



Community Development Program reforms

What are the reforms?

The Community Development Program (CDP) reforms help more remote job seekers transition from welfare into real jobs.

Following ongoing consultation with communities and Indigenous Leaders, these reforms recognise more needs to be done to support remote job seekers into work and provide better targeted support while job seekers move along a pathway to work.

The reforms will make sure CDP continues to drive employment in remote Australia by improving job seekers' skills and employability, and increasing their participation through a greater range of work-like activities in their community.





Implementation will commence in early 2019. Changes to the program include:

- Reducing income reporting requirements to Centrelink for those job seekers who have mutual obligation requirements of between zero and 14 hours per week.
- Ensuring job seekers are not required to participate beyond their capacity through an improved health assessment process.
 - This includes allowing local allied health professionals to provide the evidence for assessments.
 - Reducing participation from 25 hours per week, to 20 hours per week.

Introducing the new initiatives

The Government will work with local communities to support 6000 subsidised jobs for CDP participants in remote Australia.

- Employers will have access to wage subsidies to stimulate new work opportunities for CDP participants in local Indigenous businesses, local councils, land councils and health, education and other community services.
- In addition to wage subsidies, employers will have access to retention payments totalling \$5000 per position if a CDP participant remains in a position for two years. Paid in instalments, this bonus will increase the incentive to keep people in a job and acknowledges the investment employers make in their staff.
- CDP participants in a subsidised job will be paid at the minimum wage, relevant award or enterprise agreement level. They will also be paid superannuation and other entitlements.

The Government is also establishing a small grants fund to support the communities to deliver the reforms. Providers will be able to apply for funding for capital items to contribute to running CDP activities and to support job seekers to take on jobs in the community.

Key CDP facts

As at 30 September 2018, CDP participants have been supported into 27,607 jobs.

More information

For enquires about the CDP in your region, contact the provider in your region or the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Regional Network. Contact details for regional offices are available at: www.indigenous.gov.au/regional-network

Visit the CDP website for details about the program: www.pmc.gov.au/cdp

For all other general enquires about the CDP email cdp@pmc.gov.au