

Local Jobs Program

For: [All](#) The Local Jobs Program runs to 30 June 2022 in 25 regions throughout Australia. It brings together expertise, resources and access to funding at the local level to focus on reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways for people in each region. The program is part of supporting Australia's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Round 1 of the Local Recovery Fund is now open. Please scroll down for further information.

Overview

The Local Jobs Program supports tailored approaches to accelerate reskilling, upskilling and employment in 25 regions across Australia. Recognising that regions have been impacted by COVID-19 in varying ways, the program will provide for:

- 25 Employment Facilitators across 25 regions
- a Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce in each of these regions
- a Local Jobs Plan developed for each of these regions
- projects funded through a Local Recovery Fund in each of these regions.

View the [Local Jobs fact sheet](#).

The program aims to ensure the maximum number of people are placed in appropriate employment or training opportunities as quickly as possible to meet employer needs as labour markets recover. To achieve this, expertise, resources and access to funding will be brought together at the local level to focus on reskilling, upskilling and employment pathways. Key stakeholders including employers, employment services providers, higher education and training organisations will work collaboratively to design projects that skill people to meet the needs of local employers.

A Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce will be established in each of the regions to identify key employment priorities and strengthen linkages between stakeholders. The Taskforce will play a central role leveraging existing programs and aligning efforts on the ground to ensure collaboration is maximised, duplication is minimised, and outcomes are achieved. The Taskforces will facilitate the design of projects that will address identified employment priorities and maximise the number of people moving into work.

Recognising that labour markets vary across Australia, local labour market data will be provided by the National Skills Commission and National Careers Institute. This will ensure each Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce understands shortages and predicted future trends to drive local training responses informed by evidence.

Employment Facilitators

Twenty-five Employment Facilitators will support the delivery of the Local Jobs Program across 25 regions. Employment Facilitators will be contracted by the Department of Education, Skills and Employment in each region to bring together key stakeholders including employers, employment services providers, higher education and training organisations to work collaboratively to address the priorities identified in the Local Jobs Plan.

Eleven [Employment Facilitators](#) are already in place.

Representatives of the Department of Education, Skills and Employment will establish Local Jobs and Skills Taskforces in areas awaiting the appointment of their facilitators. For further queries about the role of Employment Facilitators, see below:

State	Employment Region	Contact
NSW	Illawarra South Coast	Andrew Wales Illawarra South Coast Employment Facilitator andrew.wales@fscfacilitator.com.au
	Hunter	Warrick Jordan Hunter Employment Facilitator warrick.jordan@hunterfacilitator.com
	New England and North West	Bronwyn Pearson New England and North West Employment Facilitator bronwyn@newenglandandnorthwestemploymentfacilitator.com
	Mid North Coast	Mark Almond Interim Employment Facilitator Mark.Almond@dese.gov.au
	North Coast	Valerie Shavgarova Interim Employment Facilitator Valerie.Shavgarova@dese.gov.au
	Sydney Greater West	Lisa Lillis Interim Employment Facilitator Lisa.Lillis@dese.gov.au
	Sydney South West	Lisa Lillis Interim Employment Facilitator Lisa.Lillis@dese.gov.au
VIC	Gippsland	Luke Arber Gippsland Employment Facilitator luke.arber@gippslandfacilitator.org.au
	Western Melbourne	Terry Kennedy Western Melbourne Employment Facilitator terry.kennedy@melbournefacilitator.com.au
	Inner Metropolitan Melbourne	Irene Fitzpatrick Interim Employment Facilitator Irene.Fitzpatrick@dese.gov.au
	North Western Melbourne	Irene Fitzpatrick Interim Employment Facilitator Irene.Fitzpatrick@dese.gov.au
	South Eastern Melbourne and Peninsula	Sean Teer Interim Employment Facilitator Sean.Teer@dese.gov.au
QLD	Cairns	Tamilyn Brennan Cairns Employment Facilitator tamilyn@fnqemployment.com.au
	Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast	Austin Ryann Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast Employment Facilitator austin@widebayemployment.com.au
	Townsville	Murray Lehmann Interim Employment Facilitator Murray.Lehmann@dese.gov.au
	Wivenhoe	Contessa Hall Interim Employment Facilitator Contessa.HALL@dese.gov.au

