

Disability Employment Service

Introduction to the Disability Employment Service

The Disability Employment Service (DES) provides specialist assistance to job seekers with disabilities, injuries or ill health. DES is delivered by a network of organisations around Australia, and is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

The Disability Employment Service has two distinct programs:

- 1) Employment Support Service** - for job seekers with a permanent disability and with an assessed need for more long-term, regular ongoing support needs in the workplace.
- 2) Disability Management Service** - for job seekers with a disability, injury or health condition who require the assistance of a disability employment service but who are not expected to need long-term support in the workplace.

A job seeker can be referred to a DES if they are aged 14-65 years of age, are an Australian resident, and have a disability, injury or health condition.

The DES provides a range of supports to meet individual needs, including:

- help to prepare for work including training in specific job skills
- job search support such as resume development, interview skills training and help to look for suitable jobs
- support when initially placed into a job, including on the job training and co-worker and employer supports
- on the job support for at least 26 weeks, and ongoing if required
- purchase of vocational training and other employment related assistance
- access to help for your employer if required, such as workplace modifications.

How to access the Disability Employment Service

- You may choose to contact a DES provider directly.
 - The DES provider will determine whether you are eligible for assistance
 - They will refer you for an Employment Services Assessment (ESAt) if necessary which was formerly called a Job Capacity Assessment (JCA).
 - They will refer you to a more appropriate service if necessary.
- People who are looking for work should contact Centrelink Employment Services on 132 850 or visit their nearest Customer Service Centre.
 - Centrelink will register you as looking for work
 - They may complete a Job Seeker Classification Instrument
 - They may refer you for an Employment Services Assessment (ESAt) – this assessment is designed to identify the most appropriate employment service assistance and was formerly called a Job Capacity Assessment (JCA).
- School students can link in with a DES in the last 6 months of school to start planning for post-school employment.

Visit the following website to find a DES provider near you:

<http://jobsearch.gov.au/provider/providersearch.aspx>

Need more information?

Centrelink

Information for people with disability, illness or injury and looking for work

www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/individuals/iid_work.htm

JobAccess

Information and advice service to support the employment of people with disability

www.jobaccess.gov.au

Phone a JobAccess Adviser on FreeCall / TTY1800 464 800 or make an online enquiry at <http://jobaccess.gov.au/Advice/AdviserService/query.aspx>

About the Employment Services Assessment

www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Programs/Pages/ESAt.aspx