

Career Development is Key to Success for Universities Following New Funding Model Announcement

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CDAA endorses the Federal Government's new performance-based funding model for universities, announced this morning.

The new model will tie increased funding to four measures: graduate employment, student success, student experience and socioeconomic factors.

The key driver for the model is producing job-ready graduates with the skills to succeed in the modern economy by incentivising universities to focus on their core business.

Career Development Association of Australia's (CDAA) national president Wanda Hayes said student employability, success and satisfaction are all impacted by effective career development support.

"When students are supported to carefully consider their study options, best suited to their strengths, ambitions and needs, their experience improved outcomes," Ms Hayes said.

"Career development practitioners bring a professional approach to this process, helping students to come to a decision that is sustainable for them."

The new model will be implemented in 2020, with the association's members qualified and experienced to provide targeted, professional support to students and universities to achieve better outcomes for all.

"A student who has had effective, professional career development support is more likely to be fully engaged with their study endeavours and to perform well because of this engagement," Ms Hayes said.

"They are also more likely to be motivated to seek opportunities while studying to accumulate experience relevant to their chosen field.

"These factors contribute significantly to their employability at the end of their course, as does accessing our professional help to plan and execute a job search".

The funding model is based on the recommendations of an independent report written by an expert panel chaired by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wollongong Professor Paul Wellings.

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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