State	Employment Region	Contact
	Gold Coast	Vicki Whybird Interim Employment Facilitator Vicki.Whybird@dese.gov.au
SA	Murray and South East	Christine Willersdorf Murray and South East Employment Facilitator Christine.Willersdorf@employmentfacilitator.com.au
	North West Country	Lisa Brock North West Country Employment Facilitator lisa@usgemployment.com.au
	Adelaide North	Joe Aylward Interim Employment Facilitator Joseph.Aylward@dese.gov.au
TAS	North and North Western Tasmania	James McCormack North and North Western Tasmania Employment Facilitator TasmaniaFacilitator@bigpond.com
	Hobart and Southern Tasmania	David Orchard Interim Employment Facilitator David.Orchard@dese.gov.au
WA	Perth South	Alix Roberts Interim Employment Facilitator Alix.Roberts@dese.gov.au
	South West WA	Maryanne Baker South West WA Employment Facilitator maryanne@southerndarlingrangefacilitator.com.au
NT	Darwin and Alice Springs	Olivia Webbe Interim Employment Facilitator Olivia.Webbe@dese.gov.au

Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce

Each region will have a Local Jobs and Skills Taskforce chaired by an Employment Facilitator. Taskforces will comprise up to 10 members with representation from local stakeholders such as employer representatives, higher education, training providers, employment services providers, and local and state governments.

Local Jobs and Skills Taskforces will develop solutions to move as many people as possible back into work or training as quickly as possible by putting local employer needs at the centre of their actions and addressing the employment barriers of local people. Taskforces will play a central role in connecting, coordinating and leveraging existing programs and aligning efforts on the ground to ensure collaboration is maximised, duplication is minimised, and outcomes are achieved.

Taskforces will establish a Local Jobs Plan identifying key employment and training priorities for their Employment Region and providing a framework for driving employment outcomes in the context of the local labour market.

Using the Local Jobs Plan, each Taskforce will maximise opportunities to move people back into work and reskill or upskill to meet employer needs. Where other initiatives or programs do not provide appropriate funding or resources to meet the Taskforce's key priorities, the Local Recovery Fund can support activities that address issues identified in the Local Jobs Plan. Taskforces will be responsible for endorsing proposals for funding under the Local Recovery Fund.

Taskforce Membership

Each Taskforce will be representative of the local region, with consideration given to nominees that have demonstrated experience in upskilling, reskilling and local economic development.

Taskforces will have a diverse membership, tailored to address the needs of each Employment Region, and consisting of motivated, active members with an ability to represent, connect and collaborate with others in the region and meet local labour market needs.

Membership of the Taskforce is voluntary. The Department may ask the Taskforce membership to be refreshed every six months or more frequently, if necessary, to reflect any updates to the Local Job Plan priorities. Final Taskforce membership will be approved by the Department.

Expressions of Interest for membership of the Local Jobs and Skills Taskforces in the 25 Local Jobs Regions have now closed. Please email localjobs@dese.gov.au or contact the [Employment Facilitator](#) in your region if you have any questions regarding this process.

Local Recovery Fund

A Local Recovery Fund will be available across the 25 regions for Activity proposals that meet the priorities identified in the Local Jobs Plan.

Stakeholders from the 25 selected regions are now invited to bring forward proposals for Round 1 of the Fund. Proposals can be lodged from Tuesday 3 November until 3:00pm Monday 30 November (Canberra time).

Information on the Request for Proposal can be found on [Austender](#).

Stakeholders are encouraged to work in collaboration with local Employment Facilitators and Local Jobs and Skills Taskforces to develop proposals that best address the priorities identified in the Jobs Plan for their region. Proposed activities should be designed to address employment and training priorities and identify opportunities to better skill participants to meet local employer demand.

These may be a discrete activity, or a component of a larger activity, or may fill a gap in an existing activity that is directed to meeting identified priorities. Preference may be given to proposals that reflect one or more of the following:

- feedback from key local stakeholders
- connect directly with multiple priorities of the Jobs Plan for the Employment Region
- involve collaboration with key stakeholders and service providers to meet one or more priorities in the Jobs Plan

All proposals must identify an eligible Employment Services Provider as a Local Jobs Program Activity Partnering Provider.

For further information on the Local Recovery Fund, including how to apply please contact espurchasing@dese.gov.au or call [1300 733 514](tel:1300733514).

Program specific information

Eligibility for Local Jobs Program Activities.

Eligible participants on a jobactive, ParentsNext, New Employment Services Trial or Transition to Work caseload will be able to participate in activities funded through the Local Recovery Fund. This will count towards their relevant Annual Activity/Participation Requirements. Please see your employment services provider for further information.

Contact Us

For further information on the Local Jobs Program, please email localjobs@dese.gov.au, or contact the department's National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260.