



Australian Government  
Department of Social Services



# Disability Employment Services

Enhancing the Links  
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# Disability Employment Services (DES)

- Flexible, individually tailored assistance for job seekers with disability, injury or health condition
- Both generalist and specialist services
- Both activity tested participants and volunteers
- Focus on appropriate, sustainable employment
- Independently assessed capacity for work

# Two services within DES

- **Disability Management Service (DMS)** – job seekers with **disability, injury or health condition** who require assistance to find sustainable employment, but who are not expected to need long-term support in the workplace
- **Employment Support Service (ESS)** – job seekers with **permanent disability** who require long-term Ongoing Support in the workplace

# Current DES Provision

## DSS currently contracts

- Around 119 DES providers
- In over 2,000 sites
- Across 110 non-remote Employment Service Areas (ESAs)
  - Remote areas are covered by CDP (Community Development Program) administered by PM&C

# Role of a DES Provider

- To provide tailored assistance into sustainable employment
- Build linkages and relationships with employers
- Assist employers to access financial support
- Connect participants to skills development
- Build linkages with other stakeholders
- Provide ongoing support in the workplace
- Help participants meet mutual support obligations

# Who is Eligible for DES?

Job seekers who:

- have a disability, injury or health condition
- aged at least 14 to 65 years of age [tied to pension age]
- minimum legal working age in their state or territory
- have a future work capacity with intervention of at least 8 hours per week
- are an Australian resident (some exceptions apply)
- are not studying full time (unless the job seeker is an ESL)
- not working at or above their Employment Benchmark hours (some exceptions – Job in Jeopardy, ADE workers)

# How do Participants Register for DES?

- Centrelink referrals – 91%
- Direct registration – 8%
- Job in Jeopardy (JiJ) – which assists at-risk workers – *(to be known as Work Assist from 2018)* – less than 1%
- NDIS – future pathway

# Assessments to determine DES eligibility

- Employment Services Assessment (ESAt)
- Job Capacity Assessment (JCA)



# Current Pathway of a DES Participant

Three phases:

- Employment Assistance – commenced 63 per cent
- Post Placement Support – 26 per cent
- Ongoing Support – 11 per cent

# DES Provider Payments

Three primary DES provider payments

- Service fees – quarterly, paid upfront
- Outcome fees – paid in arrears
- Ongoing Support fees
  - Flexible ongoing support - fee for service per participant
  - Moderate and High – paid in arrears, choice of quarterly or monthly per participant

Two main types of Outcome fees

- Full Outcome Payments
- Pathway Outcome Payments

# Other Types of Assistance Available

- Wage Subsidies
- Supported Wage System
- Employment Assistance Fund
- Job in Jeopardy (to be known as Work Assist)

# DES Performance Framework

The Performance framework includes:

- Star Ratings
- Certification of compliance against National Standards for Disability Services Standards

# Questions ?