



## Jenny's story

**I've been a TAFE teacher for nine years. At the beginning of each semester I get a timetable that gives me the hours I'm working and I get paid for that. I don't get paid for holidays or semester breaks.**

There's no job security because each semester I just have to rely on what they give me.

At the moment, my husband and I need a bridging loan for a new house. It's been so difficult getting it because I can't prove that I have ongoing employment. My superior can only vouch for the hours that I'm doing for that

semester and that's all they can guarantee. It's ridiculous. We have a young family and trying to maintain a regular budget under these conditions is hard especially when I don't get any money through the holiday period.

Although I'm not technically employed and I don't get holiday pay, I'm expected to turn up for work on the first day of the semester.

There's always uncertainty that I will have no hours and no income for a semester. This kind of situation gives you very little job satisfaction and there's zero sense of belonging to an organisation. Your ability to have input is limited and you feel isolated.

It just doesn't make any sense.

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# Support rights for teachers

A large proportion of workers in the education and training sector are employed on fixed term contracts. These workers experience high levels of job insecurity and are less likely to have access to training and career development.

These workers find it hard to plan their lives very far in advance and are always wondering if their contract will or won't be renewed.

Given that many of these workers have been on rolling short term contracts they deserve to be given a better level of security for the longer term.

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All workers should be sharing in the benefits of a strong Australian economy and should have the right to certainty in their working life.

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Photographs used throughout this report are file images and not of the workers quoted.  
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