



# EXPANDING THE SUPPORT FOR ADULT AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICES INCENTIVE

## What is the Support for Adult Australian Apprentices incentive?

The Support for Adult Australian Apprentices incentive aims to remove barriers for Adult Australian Apprentices and encourages up-skilling adult workers through an Australian Apprenticeship. Currently, the incentive is available for eligible employers who take on an eligible Australian Apprentice aged 25 years and over, who is undertaking a Certificate III or IV level qualification that leads to an occupation listed on the [National Skills Needs List \(NSNL\)](#).

From 1 July 2019, eligibility for the incentive will be extended to employers who commence an eligible Australian Apprentice aged 21-24 years. Eligible employers will be able to claim the incentive from the 12-month point from the date of commencement or recommencement of the apprentice.

## Why has the incentive been expanded?

An 'adult apprentice', for wage purposes, is an apprentice who is 21 years or older when they start their apprenticeship.

Extending eligibility for the incentive to apprentices aged 21 years to 24 years will close this gap and provide a stronger incentive for employers to engage more adult apprentices in areas of skills needs.

## Who will be eligible for the Support for Adult Australian Apprentices incentive?

For employers to receive the expanded Support for Adult Australian Apprentices incentive the eligible Australian Apprentice will be:

- aged 21 years or older
- undertaking a full-time or part-time Certificate III or IV qualification that leads to an occupation listed on the NSNL the date of commencement or recommencement; and
- be in receipt of an 'actual wage' paid by the employer at the date of commencement or recommencement which is equal to or greater than the National Minimum Wage (as defined and set by the Fair Work Commissioner).

The employer must also meet all other eligibility requirements under the [Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program](#).



## How do eligible employers receive the incentive?

Eligible employers will be able to claim the incentive payment of \$4,000 from the 12-month point after the date of commencement or recommencement of the apprentice. Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) providers will assess the employer's eligibility for payment.

## Are employers of existing workers eligible for the incentive?

Yes, employers of eligible existing worker apprentices may be eligible for the incentive. This will be assessed by an AASN provider.

## How do I obtain more information?

More information will be available shortly, including:

- updated Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program Guidelines—coming soon
- frequently asked questions—coming soon

Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Minister for Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education, announced the expanded incentive on 28 November 2018. You can read the media release at <https://ministers.education.gov.au/cash/incentives-engage-more-adult-apprentices>.

You can also contact an Apprenticeship Network Provider. To find details of an Apprenticeship Network Provider in your region visit [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au).