



# Unique Student Identifier – A Key for Data Linkage

*NCVER National VET Data Linkage Roundtable*

17 May 2018

**Jason Coutts, Student Identifiers Registrar**



# What is the Unique Student Identifier (USI)?

- ✓ *Randomly generated 10 alpha numeric reference*
- ✓ *Validated against government ID (through DVS)*
- ✓ *USI links together nationally recognised training data for the same person in the National VET Collections*
- ✓ *One USI for life*



## Where are we now?

- ✓ 8.3 millions USIs created
- ✓ USI Transcript Service activated in May 2017
- ✓ 500,000+ Transcript views
- ✓ 3 years of data now available
- ✓ USI reporting rates increasing (>90% compliance)



# Value beyond Student Transcripts

## *Students*

- ✓ Easier, reliable lifelong online access to training history records
- ✓ Handy back up to RTO issued certificates and statements of attainment
- ✓ Ability to easily produce comprehensive transcripts for future employment/training



## *Policy Makers & Researchers*

- ✓ To provide a clear picture of the sector – multiplies the value of the NVDC
- ✓ Access to more accurate student data, including pathways
- ✓ To inform the development of robust education policy
- ✓ Program managers can use the USI to expand analysis of their participant cohort – collect less data
- ✓ Ability for RTOs to better understand the training market

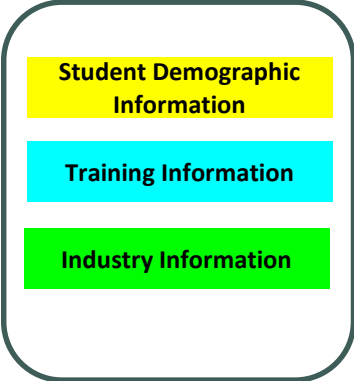


# Privacy-positive access to a wealth of information about training participants

Activity end date  
 Activity start date  
 Address building/property name  
 Address first line  
 Address flat/unit details  
 Address location – suburb, locality or town  
 Address postal delivery box  
 Address postal – suburb, locality or town  
 Address second line  
 Address street name  
 Address street number  
 ANZSCO identifier  
 ANZSIC identifier  
 Associated course identifier  
 At school flag  
 Client family name  
 Client first given name  
 Client identifier  
 Client identifier – AAMS  
 Client identifier – apprenticeships  
 Client identifier – new apprenticeships  
 Client last name  
 Client title  
 Client tuition fee  
 Commencing course identifier  
 Commencing program identifier  
 Contact name  
 Country identifier  
 Credit flag  
 Date of birth  
 Date of training contract commencement  
 Date of training contract completion  
 Date of transaction  
 Delivery mode identifier  
 Disability flag  
 Disability type identifier  
 Email address  
 Employer identifier  
 Employer legal name  
 Employer size

