



REFORMED INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

CDEP WORK EXPERIENCE SUBSIDY (CWES)

What is the CDEP Work Experience Subsidy?

From 1 July 2009, wage subsidies will be available to employers who offer paid work experience to new Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) participants who are on income support.

Subsidy period

All CWES placements are for a minimum of 13 weeks and a maximum of 12 months.

CWES is payable for a minimum of 7.5 hours paid work experience per week, to a maximum of 15 hours per week. This does not preclude employers from offering paid work experience in excess of 15 hours, however no subsidy is payable to the employer for work experience hours over 15 hours per week.

Participants are entitled to a maximum of 12 months CWES in any three year period.

Payment schedule

CWES payments are paid retrospectively to the employer.

All CWES placements will be for a minimum of 13 weeks with the first payment becoming due to the employer after 13 weeks from commencement of the new CDEP participant.

Eligible participants

To be eligible to attract the subsidy, the participant must:

- be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; identify as Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander; and be accepted as such by the community in which the participant lives or has lived
- be currently unemployed and registered as looking for work with a Job Services Australia provider
- be receiving eligible income support payment, and
- be referred to an employer by a CDEP provider.

Note: Continuing CDEP participants who are receiving CDEP wages are not eligible for CWES.

Eligible employers

To be eligible to attract the subsidy, the employer must be:

- in the private, public or community sector and have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- responsible for all costs associated with the employment of a CWES participant including relevant insurance, workers compensation, superannuation (where applicable), and the payment of wages as per the relevant legal industrial arrangement.

Where the CDEP provider offers a paid work experience placement to an eligible CWES participant in their own organisation, all eligibility requirements (for participant, position and employer) must apply.

A paid work experience participant must be employed under a legal industrial arrangement, made under Australian, state or territory law.



How do I apply as a job seeker?

- Visit deewr.gov.au/Indigenous and download the application form.
- Employers should submit the application form within 28 days of the CDEP participant commencing paid work experience.
- Applications can be submitted by:
 - Email waadmin@deewr.gov.au.
 - Fax 02 6276 9617
 - Post CDEP Work Experience Subsidy
Indigenous Employment Program Branch
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
GPO Box 9880
Canberra ACT 2601

How do I apply as an employer?

- Employers will need to provide:
- trading name or registered name and address
 - an ABN
 - full bank details, including branch, BSB and account numbers
 - details of a contact person for their business, including name, email and phone number
 - the number of employees currently employed, and the number currently receiving CWES
 - details of the referring CDEP provider
 - details of the paid work experience participant, including their date of birth and Centrelink job seeker ID
 - the date the job seeker commenced their paid work experience placement, expected length of the work experience placement and the weekly hours of the placement.

More information

- Call the Indigenous Employment Line on **1802 102** or
 - visit deewr.gov.au/Indigenous.
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