



The Hon Peter Dutton MP

Minister for Workforce Participation

RapidConnect – connecting job seekers with services quicker

What is RapidConnect?

- ▶ The Howard Government will introduce measures to improve access for unemployed people to employment services.
 - ▶ From September 2005, job seekers will be immediately referred to Job Network members through a process called RapidConnect.
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How will RapidConnect work?

- ▶ RapidConnect is about assisting job seekers as soon as they become unemployed. Connecting a job seeker and their Job Network member as soon as possible, will improve the chances of finding a job quicker.
 - ▶ Centrelink will remain as the entry point into employment services for the unemployed. When a job seeker contacts Centrelink to enquire about Newstart or Youth Allowance income support, they will be referred directly to Job Network.
 - ▶ Job Network members will interview these job seekers and develop a Vocational Profile based on their resume and experience.
 - ▶ If job seekers are not in a position to connect immediately to the workforce (they may need to develop new skills, for example) they will be connected to other existing programmes, such as New Apprenticeships.
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Will a job seeker's income support payment be delayed because of RapidConnect?

- ▶ Job seekers attending their Job Network interview straight away will not experience any delays.
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What happens if a job seeker does not attend their Job Network interview?

- ▶ Job seekers must display an active commitment to looking for work. They will not receive income support until they attend this interview.
 - ▶ Job seekers will not be disadvantaged where, through no fault of their own, they are unable to attend the interview or an appointment is not available in the allowable time period.
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