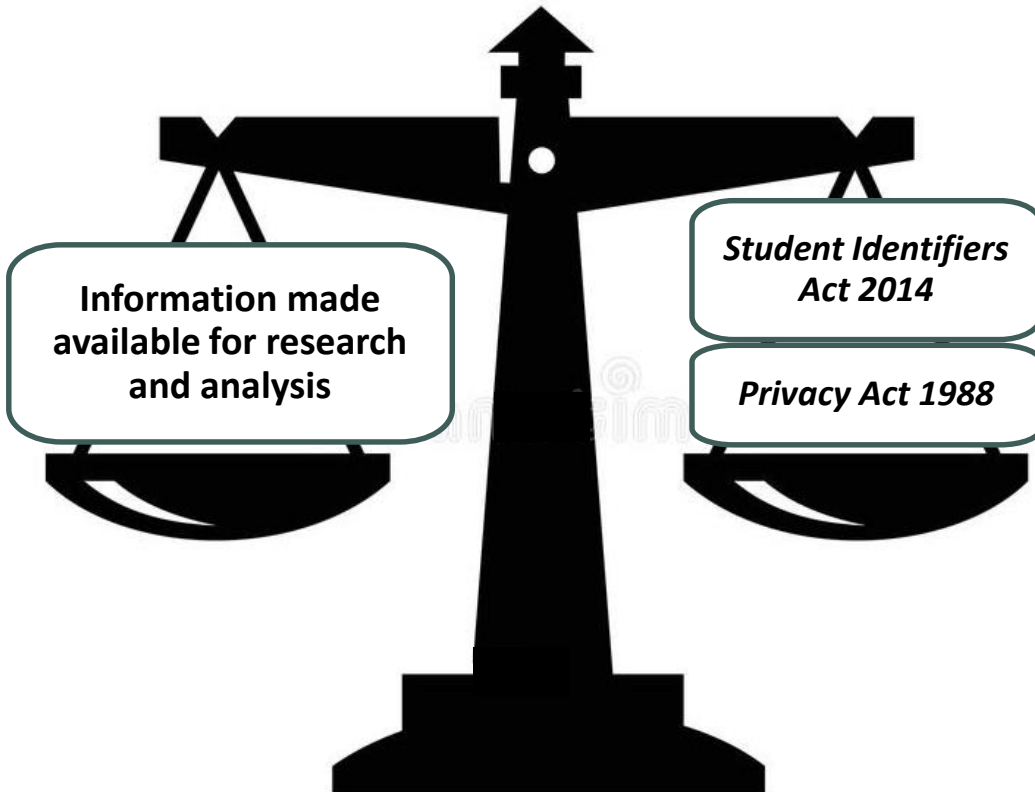
Employer type identifier  
 Employment arrangement identifier  
 Enrolment activity end date  
 Enrolment activity start date  
 Existing worker flag  
 Facsimile number  
 Fee exemption/concession type identifier  
 Full-time identifier  
 Funding source – national  
 Funding source – state training authority  
 Highest school level completed identifier  
 Hours attended  
 Indigenous status identifier  
 Issued flag  
 Labour force status identifier  
 Language identifier  
 Main language other than English spoken at home identifier  
 Module/unit of competency field of education identifier  
 Module/unit of competency flag  
 Module/unit of competency identifier  
 Module/unit of competency name  
 Name for encryption  
 Nominal duration  
 Nominal hours  
 Outcome identifier – national  
 Outcome identifier – training organisation  
 Postcode  
 Prior educational achievement flag  
 Prior educational achievement identifier  
 Proficiency in spoken English identifier  
 Program field of education identifier  
 Program identifier  
 Program level of education identifier  
 Program name  
 Program recognition identifier  
 Purchasing contract identifier  
 Purchasing contract schedule identifier  
 Qualification issued flag  
 Qualification/course field of education identifier  
 Qualification/course identifier

Qualification/course level of education identifier  
 Qualification/course name  
 Qualification/course recognition identifier  
 Scheduled hours  
 School-based flag  
 School level identifier  
 School type identifier  
 Sex  
 Specific funding identifier  
 Specific program identifier  
 State identifier  
 Statistical area level 1 identifier  
 Statistical area level 2 identifier  
 Statistical local area  
 Study reason identifier  
 Subject field of education identifier  
 Subject flag  
 Subject identifier  
 Subject name  
 Telephone number  
 Telephone number – home  
 Telephone number – mobile  
 Telephone number – work  
 Training authority identifier  
 Training authority name  
 Training contract identifier  
 Training contract identifier – new apprenticeships  
 Training contract identifier – previous  
 Training contract status identifier  
 Training organisation delivery location identifier  
 Training organisation delivery location name  
 Training organisation identifier  
 Training organisation name  
 Training organisation type identifier  
**Unique Student Identifier**  
 VET flag  
 VET in schools flag  
 Year highest school level completed  
 Year program completed





# How do I access the data?



- ✓ What question am I investigating?
- ✓ What data do I need?
- ✓ Can I do it with de-identified data?
- ✓ Do I need to link 2 or more data sets?
- ✓ Do I really need USIs?

Accessing VET Data – NCVER

<https://www.ncver.edu.au/support/topics/using-ncver-data/accessing-vet-data>

Data Access Guidelines – USI

<https://www.usi.gov.au/documents/student-identifier-data-access-guidelines>

*Be ambitious but thoughtful in your research proposals!*

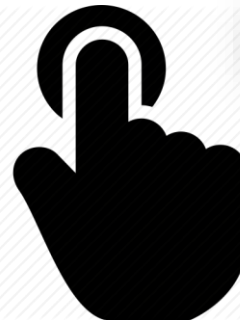


# What's on the horizon for USI?

- 3 years of data now available (2015 – 2017)
- Fee for Service RTOs now able to submit quarterly – much quicker access
- Third Party Access – student controlled
- Possible expansion to other sectors.....
  - Higher Education
  - Schools

**2015 – 2017 Data**

**Quarterly Reporting**



**3AT88DH9U5**

