

# Skilling Queenslanders for Work

The highly successful Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative represents a total funding commitment of \$420 million over six years from its reintroduction in 2015-16 up until 2020-21, to support up to 54,000 Queenslanders into work.

Skilling Queenslanders for Work represents a commitment to increasing workforce participation, driving job growth and strengthening the performance of the Queensland economy by improving work opportunities for disadvantaged Queenslanders.

Tailored, local community-based support is offered to young people, mature-age job seekers, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability, women re-entering the workforce, Australian Defence Force (ADF) veterans and ADF ex-service members, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Skilling Queenslanders for Work is characterised by:

- clearly defined target groups
- voluntary participation
- individual pathways
- integrated mix of assistance
- strong support for participants.

The initiative is supported by a statewide regional network working closely and forming partnerships with community-based organisations and local employers to determine local skills and entry-level industry and labour needs.

In 2019–20, \$80 million will be available under Skilling Queenslanders for Work to provide skills, training and jobs to a minimum of 10,000 disadvantaged Queenslanders.

There are seven programs that make up the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative.

## Community Work Skills

Funds community-based organisations to deliver tailored support and assistance to participants to help them gain nationally recognised skills and qualifications. This includes a mix of career advice, job preparation skills, foundation skills and individual case management.

In 2019–20, \$16.8 million will be invested under the Community Work Skills program to assist disadvantaged Queenslanders to gain nationally recognised qualifications and build skills that will maximise their local job opportunities.

## Work Skills Traineeships

Funds paid work placements on community, public works and environmental projects for up to six months. Participants undertake a Work Skills Traineeship (Certificate I in Business, Construction, Conservation and Land Management, Hospitality or Retail Services) that integrates vocational skills with on-the-job training.

In 2019–20, \$37.05 million will be invested under the Work Skills Traineeships program to assist disadvantaged Queenslanders to develop the skills and experience needed to gain employment.

## Ready for Work

Funds community-based organisations and school Parents and Citizens' and Parents and Friends' associations to deliver basic job preparation and employability skills courses up to 6–8 weeks to unemployed youth aged 15–24 years to get them ready for work.

In 2019–20, \$1.5 million will be invested to assist young Queenslanders under the Ready for Work program.

## Get Set for Work

Funds community-based organisations to deliver intensive employment and training assistance over 12 months to 15–19 year old early school leavers and disadvantaged young people to transition them to the workforce, undertake further education and training or return to school.

In 2019–20, \$8.75 million will be invested to help disadvantaged young people under the Get Set for Work program.

## Youth Skills

Funds community-based organisations to assist 15–24 year olds engaged with Youth Justice Services or Queensland Corrective Services, to undertake nationally recognised training and provide integrated learner support.

In 2019–20, \$1 million will be invested to assist young people under the Youth Skills program.

## Work Start incentives

Is an incentive program that rewards private sector employers ineligible for the [Back to Work](#) employer support payments with a one-off \$10,000 payment or a \$20,000 Youth Boost, after a qualifying period, if they employ after 1 July 2018 a Queenslanders in a traineeship or apprenticeship who has participated in a Community Work Skills, Work Skills Traineeships, Get Set for Work, Ready for Work or Youth Skills project.

In 2019–20, up to \$4 million will be available under the Work Start incentives program.

## First Start

Provides wage subsidies to local councils and community-based organisations to employ additional trainees. The program offers opportunities for young people and disadvantaged job seekers to gain nationally recognised qualifications and 12 months employment by undertaking a traineeship.

In 2019–20, \$6 million will be available for local councils to create 400 new traineeships under the First Start program.

A further \$2.9 million will be available for community-based organisations to create up to 145 new traineeships.

## More information

For more information, visit [www.training.qld.gov.au/sqw](http://www.training.qld.gov.au/sqw),

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