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Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Updated: 1 July 2024

This document has been created to support the implementation of the Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System.

These FAQs should be read in conjunction with the Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System Guidelines.

1. What is the Incentive System?

The Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System (Incentive System) plays a key role in building a more inclusive and sustainable economy, ensuring Australians receive quality training while in employment. It builds skills and talent in the Australian workforce, helping businesses to meet their current and future skills gaps and realise the opportunities of a recovering economy.

Government support under the Incentive System includes a Priority Hiring Incentive for employers and financial support to Australian Apprentices in priority occupations. The Incentive System also includes support for Australian Apprentices with disability and a Living Away from Home Allowance for those who are required to move away from home to take up their Australian Apprenticeship.

Both the Disability Australian Apprentice Wage Support and the Living Away from Home Allowance have been carried over from the Australian Apprenticeships Incentive Program with no changes to eligibility or payment rates.

The Priority Wage Subsidy and Hiring Incentive will no longer be available to apprenticeships that commence or recommence from 1 July 2024.

2. How much will be available to employers?

From 1 July 2024, eligible employers and Group Training Organisations that hire a new or recommencing Australian Apprentice undertaking training in a qualification and occupation on the



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Priority List can apply for a Priority Hiring Incentive is a payment for eligible employers of Australian Apprentices in priority occupations to receive up to \$5000 in the first year of an apprenticeship, paid over two instalments of

- \$2,000 at 6 months and \$3,000 at 12 months (full-time)
- \$1,000 at 6 months and \$1,500 at 12 months (part-time)

3. Am I eligible to claim Priority Hiring Incentive?

You may be eligible if:

- the Australian Apprentice meets the primary eligibility requirements, including a citizenship or residency status, has employment and training arrangements and has previously completed a qualification.
- the Australian Apprentice must at the date of commencement or recommencement, be undertaking a qualification at the Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level and with an occupational outcome listed on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List, including those identified as leading to a clean energy apprenticeship pathway.
- the Australian Apprentice must be in-training with their employer on the claim period end date.

In addition to the above requirements, employers must not be in receipt of the Disability Australian Apprentice Wage Support any other form of Australian Government assistance for the same Australian Apprenticeship.

4. How much will be available to Australian Apprentices?

From 1 July 2024 eligible Australian Apprentices commencing or recommencing a qualification at either Certificate III, IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level qualification and an occupation listed on the Priority List can apply for an **Australian Apprentice Training Support Payment** of:

- \$1,750 at 6 & 12 months after commencing the Australian Apprenticeship (full time)
- \$750 at 18 & 24 months after commencing the Australian Apprenticeship (full time)
- \$875 at 6 & 12 months after commencing the Australian Apprenticeship (part time)
- \$375 at 18 & 24 months after commencing the Australian Apprenticeship (part time)



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5. Am I eligible for each the Australian Apprentice Training Support Payment?

You may be eligible if you:

- meet the primary eligibility requirements, including a citizenship or residency status, have employment and training arrangements and have previously completed a qualification.
- at the date of commencement or recommencement, be undertaking a qualification at the Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level and an occupation outcome listed on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List; and
- are in-training with your employer on the claim period end date.

In addition to the above requirements, you must **not** be in receipt of the New Energy Apprentice Support Payment.

6. What is the New Energy Apprenticeships Support Payment?

The New Energy Apprentice Support Payment is available to eligible Australian Apprentices commencing or recommencing a Certificate III or higher qualification that is aligned to an Occupational Outcome identified as Clean Energy on the Priority List.

Australian Apprentices can claim up to \$10,000 for a full-time apprenticeship and up to \$5,000 for a part time apprenticeship according to the following schedule and rate:

- \$2,000 at 6, 12, 18, 24, 36 month and on completion (full time)
- \$1,000 at 6, 12, 18, 24, 36 month and on completion (par time).

7. Am I eligible for the New Energy Apprenticeships Support Payment?

You may be eligible if you:

- meet the primary eligibility requirements, including a citizenship or residency status, have employment and training arrangements and have previously completed a qualification.
- are undertaking a Certificate III or higher qualification that is aligned to an Occupational Outcome identified as Clean Energy on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List.



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- and your employer sign a declaration confirming that the apprentice will undertake work and build skills in the Clean Energy sector.
- are provided by your employer with **meaningful exposure, experience, and work** in the clean energy sector, appropriate to your skill level and/or off-the-job training.
- are in-training with your employer on the claim period end date and are not in receipt of the Australian Apprenticeship Support Payment

In addition to the above requirements, the Australian Apprentice must not be in receipt of the Australian Apprentice Training Support Payment for the same Australian Apprenticeship.

8. Does the size of your business matter?

No, employers of any size, or industry, Australia-wide who commence an Australian Apprentice from 1 July 2024 may be eligible for financial support under the Incentives System.

9. Are Group Training Organisations eligible for the Priority Hiring Incentive?

Yes, Group Training Organisations are eligible for the Priority Hiring Incentive.

10. How do I register and apply for Incentive payments?

Your Apprentice Connect Australia Provider will assess and advise of your potential eligibility for an Incentive System payment. You will be prompted to claim through the Apprenticeships Data Management System (ADMS) once you reach the claim date for any payments for which you are eligible.

11. What about apprenticeships that commenced before 1 July 2024?

Employer and Australian Apprentices who commenced or recommenced prior to 1 July 2024 will continue to have payments grandfathered under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System Program Guidelines 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2024

More information about incentives is available at: www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au.



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12. Is there a limit on how many Incentives System places an employer can have?

Employers can receive the Priority Hiring Incentive for any number of Australian Apprentices, provided they meet the eligibility criteria. Each Australian Apprentices must commence or recommence between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2026, with an approved Training Contract.

13. What is the Priority List?

The Priority List identifies occupations classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) as either Major Group 3 Technicians and Trades Workers or Major Group 4 Community and Personal Service Workers and are included on the Skills Priority List published by the Jobs and Skills Australia annually.

14. How have the occupations on the Priority List been selected?

The occupations on the Priority List meet the following criteria:

- assessed as being in national shortage; and
- classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) as either Technicians and Trades Workers (ANZSCO Major Group 3) or Community and Personal Service Workers (ANZSCO Major Group 4).

These criteria identify occupations with a labour market need and those most likely to involve an Australian Apprenticeship pathway.

15. Where can employers find further information?

For further information employers can visit www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au or contact their local Apprentice Connect Australia Provider.