



Department of
Jobs, Tourism, Science
and Innovation

Action Plan

Supporting the State STEM skills strategy: Mission update 2024–2029



Implementation of the Mission Update over the next five years will prioritise initiatives strongly aligning with one or more of the priority action areas. This Action Plan describes specific agreed actions for the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI), Department of Education (DoE), Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) and School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) for 2024-25.

Priority action area 1 – Career pathways and industry linkages

Our approach:

- » showcasing emerging STEM opportunities, including careers in industries that diversify and decarbonise the Western Australian economy.
- » fostering meaningful industry engagements with the community, schools (Kindergarten to Year 12), universities and vocational education and training (VET) providers to enhance and align course content, prepare workers for technological change, improve career awareness, and support educators and trainers.

Actions	Lead	Support	Commitment 24/25
1. Utilise and support the 70 career practitioners in WA public schools to showcase emerging STEM opportunities and enhance industry-school linkages.	DoE	JTSI	Funded
2. Encourage industry involvement in Career Conversations events to support parents and young people to understand the labour market and emerging STEM opportunities.	DoE	JTSI	Funded
3. Include focus on STEM in the Career Taster Program to embed career development and long-term industry partnerships into schools, including in clean energy and priority industry sectors.	DTWD	SCSA/JTSI/ DoE	Funded
4. Promote case studies, mentorship opportunities, and guidelines for school-industry partnerships.	DoE	JTSI/DTWD	Funded

Priority action area 2 – Diversity and inclusion

Our approach:

- » attracting under-represented groups into STEM through diverse role models, inspiring educators and effective outreach and access initiatives.
- » retaining and promoting under-represented groups in STEM through supportive education pathways and workplaces, dismantling barriers and biases and providing support to ensure they thrive.

Actions	Lead	Support	Commitment 24/25
5. Explore the utilisation of Western Australian STEM ambassadors, including Premier’s Science Awards and WA Innovators of the Year awards alumni, and/or case studies to showcase priority industry sectors and diverse role models.	JTSI		Funded, but further funding could expand impact
6. Promote and create career enabling education and training pathways, building on the Pathways to Post-School success review findings where relevant.	DoE/ DTWD /JTSI		Funded
7. Trial diversity reporting requirements for Science portfolio grants.	JTSI		Funded
8. Build the capacity of schools to deliver Two-Way Science and support the cross-curriculum priority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in partnership with Aboriginal communities.	DoE		Funded

Priority action area 3 – STEM culture and literacy

Our approach:

- » supporting community engagement initiatives to build interest, understanding, and positive attitudes towards science and technology and their critical importance to our future.
- » building STEM literacy and foundational skills to ensure Western Australians are equipped to thrive in the modern world and make informed decisions.

Actions	Lead	Support	Commitment 24/25
9. Develop new exhibits at Scitech to showcase First Nations science, Western Australian scientists and space industries.	JTSI		Funded
10. Maximise impacts from and collaborations between WA STEM engagement organisations, including Scitech, Perth Zoo, WA Museum, Botanic Parks and Gardens Authority, Gravity Discovery Centre and Perth Observatory Volunteers Group.	JTSI	JTSI	Funded, but further funding could expand impacts and collaborations
11. Continue to support the Premier's Science Awards, the WA Science Hall of Fame, National Science Week and Inspiring Western Australia.	JTSI	SCSA/ JTSI/DoE	Funded
12. Trial STEM engagement reporting requirements for Science portfolio grants.	JTSI	JTSI/ DTWD	Funded
13. Measure community attitudes towards STEM through regular survey.	JTSI		Funded, but further funding could expand detail and frequency

Cross-cutting enabler 1 – Support and facilities for educators

Our approach:

- » encouraging access to effective STEM resources, professional learning, micro-credentials, and industry engagement for educators.

Actions	Lead	Support	Commitment 24/25
14. Recognise and showcase excellent STEM educators at schools, universities and registered training providers through new categories at the Premier’s Science Awards.	JTSI		Funded
15. Continue research and evaluation work on the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) Refreshment.	SCSA		Funded, noting that implementation of several areas of the Refreshment, approved by the SCSA Board, will require funding in the future
16. Build on the Quality Teaching Strategy and Teaching for Impact resources for STEM teaching support and resources.	DoE		Funded, but further funding could expand teaching support and resources
17. Promote opportunities for STEM educators to engage in relevant professional learning, micro-credentials and/or collaborations with STEM professionals and industries.	JTSI/ DoE		Funded, but further funding could expand opportunities

Cross-cutting enabler 2 – Coordination and collaboration

Our approach:

- » facilitating coordination and collaboration across the STEM ecosystem to maximise collective outcomes.

Actions	Lead	Commitment 24/25
18. Promote available webpages and online platforms for sharing information where appropriate.	DoE/ DTWD/ JTSI	Funded
19. Meet with stakeholders, hold working groups/roundtables on specific issues as required.	DoE/ DTWD/ JTSI/SCSA	Funded

Cross-cutting enabler 3 – Alignment and leverage

Our approach:

- » maximising industry, community and government opportunities to align with and leverage relevant international, national, state and local activities.

Actions	Lead	Commitment 24/25
20. Align with and leverage Commonwealth initiatives and grants programs where appropriate.	DoE/ DTWD/ JTSI/SCSA	Funded
21. Participate in national forums and maximise interstate collaborations.	DoE/ DTWD/ JTSI/SCSA	Funded

Cross-cutting enabler 4 – Communication and advocacy

Our approach:

- » promoting clear and collective messaging to promote STEM and advance our shared vision and priority action areas.

Actions	Lead	Commitment 24/25
22. Share key messages for STEM to support STEM ambassadors and engagement providers.	JTSI/DoE/ DTWD	Funded

Cross-cutting enabler 5 – Evaluation and measurement

Our approach:

- » facilitating effective evaluation and measurement of outcomes to enhance effectiveness, inform best practice and identify proven initiatives to scale up.

Actions	Lead	Support	Commitment 24/25
23. Promote evaluation tools and best practice from Western Australia and other jurisdictions.	DoE/ DTWD/ JTSI		Funded
24. Develop measures for this mission update and publish data where appropriate.	JTSI	DoE/ DTWD/ SCSA	Funded
25. Explore options to make ethics approvals to study student cohorts easier.	DoE		

Cover image: This 12-month Action Plan details our approach to supporting community engagement initiatives to build interest, understanding, and positive attitudes towards science and technology and their critical importance to our future.
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