

Hiring Incentive

The purpose of the Hiring Incentive is to maintain Australian Apprenticeship commencements and recommencements in occupations **not** on the **Australian Apprenticeships Priority List** (Priority List) as well as in Certificate II level Australian Apprenticeships in all occupations. The Hiring Incentive will support the transition to more sustainable and targeted support to building skills in demand for the Australian economy and help offset the cost of taking on an Australian Apprentice.

The Hiring Incentive is available for the first year of the employer and Australian Apprentice relationship rather than for first year of an Australian Apprenticeship. This means that a second or third year apprentice *may* attract the Hiring Incentive for their employer.

Eligible employers and Group Training Organisations (GTOs) that hire a **new worker** Australian Apprentice in **non-priority occupations** can claim up to a maximum of \$3,500 for full-time apprentices and \$1,750 for part-time apprentices. Payments are made in two equal installments at six and 12 months **into** the Australian Apprenticeship journey.

To attract the Hiring Incentive for their employer, the Australian Apprentice must **not** be an existing worker.

Eligibility

For an employer or Group Training Organisation to be eligible for the Hiring Incentive, the Australian Apprentice must:

- Have commenced or recommenced their Australian Apprenticeship between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2024; or
- Have recommenced their Australian Apprenticeship with their original employer between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2024, where the period of cancellation or suspension was greater than six months; **and**
- Be undertaking a Certificate II level qualification leading to any defined occupation; or
- Be undertaking a qualification at the Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level **not** listed on *Appendix A Australian Apprenticeships Priority List*; **and**
- Not be an existing worker; and
- Must be in training with their employer at the effect date

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

The Training Contract must also be formally approved by the State Training Authority (STA). The Australian Apprentice's prior qualifications *may* affect eligibility for the Hiring Incentive.

There is no limit on the number of Australian Apprentices an employer can claim for, provided they meet the relevant eligibility criteria for the Hiring Incentive.

Payment rates and claim periods

| Payment rates | Claim period | Effect date |
|-------------------|---|--|
| \$1,750 full time | Apprentice's first 6 months with employer (12-month claim limit) | 6 months from commencement or recommencement |
| \$875 part time | | |
| \$1,750 full time | Apprentice's second 6 months with employer (12-month claim limit) | 6 months from effect date for first payment |
| \$875 part time | | |

Effect dates and time limits

The effect date is the date the claim becomes payable. The **time limit** for lodging a claim is **12 months from each effect date.**

How do I make a claim?

Employers must lodge their Hiring Incentive claim using the **Apprenticeships Data Management System** (ADMS). Further details about claiming the Hiring Incentive will be provided closer to the payment due date.

Find out more

To find out more about the Hiring Incentive and your eligibility, contact 13 MEGT or anpinfo@megt.com.au