



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

Disability Employment Reform

Presenter: Kellie Spence

Position: Group Manager, Disability Employment

Acknowledgement of Country



The Department of Social Services acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today and their connections to land, water, culture and community.

We pay our respects to the elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Probity Statement

The Department of Social Services is committed to conducting a fair, honest, and transparent process for the design and implementation of the new specialist disability employment program and related services.

For today's event, this means that:

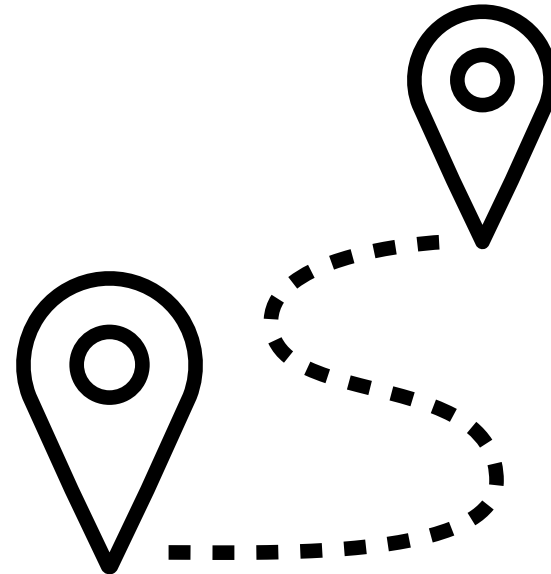
- this presentation will be made publicly available on the DSS Engage website*
- any views expressed, or information provided, by attendees to this event will be considered, along with the views expressed and information provided by other stakeholders.*

Overview

Key Topics

1. Summary of the New Program design
2. Market Structure
3. Supporting Programs
4. Supported Employment
5. Feedback and more information

**The new disability
employment program
commences 1 July 2025**

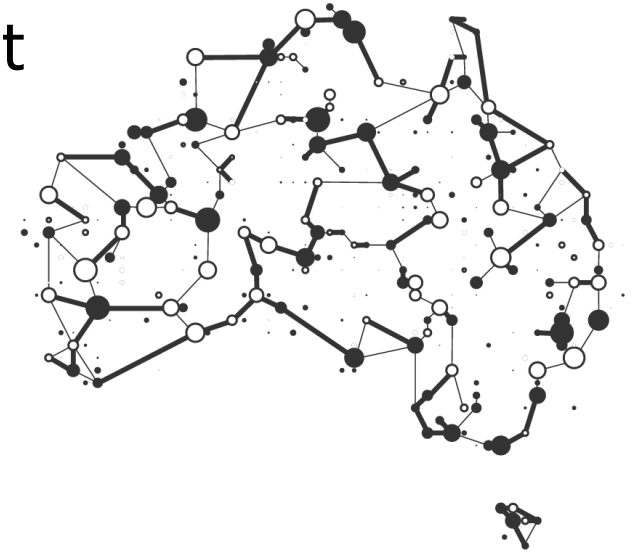


Summary of new program design

- A simplified program design focussed on relationships with participants and employers and less complexity.
- Expanded eligibility targeting those who will benefit most.
- An intensive and flexible service to meet the individual needs of participants.
- A focus on meaningful engagement of participants to deliver a respected service led by the participant.
- Support whilst in employment for those who need it.
- Employer services to build capability to employ people with disability and improved wage subsidies.

Market Structure

- The new program aims to strengthen the quality and diversity of providers.
- Specialist providers with deep expertise in a participant cohort will be encouraged.
- Balance market controls that support the viability of smaller and more specialist providers to enter or re-enter the market.
- Increase diversity and participant choice and control.
- Employment Service Areas (ESAs) remain the same.



National Panel of Assessors and Disability Employment Centre for Excellence

National Panel of Assessors (NPA)

The NPA program is a standing panel of independent assessment service providers contracted to provide assessments to support the needs of people with disability in the workplace.

The NPA program will continue to provide high-quality assessment services from 1 July 2025.

Centre of Excellence

The Centre of Excellence will be an evidence-informed, best-practice hub that will focus on providing resources and tools to help employment service providers deliver disability aware quality services to both clients with disability and employers.

The Centre is intended to commence in March 2025, and share evidence-based best practice resources.

Supported Employment & Labour Force stats

- Supported employment measures announced in the 2023-24 Budget underway:
 - The Structural Adjustment Fund;
 - a new disability employment advocacy and information supports program; and
 - piloting employment expos.
 - Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
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Sources:

- 2022 data: [Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2022 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)
- 2018 data: [Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2018 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

Feedback and more information



New information will be made available through the
Department of Social Services
(dss.gov.au/new-specialist-disability-employment-program)
and DSS Engage
<dss.engage.gov.au/LINK>



Email: DESConsultations@dss.gov.au

Questions



Get in touch



www.dss.gov.au



DESConsultations@dss.gov.au

Thank You!

