



Australian Government



Help to relocate to take up a job - information for job seekers

What is relocation assistance?

The Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job program helps eligible participants to relocate to take up new work.

If you need to move away from home to take up an **ongoing job** or **short-term agricultural work** for at least six weeks duration, you may be able to get financial assistance to help cover the costs of your move.

Am I eligible for relocation assistance?

From 1 December 2020, all job seekers participating in employment service programs will be immediately eligible for the Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job program.

From 1 November 2020, relocation assistance will be available to people who relocate to harvest or regional areas to take up **short-term agricultural work**, including Australians who are not receiving income support and those with the right to work in Australia, excluding seasonal workers who are in Australia under the Seasonal Worker Program or The Pacific Labour Scheme.

How much assistance can I receive?

If you are a job seeker participating in an employment service program and you are relocating to take up **ongoing work**, you may be eligible to receive up to:

- \$3,000 if you relocate to a capital city
- \$6,000 if you relocate to a regional area
- an extra \$3,000 if you relocate with a dependent.

If you are an Australian or you have a visa that allows you to work in Australia, and you relocate to take up **short-term agricultural work**, you may be eligible to receive up to:

- \$6,000 if you are an Australian worker

- \$2,000 if you are a visa holder with the right to work in Australia

Where can I move to?

When you relocate to take up **ongoing work**, or **short-term agricultural work**, your new location must:

- be within Australia
- be at least 90 minutes away from where you currently live, based on your normal mode of transport
- not be within the same capital city
- be in one of 16 Harvest Trail Service areas or a regional or remote area

How do I find the Harvest Trail Service areas?

Visit www.jobsearch.gov.au/harvest to find out more about Harvest Trail Service areas.

What can I use the assistance for?

Relocation assistance is flexible and can be used for a range of items, such as:

- rent
- Travel
- some employment-related expenses.

Your employment services provider will help decide if you can receive assistance as a reimbursement, directly to the supplier or where financial hardship is assessed, an upfront payment to cover basic items.

If you are a member of a couple, only one of you is entitled to apply for assistance.

What jobs can I do?

You can get relocation assistance if you move to take up any **ongoing work** including an apprenticeship. Your new job must be for more than 30 hours a week and ongoing for more than six months (15 hours or more per week for

Participants with an assessed Partial Capacity to Work).

You can get relocation assistance if you move to take up **short-term agricultural work**, including:

- Production of harvest crops, including picking and pollinating;
- Planting and preparation for planting of harvest crops;
- Propagation of harvest crops, including growing new plants from seeds
- Processing and packing operations for harvest crops, including animal products
- Manufacturing dairy produce from raw material

How do I apply for relocation assistance?

To check if you are eligible to apply for the Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job program, talk to your local jobactive, Disability Employment Services, ParentsNext, Transition to Work or Harvest Trail Services provider.

What are my responsibilities?

Participants must have received and accepted an offer of employment (with the job's start date and pay and conditions) and give the following to their provider:

- invoices, receipts or other evidence of valid relocation costs to be reimbursed to the Participant or directly to a supplier
- any other additional evidence, including quotes, requested by the Provider, as soon as is practicable
- a copy of the offer of employment if requested by the provider.

Want more information?

- Go to www.jobs.gov.au/relocation
- Call the Employment Services Information Line on 13 62 68*
- If you are registered with a jobactive, Disability Employment Services, ParentsNext, Transition to Work or Harvest Trail Services provider, ask them about eligibility information and what assistance you can receive, or call the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260*.

Do you need help with this fact sheet?

If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450* and ask for the Employment Services Information Line on 13 62 68* or the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260*.

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, you can use the National Relay Service. For more information, visit www.relayservice.gov.au.

** Note that call charges apply for calls to '13' and '1800' numbers from mobile phones.*