



DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

FLEXIBLE, TAILORED EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

The Australian Government's \$3.2 billion Disability Employment Services delivers effective employment assistance for job seekers with disability.

Disability Employment Services provide eligible job seekers with disability, injury or health condition access to individually tailored employment services suited to their needs, with strong links to training and skills development.

There are two separate programs within Disability Employment Services:

- **Disability Management Service** is for job seekers who are not expected to need long-term support in the workplace but might need irregular flexible support to keep a job.
- **Employment Support Service** is for job seekers with permanent disability and who require regular and ongoing support to keep a job.

A better pathway to employment

The Australian Government values the contribution people with disability make to Australian society and believes that people with disability want to work and should be supported in their efforts to get and maintain a job.

Disability Employment Services is uncapped, so that all eligible people with disability have immediate access to individually tailored and comprehensive services including capacity building, training, work experience and other interventions to help participants obtain and maintain suitable employment.

Providers of Disability Employment Services are able to commit to early intervention partnerships with schools and other services to ensure employment assistance is available as soon as a person with disability is ready to participate.

Features of Disability Employment Services

- Disability Employment Services is uncapped so that job seekers with disability don't have to wait for services to help them get and keep a job.
- Two clearly distinct programs focusing on job seekers with disability with different needs.
- Providing the right assistance as early as possible, including for school leavers, to ensure a successful transition to work.
- Encouraging a strong focus on job outcomes with the greatest rewards available when Disability Employment Service providers find sustainable jobs for participants.
- Incentives for Disability Employment Service providers to encourage skills development, education and training.
- A funding structure that targets resources to the most disadvantaged job seekers.
- Resources to assist job seekers with disability in remote areas.
- Development of an Employment Pathway Plan between a Disability Employment Service provider and a job seeker which details the services tailored to help the individual secure employment.
- A flexible approach so Disability Employment Services can deliver a mix of interventions to address both vocational and non vocational barriers.
- Minimal red tape to give Disability Employment Service providers more resources to assist job seekers to find and maintain a job.
- All Disability Employment Service providers are required to be certified as complying with the Disability Services Standards.

For more information visit www.jobaccess.gov.au.

Helping employers find skilled workers

Disability Employment Services rewards providers for working with employers to supply job seekers who can meet local labour market and skills demands.

The Employment Assistance Fund may provide job seekers, employers and providers with access to resources to assist with finding and maintaining employment, such as workplace modifications and Auslan interpreting services.

For those participants who require support to maintain their employment, Ongoing Support is available from a Disability Employment Service for as long as it is required. There are three levels of Ongoing Support (Flexible, Moderate and High) to cater for the varying needs of workers with disability and their employers.

Flexible Ongoing Support provides a safety net for participants who are placed into work, but who may require irregular or less predictable access to support to maintain employment. This provides better options for some participants such as those with mental health or episodic conditions.

Many participants are able to leave Disability Employment Services as independent workers once they have moved into sustainable employment.