

# Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System Payments Overview

Effective as of 1 January 2026

Refer to the *Australian Apprenticeship Incentives System Program Guidelines* (22 Dec 2025–31 Dec 2026) for eligibility requirements

## Key Apprenticeship Program Employer Incentive

Payments at	6 months	12 months
Full-time	\$2,000	\$3,000
Part-time	\$1,000	\$1,500

- Eligible employers of Australian Apprentices in KAP specific occupations may receive up to \$5000 in the first year of an apprenticeship, paid over 2 instalments at 6 and 12 months.
- At the time of commencement or recommencement, the Australian Apprentice must be enrolled in a Certificate III or higher qualification that leads to an occupational outcome identified on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List as housing construction or clean energy sector.
- Apprentices may be full time or part time and must be in-training with their employer at the claim period end date.
- Employers must not be in receipt of DAAWS, the Priority Hiring Incentive or any other form of Australian Government assistance for the same Australian Apprenticeship (below exception applies).
  - If the employer is a GTO, then they can also receive the GTO reimbursement pilot program payments.

For commencements or recommencements from 1 January 2026

## Priority Hiring Incentive

Payments at	6 months	12 months
Full-time	\$1,000	\$1,500
Part-time	\$500	\$750

- Eligible employers of Australian Apprentices in priority occupations may receive up to \$2,500 in the first year of an apprenticeship, paid over 2 instalments at 6 and 12 months.
- The Australian Apprentice must at the date of commencement or recommencement, be undertaking a qualification at the Certificate III or higher and with an occupational outcome listed on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List.
- Apprentices may be full time or part time and must be in-training with their employer at the claim period end date.
- Employers must not be in receipt of DAAWS, Key Apprenticeship Program Employer Incentive or any other form of Australian Government assistance for the same Apprenticeship (below exception applies):
  - If the employer is a GTO, then they can also receive the GTO Reimbursement Payments.
  - Employers receiving Australian Government funding where the entire payment is passed directly to the apprentice, may also be eligible for the Priority Hiring Incentive.

For commencements or recommencements from 1 January 2026

## Disability Australian Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy (DAAWS)

\$216.07 per week in arrears

- The Apprentice's capacity to work must be assessed and confirmed through the completion of Form 608 (Occupational Assessment for an Australian Apprentice with Disability).
- Apprentice must be undertaking a Certificate II or higher qualification
- Available to employers of full time or part time apprentices.
- Apprentice must be In-Training with their employer at the claim period end date.
- Employers may not be in receipt of the Key Apprenticeship Program Employer Incentive or Priority Hiring Incentive or any other form of Australian Government wage subsidy or equivalent assistance.

## Key Apprenticeship Program Apprentice Incentive

## Australian Apprentice Training Support Payment (AATSP)

## Living Away From Home Allowance (LAFHA)

## Australian Apprenticeship Support Loan (AASL)

### Incentive

### Payment (AATSP)

### (LAFHA)

### (AASL)

Payments at 6, 12, 24, 36 months and on completion	
Full-time	\$2,000
Part-time	\$1,000

Payments at	6 months	12 months	18 months	24 months
Full-time	\$625	\$625	\$625	\$625
Part-time	\$315	\$315	\$310	\$310

- The Apprentice must be undertaking a Certificate III or higher qualification that is aligned to an occupational outcome identified as Clean Energy or Housing Construction on the Priority List.
- The employer must have engagement and operation in the clean energy or housing construction sector.
- The Apprentice must have meaningful exposure, experience and work in the clean energy or housing construction sector, appropriate to skill level and/or off-the-job training.
- Both the employer and the apprentice must sign a declaration confirming the apprentice's commitment to build skills in the relevant KAP sector, including selecting relevant electives where available, and the employer's commitment to provide ongoing exposure, experience, and work in the sector.
- Available to full time and part time apprentices and the apprentice must not be in receipt of AATSP for the same apprenticeship.

For commencements or recommenced from 1 July 2025

- The Australian Apprentice must at the date of commencement or recommencement, be undertaking a qualification at the Certificate III or higher and with an occupational outcome listed on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List.
- Apprentices may be full time or part time and must be in-training with their employer at the claim period end date.

For commencements or recommencements from 1 January 2026

- Apprentice must be undertaking a Certificate II or above qualification.
- Available to apprentices who need to move away from their parent's or guardian's home for the first time to:
  - Start an apprenticeship.
  - Remain in an apprenticeship.
  - Receive essential supplementary on-the-job training with another employer.
- Apprentice must be within 36 months of the commencement date of their apprenticeship.
- May be accessed by apprentices who are, or become, homeless during their apprenticeship.
- Apprentices may not receive this allowance if they are in receipt of Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY, rental or accommodation assistance from Centrelink, or free or subsidised living quarters or board from their employer and tax exempt.

- Australian Apprentices needing additional cost-of-living support may apply for an Australian Apprenticeship Support Loan, previously known as a Trade Support Loan.
- The apprentice must be completing an apprenticeship listed on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List.
- The Apprentice may borrow up to **\$25,983 (2025/26)** interest free (annually indexed) over their 4-year apprenticeship.
- Repayments begin when the repayment threshold of **\$67,000 (2025/26)** is reached and will receive a 20% reduction of the balance when apprenticeship successfully completed.
- Refer to the Australian Apprenticeship Support Loans Guidelines for full details.

## Group Training Organisation (GTO) Reimbursement Pilot Program

Payment: \$100 per week, up to \$5,200 (GST inclusive) over 52 weeks.

- Provides payments to eligible GTOs placing Australian Apprentices in priority occupations with SMEs that haven't hosted an apprentice via a GTO in the past two years.
- Designed to offset some or all usual GTO service fees charged to SMEs for eligible placements.
- The Pilot will close to new entrants from 30 April 2026 or once the 400 reimbursed placements are allocated, whichever occurs first.

## RTO Payments

## Off-the-Job Tutorial, Mentor and Interpreter Assistance

- Off-the-Job, Tutorial, Mentor, and Interpreter Assistance is provided to support Australian Apprentices with disability who are experiencing difficulty with the off-the-job component of their Australian Apprenticeship.
- Payments are made to the Apprentices' Registered Training Organisation who facilitate the off-the-job training.
  - Tutorial Services, \$38.50 per hour up to a maximum of \$5,500 per year.
  - Mentor or Interpreter Services, \$38.50 per hour up to a maximum of \$5,500 per year.