

## **About Support for Australian Apprentices with disability**

The Australian Government, in acknowledging the contribution people with disability make to their communities and workplaces, provides additional support to Australian Apprentices with disability to help them reach their full potential as skilled workers.

### **What support is available for Australian Apprentices with disability?**

Australian Apprentices with disability and their employers may be eligible to receive additional assistance under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Programme.

A range of assistance is available to support Australian Apprentices with disability, including Disabled Australian Apprentice Wage Support (DAAWS) which is paid to employers, and assistance for tutorial, interpreter and mentor services for apprentices.

Assistance is also available through the Employment Assistance Fund which helps people with disability and mental health conditions by providing assistance to purchase a range of work related modifications and services. Employers can access the scheme via JobAccess or through Disability Employment Services or jobactive providers.

This assistance is intended to help the Australian Apprentice with disability, either directly or indirectly through their employer, to reach their full potential as a skilled worker and to ensure that they are not excluded from participation in the Australian Apprenticeships programme.

### **What is DAAWS?**

DAAWS is an Australian Government incentive payable to an employer who employs an Australian Apprentice who satisfies the disability eligibility criteria in an Australian Apprenticeship.

This wage support is also available to an employer who employs an Australian Apprentice who becomes disabled during their apprenticeship or traineeship.

### **How are tutorial, interpreter and mentor services provided?**

Tutorial, interpreter and mentor services are available to Australian Apprentices who have been assessed as eligible for DAAWS and who require additional assistance with their off-the-job training.

This form of assistance is payable only to the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) in respect of an Australian Apprentice eligible for DAAWS where the Australian Apprentice is experiencing difficulty with the off-the-job training component of their Australian Apprenticeship because of that disability.

An Occupational Assessment supports the provision of additional assistance and the RTO proposes specific additional assistance related to off-the-job training.

Payments for these services are made directly to the RTO providing or facilitating the service.

### **Case study**

#### **Train2Learn - Winner of the 2014 Disability Training Initiative Award\* Australian Training Awards**

Train 2 Learn provides nationally recognised training in foundation skills, food processing and warehousing for people with a range of disabilities.

“Train 2 Learn endeavours to ensure every Australian is given the chance to be a part of society. Our passion, determination and willingness to be robust and flexible in an ever changing sphere of education, job services and national policy is the foundation of our organisation,” Kevin Hall, Train2 Learn’s Business Development Manager said.

More than 300 clients with disability have been supported to return to work by Train2Learn and its partners.

“The stories of our clients overcoming intergenerational unemployment because of education and employment are really inspirational,” Kevin said.

*\*Named the winner of the Disability Training – Employer Award from 2014*

### **For more information**

Contact your Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (Apprenticeship Network) provider, call the Australian Apprenticeships referral line on 13 38 73 or visit the Australian Apprenticeships website at [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au) for more information.

For information about support for Australian Apprentices with disability payments, see the factsheet *Summary of the Australian Government Incentives under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Programme* available from your Apprenticeship Network provider, or from the publications page at [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au).

Visit [www.jobaccess.gov.au](http://www.jobaccess.gov.au) or call 1800 464 800 for more information about the Employment Assistance Fund.

**13 38 73**

**[www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)**

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