

YOUR FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS

For QLD employers

This list indicates the value of the incentives and benefits you may be eligible for as an employer of an apprentice or trainee. It is a guide only. Payment of incentives and benefits will be subject to employers and their apprentices or trainees satisfying the **eligibility criteria**. Details of each incentive and benefit should be discussed with your Industry Training Consultant.

Incentives and Benefits from 01/01/2026 for new and recommencing Australian Apprentices

Priority Hiring Incentive For employers of new or recommencing Australian Apprentices undertaking a Certificate III or higher qualification in a Priority Occupation on the Australian Apprenticeship Priority List. Please see details below relating to the Australian Apprenticeship Priority List.	Payment Rates	Fulltime	Part-time
	6 Months	\$1000	\$500
	12 Months	\$1500	\$750
Key Apprenticeship Program Employer Incentive For employers of eligible Australian Apprentices undertaking a Certificate III or higher qualification aligned with an occupational outcome identified as New Energy or Housing Construction on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List. Employers must not receive any other form of Australian Government assistance for the same apprenticeship.	Payment Rates	Fulltime	Part-time
	6 Months	\$2000	\$1000
	12 Months	\$3000	\$1500
Disability Australian Apprentice Wage Support (DAAWS) DAAWS is an incentive payable to an employer who employs an apprentice who satisfies the disability eligibility criteria. DAAWS is also available to employers who employ apprentices who become disabled during their apprenticeship. Tutorial, interpreter, and mentor services are available to eligible apprentices who require additional assistance with their off-the-job training.	Payment Rates	Fulltime	Overview
	\$216.07 per week for a full time Australian Apprentice, and on a pro-rata scale according to hours worked for a part-time Australian Apprentice.	Employer	Provides additional assistance to employers who employ an Australian Apprentice with disability in a Certificate II or higher-level qualification.
	\$38.50 per hour (up to a maximum of \$5,500 per year).	RTO	Assistance for tutorial, mentor and interpreter services is available to Registered Training Organisations to support Australian Apprentices with disability who are experiencing difficulty with the off -the-job component of their Australian Apprenticeship because of their disability.
GTO Reimbursement Program The Group Training Organisation Reimbursement Program offers a payment to eligible Group Training Organisations (GTOs) who place an Australian Apprentice training towards a qualification and occupation listed on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List with a Small or Medium Enterprise (SME) that has not directly engaged or hosted an Australian Apprentice through a GTO within the last two years.		Overview GTOs may be eligible to receive a payment valued at \$100 per week, up to \$5,200 (GST inclusive) paid over 52 weeks, to reimburse some or all the costs of the usual GTO service fees usually charged to an SME in respect of the eligible Australian Apprenticeship Placement.	
Australian Apprenticeship Priority List Resource https://www.dewr.gov.au/australian-apprenticeships/apprenticeship-support#toc-australian-apprenticeship-priority-list			
*Key Apprenticeship Program Occupations are identified on the Australian Apprenticeship priority list.			

State and Australian Government financial incentives and benefits as at January 2026. Industry Associations may have additional schemes and funding available. Check with your industry organisation directly. Waiting periods are in place before an employer can apply for an Australian Government Incentive for an Australian Apprentice. The National Training Contract must be formally approved and probationary period completed. The Australian Apprentice must still be employed by the same employer and commenced training in accordance with the approved training plan. Benefits and services are subject to change at any time without notice. Please check our website [apprenticeshipsupport.com.au](https://www.apprenticeshipsupport.com.au) for full and current details. Existing Worker: For Federal Government incentives purposes the definition of an Existing Worker is a person who has an employment relationship with the employer for more than 3 months full-time, or 12 months permanent part-time/casual, or a combination equivalent to more than 3 months full-time. For access to State funding, e.g. User Choice, the State Training Authority may calculate the Existing Worker status differently. Please contact Apprenticeship Support Australia for further advice.

For Australian Apprentices commencing or recommencing prior to 01/07/2022, will be eligible for payments under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentive Program (AAIP).

Incentives and Benefits from 01/01/2026 for new and recommencing Australian Apprentices

State Funding and Incentives The Queensland Government has available a range of funding and incentives that may assist with the employment of apprentices and trainees, including:	Free training	Apprentices and trainees under the age of 25 commencing a priority apprenticeship or traineeship qualification from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2027. For more Information visit: desbt.qld.gov.au/training/providers/funded/freeapprenticeships
	Skilling Queenslanders for Work Funds training and support for unemployed or underemployed people, with a focus on young people (including those in and transitioned from out-of-home care), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability, mature-age jobseekers, women re-entering the workforce, veterans and ex-service personnel, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.	For more information visit: qld.gov.au/education/training/subsidies/skilling-queenslanders-for-work
Career Start	Under Career Start, you may access up to two funded training places through one of the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A qualification in a certificate III under the general training pathway and an apprenticeship or traineeship. If the apprenticeship or traineeship is completed first, you are not eligible to access a general training pathway qualification under Career Start; or • Two apprenticeships and traineeships in either a certificate II or III (school-based apprenticeships and traineeships are included in this total). For more information visit: https://www.qld.gov.au/education/training/funded/career-start	
Career Boost	Under Career Boost, you may access either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One funded training place in either a certificate IV, diploma of advanced diploma qualification under the general training pathway; or • A higher-level apprenticeship or traineeship in certificate IV or above. In addition, under Career Boost, you may access up to two funded skill sets in priority industries or sectors. If you have already accessed two apprenticeships or traineeships through a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship or Career Start within the last 10 years, you are not eligible to undertake an apprenticeship or traineeship under Career Boost. You cannot do two general training pathway qualifications under Career Boost. For more information visit: https://www.qld.gov.au/education/training/funded/career-boost	
Payroll Tax exemptions	Wages you pay to apprentices and New Entrant Trainees may be exempt from payroll tax.	Employers of apprentices and New Entrant Trainees. Visit: https://qro.qld.gov.au/payroll-tax/exemptions/ or call 13 74 68
WorkCover Premium Savings	Employers that employ apprentices can benefit from an 'apprentice discount' on their accident insurance policy premium. This works by removing the cost of apprentice wages from your wage declaration, resulting in a lower premium.	The discount covers all wages for all apprentices you employ and for work relating to the apprenticeship only. (trainees are not included). For more information call: 1300 362 128 or visit: worksafe.qld.gov.au/claims-and-insurance/workcover-insurance/who-should-i-cover
Existing Workers in QLD: Employed more than 3 months full-time, or 12 months permanent part-time/casual, or a combination equivalent to more than 3 months full-time.		

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