession.

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