

# Media Release



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## AGCARD TO REMAIN FREE FOR STUDENTS

Students and teachers of primary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions will not be charged to access Primary Employers Tasmania's AgCard to ensure the online health, safety and workplace best practice platform remains a valuable learning tool for the next generation of agricultural workers.

AgCard, which was launched 12 months ago, was initially offered free of charge for the first year and was then intended to be a paid service. Only Primary Employers Tasmania members would be able to access the portal without paying from 2022.

However, almost 40 per cent of all registered users to date are students or teachers from primary, secondary and tertiary institutions located around the State, and several schools and universities on the mainland.

Primary Employers Tasmania President Felicity Richards said the organisation's Committee had reviewed the 1,510 first-year enrolments and the overwhelmingly positive feedback from schools before voting that AgCard should remain free for students.

"Many schools, such as Campbell Town District, Exeter High, Huon Valley Trade Centre, Scottsdale High and Yolla District, have incorporated AgCard into their curriculums and reported very high levels of interaction and learning around AgCard's practical health, safety and human resources modules," Ms Richards said.

"Primary Employers Tasmania is passionate about ensuring our school leavers are equipped with the best possible safety knowledge and skills to enter the workforce in a bid to reduce the number of on-farm injuries and fatalities. We know AgCard delivers these skills and we are delighted to continue to offer schools, universities, TAFEs and other education institutions free-of-charge access to this flexible training facility to promote positive on-farm safety conversations.

"Agricultural workers who complete the pre-induction AgCard certificates relevant to their job requirements will be more aware of opportunities to create a safer and healthier workplace than those who learn on the job."

AgCard, funded by WorkCover Tasmania and supported by Safe Farming Tasmania, Wine Tasmania, Fruit Growers' Tasmania and DairyTas, assists people to identify and manage workplace health and safety risks, as well as gain an in-depth understanding of rural-relevant human resources matters. Topics include animal handling, chainsaw safety, chemical safety, manual handling, quad bikes and water safety.

Those who complete the course receive a certificate, which can be added to their CV and presented to potential employers.

Discussions are currently being finalised with other industry sectors to offer additional certificates through the AgCard platform. AgCard can be accessed from [www.primaryemployers.com.au/agcard](http://www.primaryemployers.com.au/agcard).

### For more information, please contact:

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