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## Supporting apprentices and trainees

*Last Updated: 19 March 2020*

If you employ an apprentice or trainee you may be eligible for a wage subsidy of 50 per cent of their wage paid from 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020. You can register for the subsidy from early April 2020.

The Government is supporting small business to retain their apprentices and trainees. Eligible employers can apply for a wage subsidy of 50 per cent of the apprentice's or trainee's wage paid during the 9 months from 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020. Where a small business is not able to retain an apprentice, the subsidy will be available to a new employer.

Employers will be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$21,000, per eligible apprentice or trainee (\$7,000 per quarter).

Support will also be provided to the National Apprentice Employment Network, who are responsible for coordinating the re-employment of displaced apprentices and trainees throughout their network of host employers across Australia.

### Eligibility

The subsidy will be available to small businesses employing fewer than 20 full-time employees who retain an apprentice or trainee.

Employers of any size and Group Training Organisations that re-engage an eligible out-of-trade apprentice or trainee will be eligible for the subsidy. The apprentice or trainee must have been in training with a small business as at 1 March 2020.

Employers will be able to access the subsidy after an eligibility assessment is undertaken by an Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) provider.

This measure will support up to 70,000 small businesses, employing around 117,000 apprentices.

### Timing

Employers can register for the subsidy from early April 2020. Final claims for payment must be lodged by 31 December 2020.

For further information on how to apply for the subsidy, including information on eligibility, contact an [Australian Apprenticeship Support Network \(AASN\)](#) provider.

### An example of how this support can help your business

David's Plumbing is a small business that employs 10 people, including two full-time Australian Apprentices.

Taylor is a first year Australian Apprentice, aged 20, undertaking a Certificate III qualification. She commenced her apprenticeship with David's Plumbing on 6 February 2020. Taylor receives a weekly wage of \$532.89.

Lisa is a third year Australian Apprentice, aged 29, undertaking a Certificate IV qualification. She commenced her apprenticeship with David's Plumbing on 18 November 2017. She receives a weekly wage of \$772.71.

David's Plumbing are eligible for *Supporting Apprentices and Trainees* which pays 50 per cent of the apprentices' wages that have been paid by David's Plumbing since 1 January 2020.

David's Plumbing will receive:

- \$9,059 subsidy for employing Taylor for 6 February 2020 to 30 September 2020
- \$15,068 subsidy for employing Lisa for 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020