



# REFORMED INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

## GENERAL OVERVIEW

The reformed IEP aims to increase employment for Indigenous Australians, supporting the Government's commitment to halve the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous employment outcomes within a decade.

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### Who should read this?

Employers, Indigenous individuals, Indigenous business owners or those thinking of starting a business, Indigenous communities and other organisations who want information about the reformed Indigenous Employment Program (IEP) which commenced on 1 July 2009.

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### What has changed?

The reformed IEP:

- is designed to be more flexible and responsive
- supports a broader range of activities
- has new elements including voluntary mobility assistance, language, literacy and numeracy and aspiration building
- has new simplified contracting arrangements
- is easier to access
- has reduced red tape.

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### What will be funded?

Under the reformed IEP, support is available for activities that increase employment opportunities and participation for Indigenous Australians and that will offer value for money. This could include activities that:

- encourage and support employers to provide sustainable employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians
- encourage and prepare and support Indigenous Australians to take up training and employment opportunities, stay in jobs and enhance their future employment prospects
- help Indigenous communities, industry bodies and groups of employers to develop Indigenous workforce and economic development strategies that support local and regional economic growth
- help Indigenous Australians to develop sustainable businesses and economic opportunities in urban, regional and remote areas.

Individuals, communities and organisations can access assistance directly from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), or indirectly from the two panels of providers which have been established to help provide services under the reformed IEP. When an enquiry is lodged, DEEWR will recommend the appropriate support.

The Government is also increasing access to accredited language, literacy and numeracy training under the Workplace English Language and Literacy (WELL) program. WELL can be made available to IEP participants who are either employed or expected to be placed in employment as a result of IEP participation.

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**What is unlikely to be funded?**

While the reformed IEP is very flexible, there are some activities that are unlikely to be supported.

More information about what is unlikely to be funded can be found in the accompanying *Indigenous Employment Program Guidelines 2009-2012*.

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**More information**

- Call the Indigenous Employment Line on **1802 102** or see the fact sheets at [deewr.gov.au/Indigenous](http://deewr.gov.au/Indigenous).
  - Read the accompanying *Indigenous Employment Program Guidelines 2009-2012*.
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