

Summary of assistance

The WAS ceases on 30 June 2022 regardless of whether or not a cap or maximum timeframe has been reached. Applications for assistance and relevant claim forms must be submitted for approval by 30 June 2022 and remain subject to assessment of worker eligibility and needs, at the discretion of the Employment Services Manager (ESM). Affected workers are encouraged to contact the ESM as soon as practicable to discuss the assistance available.

Elements of the WAS	Prior to retrenchment from Sibelco	Once retrenched from Sibelco
Job search support	✓*	✓
Training and skills support	✓*	✓
Financial advice	✓	✓
Small business mentoring	✓	✓
Housing assistance		✓
Commuting subsidy		✓
Income supplementation		✓
Dislocation assistance		✓

* Any time off to access support prior to the termination of employment is to be negotiated with Sibelco. Where an eligible worker has not fully used these elements, their partner may access the balance of the funds, up to the cap for each element, to receive job search and/or training and skills support respectively.

Elements of the WAS	Cap per worker and timeframes.
Job search support	Up to \$2,000. Available until employed with ongoing mentoring up to three months post-employment.
Training and skills support	Up to \$2,000. Available until employed with ongoing mentoring up to three months post-employment.
Training and skills support - leave without pay compensation	Up to four weeks ordinary time earnings
Financial advice	Up to \$1,000
Small business mentoring	Up to \$1,000
Housing assistance	Up to \$5,000
Commuting subsidy	Up to \$5,000 for a period of up to two years or until the WAS ceases, whichever is sooner. To receive reimbursement for ferry costs, travel must have occurred prior to the WAS ceasing on 30 June 2022.
Income supplementation	<p>Affected workers must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sibelco permanent full time or part time employee • redundancy or other separation payment from Sibelco has not been received • new employment is at lesser final ordinary time earnings than at Sibelco prior to retrenchment • continue to reside on NSI, and • Commonwealth Support Payment benefit is not being received. <p>If an affected worker meets the eligibility criteria, the difference in earnings will be provided for either the duration of employment at a lesser level up to a maximum of 52 weeks or until the WAS ceases, whichever is sooner.</p>

Dislocation assistance	<p>Workers eligible for this element are those who did not receive a redundancy payment from Sibelco or received a gross redundancy payment below the assistance amount listed below.</p> <p>If an affected worker meets the eligibility criteria, the difference between the gross redundancy payment and the dislocation assistance amount (below), will be provided.</p> <p>Years of Eligible Service</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>Less than 2 years</td><td>\$8,600</td></tr> <tr><td>2 years but less than 5 years</td><td>\$13,000</td></tr> <tr><td>5 years but less than 8 years</td><td>\$17,250</td></tr> <tr><td>8 years but less than 11 years</td><td>\$25,800</td></tr> <tr><td>11 years but less than 14 years</td><td>\$34,500</td></tr> <tr><td>14 years but less than 17 years</td><td>\$43,100</td></tr> <tr><td>17 years but less than 20 years</td><td>\$51,600</td></tr> <tr><td>20 years and over</td><td>\$60,200</td></tr> </table>	Less than 2 years	\$8,600	2 years but less than 5 years	\$13,000	5 years but less than 8 years	\$17,250	8 years but less than 11 years	\$25,800	11 years but less than 14 years	\$34,500	14 years but less than 17 years	\$43,100	17 years but less than 20 years	\$51,600	20 years and over	\$60,200
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Employment support through employer wage subsidy

Eligible employers must engage an affected worker in permanent employment. The new position for the affected worker must be based in Queensland.

The subsidy is provided once the affected worker has been employed on a permanent basis for six (6) months continuously. The six (6) months of continuous permanent employment must be completed and the application for the subsidy submitted for approval by 30 June 2022. This means that the affected worker must be employed before 1 January 2022.

The wage subsidy will be paid to eligible employers as follows:

- up to \$10,000 per eligible employee if the position is in South East Queensland,
- up to \$4,000 per eligible employee if the position is outside of South East Queensland, is available for full time positions (minimum 35 hours per week).

75 per cent of the subsidy (\$7,500 or \$3,000) per eligible employee is available for part time positions (minimum 20 hours per week). The subsidy will not be paid for permanent employment of less than 20 hours per week or casual employment.

Australian and State Government employers are excluded from receiving the subsidy. However, local government employers in South East Queensland only are eligible for the wage subsidy, noting their contribution to the surrounding labour market.

Further information

Web desbt.qld.gov.au/employment/transition-programs/north-stradbroke-assistance

Email nsiwas@desbt.qld.gov.au

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