



Australian Government

# New Business Assistance

with NEIS

## Helping you to start a new small business

If you have an idea for starting your own small business, you may be eligible for New Business Assistance with NEIS.

There are 8,600 places available nationally each year, delivered by a network of 21 NEIS providers.

### How can New Business Assistance help?

New Business Assistance can help you by providing:

- accredited small business training
- personalised business mentoring and support from a NEIS provider in the first year of your NEIS Business
- NEIS Allowance for up to 39 weeks and NEIS Rental Assistance (up to 26 weeks) (if eligible).

If you receive certain Department of Human Services (DHS) or Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) income support payments, you may be able to choose to remain on these payments while participating in New Business Assistance with NEIS.

### Am I eligible for New Business Assistance?

There are two parts to your eligibility.

Firstly, you can participate in New Business Assistance if you:

- are at least 18 years of age when starting your NEIS business
- are not prohibited by law from working in Australia
- are not an overseas visitor on a working holiday or an overseas student studying in Australia
- are available to participate in NEIS Training (if relevant) and work full-time in your proposed new Business
- have not participated in NEIS in the past year
- are not an undischarged bankrupt.

Secondly, your NEIS provider will assess your business idea. To be eligible, your business:

- cannot already be operating on a commercial basis
- has an independent structure
- is lawful and capable of withstanding public scrutiny
- has been assessed as commercially viable by your NEIS provider
- will be established, located and operated solely within Australia
- is structured so you have and maintain a controlling interest over the NEIS business while receiving New Business Assistance with NEIS.

Participating in New Business Assistance is competitive so NEIS providers are not able to accept all referrals, even if you are eligible.

### Want more information?

- Go to [jobs.gov.au/neis](https://jobs.gov.au/neis)
- Find your local NEIS provider on the *Find a Provider* page on [jobactive.gov.au](https://jobactive.gov.au)
- Talk to your jobactive, ParentsNext or Disability Employment Services provider or call the Employment Services Information Line on 13 62 68<sup>^</sup>

### Do you need help with this fact sheet?

If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450<sup>^</sup> and ask for the Employment Services Information Line on 13 62 68<sup>^</sup>.

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, you can use the National Relay Service. For more information, visit [www.relayservice.com.au](https://www.relayservice.com.au).

<sup>^</sup> Note that call charges apply for calls to '13' numbers from mobile phones.