



Australian Government
Department of Social Services



A new program to support you to find and keep a job



Easy Read version

How to use this document



The Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS) wrote this document.

When you see the word 'we', it means DSS.



We wrote this document in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

We wrote some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **14**.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find more information on our website.

www.dss.gov.au/disability-and-carers-publications-articles/a-new-specialist-disability-employment-program-participant-factsheet



You can ask for help to read this document.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.

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What is the new program?



Disability Employment Services (DES) helps people with disability to find and keep jobs.



From 1 July 2025, we will create a new DES program to help people with disability find and keep jobs.

In this document we call it the new program.

If you already get support through the current DES program, you:



- do not have to do anything



- will continue to get the services you receive now.



We will provide more information about the new program before it starts.

How will the new program support you?



The new program will improve the services you get to help you find and keep a job.



It will do this by making sure your **provider**:

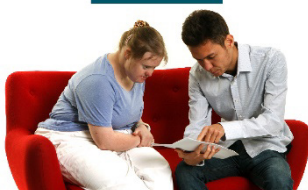
- thinks about what you want and need
- builds a connection with you.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



You will be able to choose the provider you want.



You will also get supports that are based on jobs you want to get in the future.



These supports will help you build the skills you need to get ready to look for work.

For example, you can get support to:



- build your skills in the type of job you want

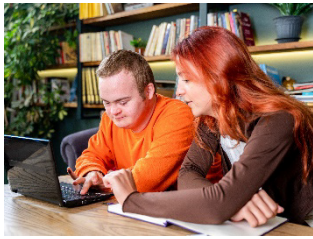


- find jobs that suit your skills and needs



- talk to **employers**.

An employer is a person who hires other people to work for them.



You can get support from a provider before you start a new job.

Or if you are worried about keeping the job you are in.



And you can continue to get support for as long as you need it while you are in the job.

Who can take part in the new program?

The new program can support you if:



- you have a disability, injury or health condition

and



- you can work **up to 30 hours** a week.



You can still take part if you can only work **less than 8 hours** a week.



You do not need to receive an **income support payment** from the government to be able to take part in the new program.



Income support payments are payments for people who don't or can't work **at least 38 hours** a week.



You can stay in the program for as long as you need.
There is no limit to how long you can take part.

What happens next?



We will continue to work with the community about what the new program should be like.



We will have more information about the new program in 2025.

More information



We have information on our website about programs that support people with disability to find and keep a job.

<http://www.dss.gov.au/disability-employment-programs>



You can also learn about these programs on the JobAccess website.

www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability



You can call the Job Seeker Hotline for information about how to find and keep a job.

13 62 68



You can also speak to someone at JobAccess for information about how to find and keep a job.

1800 464 800

Support to connect to a service or phone number



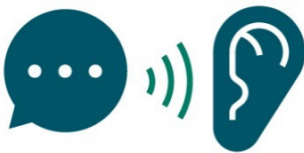
You can call the National Relay Service if you:

- are deaf or hard of hearing
- find it hard to speak using the phone.



TTY (Type and Listen)

1800 555 677



Speak and listen

1300 555 727



You can ask them to connect you to a phone number.



You can also visit Access Hub for more ways to connect to a service or phone number.

www.accesshub.gov.au

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words mean.



Disability Employment Services (DES)

DES helps people with disability to find and keep jobs.



Employers

An employer is a person who hires other people to work for them.



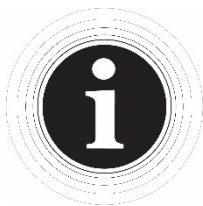
Income support payments

Income support payments are payments for people who don't or can't work at least 38 hours a week.



Provider

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



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