



Lived Experience Panel 2026 Expression of Interest Form

NOTE: This form is designed to be used in Adobe Acrobat Reader. Adobe Acrobat Reader software must be set as the default program for .pdf documents otherwise you may experience difficulties using this form. If you do not currently have the Adobe Acrobat Reader software program, it is available as a free download from the Adobe website – get.adobe.com/reader/

Have you used **Workforce Australia** or another employment service* in the last 12–18 months?

The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) is inviting people with **lived experience** of employment services to join a new **Lived Experience Panel**.

Lived experience simply means something you've been through yourself—your real-life understanding of what works, what doesn't, and what could be better.

As a member of the Panel, you may (but are not guaranteed to) be asked to participate in activities such as:

- **Online Working Group** meetings where representatives from the department will ask about your experiences in employment services including what worked well and what could be changed (about 3 sessions over 12 months)
- **One-off online focus groups** on specific topics (one-off sessions of 1–2 hours)
- **Interviews or surveys** to share your views online.

Read our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) if you need more information.

If this sounds like something you'd like to be part of, please complete the Expression of Interest form below. Expressions of Interest close at 11:59pm on Wednesday 24 June 2026.

If you need help applying or want to talk about other ways to submit your application, email us at livedexperience@dewr.gov.au.

* Other employment services can include programs such as Transition to Work, Parent Pathways, Career Transition Assistance, Self Employment Assistance, Skills for Education and Employment Program, Reconnection, Employment and Learning program, Remote Australia Employment Service, Local Jobs, WorkFoundations, Work for the Dole.

2026 Expression of Interest Form

Lived Experience Panel

All questions in the form below must be answered to be eligible for the Lived Experience Panel.

Personal details

1. Full Name

2. Preferred Name *(if different from your first name)*

3. Preferred Pronoun

She/Her/Hers

He/Him/His

They/Them/Theirs

She/They

He/They

Ze/Hir

Prefer to use name only

Prefer not to say

4. Gender *(at birth)*

Male

Female

Non-binary / Third gender

Prefer not to say

5. Age range

18–25

26–44

45–64

65+

Prefer not to say

6. Location *(Suburb/State or Postcode)*

7. Preferred contact number

8. Email address

9. Do you have access to a computer? *(laptop, tablet or desktop computer)*

Yes

No

10. Do you need help to participate in online activities? *(tick box/s which are relevant)*

No

Yes – Interpreter

Yes – Adaptive software

Yes – Other (please provide details)

Role

11. Which of the following opportunities are you interested in participating in? (Choose all that apply)

Lived Experience Working Group (about 3 to 4 online sessions (2–3 hours long) with the same group of people over 12 months)

One-off online focus groups

Other research activities (for example one-on-one interviews, surveys)

12. You have current experience with this, or you have experience with this in the past 4 years? (Choose all that apply)

Workforce Australia / employment services

Homelessness

The justice system

Being a carer

A mental health condition(s)

Being a parent

A disability

A low socio-economic background

Other (please describe)

13. Which of the following groups do you identify with (if any)? (Choose all that apply)

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

Refugee background and/or a recent migrant

Neurodiverse/neurodivergent

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Asexual (LGBTIQ+)

Disability

Deaf/hard of hearing

None

Prefer not to say

Other (please describe)

14. Which of the following describes your current situation? (Choose all that apply)

- I am looking for work
- I am studying part time
- I am employed casually
- I am employed part time
- I am employed full time
- I am an apprentice or trainee
- I am a full or part-time carer
- Other (*please describe*)

15. Do you have any experience participating in advisory groups, customer reference/working groups, focus groups or online meetings? (Choose all that apply)

Your experience does not need to be related to employment services. We are looking for people with a wide range of experiences. You can still apply if you have no previous experience, and this will not affect your application.

- Customer reference/working group
- Advisory group
- Online focus groups

Have you appeared in the media as a spokesperson?

If yes, please tell us which organisation you represented and where the appearance took place.

I have not participated in any of the above.

Please tell us more about yourself

We recommend 100–250 words for each response.

16. Why are you interested in joining the Lived Experience panel?

17. Please tell us about any previous experience you have had with advisory groups, focus groups and other research activities.

Thanks for your submission!

You'll hear from us in July 2026.

If you have any questions, please email livedexperience@dewr.gov.au

Privacy Notice

Your personal information is protected by law, including the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth), and is collected by the department for the purposes of establishing and managing the Panel, including managing any conflicts of interest and facilitating your participation in the consultation activities if you are chosen. This information is required in order to administer the Panel.

Sensitive information is a subset of personal information. It includes information or an opinion about your racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious beliefs or affiliations, philosophical beliefs, membership of associations or unions, sexual orientation or practices, criminal record, and health, genetic or biometric information. We need your consent to collect your sensitive information unless the collection is otherwise permitted under the *Privacy Act*. If you provide your sensitive information in completing the EOI, you will be taken to have consented to the department's collection of that information.

Your personal information may be disclosed to the Offices of the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, the Assistant Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations or the Minister for Skills and Training for the above purposes only.

Your personal information may be disclosed to other parties where you have agreed, or where it is otherwise permitted under the *Privacy Act*.

Your personal information is unlikely to be disclosed to overseas recipients.

You can get more information about the how the department will handle your personal information, including information on accessing or correcting your personal information, and how to make a complaint, in our full **Privacy Policy**. The Privacy Policy can be found at www.dewr.gov.au/privacy or by requesting a copy from the department at privacy@dewr.gov.au.

To contact the department about your personal information email privacy@dewr.gov.au