



Australian Government

A U S T R A L I A N A P P R E N T I C E S H I P S

Your Life. Your Career. Your Future.



Important:

Changes to the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payment, commencing on 1 January 2010, were announced in the 2009-10 Budget.

What are the changes to the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payment that will start on 1 January 2010?

From 1 January 2010, the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices initiative will be known as *Support for Adult Australian Apprentices*. Financial assistance provided under *Support for Adult Australian Apprentices* will be extended to include those aged 25 and over at the time they commence their Australian Apprenticeship.

Those Australian Apprentices or their employers who are currently receiving the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payment, and are still in their first or second year of their Australian Apprenticeship, will transition to the new payment on 1 January 2010.

Who will be eligible for Support for Adult Australian Apprentices payments?

You or your employer may be eligible to receive the *Support for Adult Apprentices* payment if:

- you are aged 25 or over when you start your Australian Apprenticeship
- you commence an Australian Apprenticeship at Certificate III or IV level in a trade experiencing a skills shortage
- you were eligible for the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payment in 2009 and you are still in your first or second year of your Australian Apprenticeship from 1 January 2010

How much will the Support for Adult Australian Apprentices payment be?

Under the *Support for Adult Australian Apprentices* payment there will be no change to the payments made to full-time Support for Mid-Career Apprentices recipients.

There will be a change to the payment made to part-time Support for Mid-Career Apprentices recipients. The existing Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payment rate will be adjusted to a standard rate of \$75 a week for the first year and \$50 a week for the second year from 1 January 2010. This change to the rate of part-time payments will not affect the overall worth of this incentive.

For more information

Australian Apprentices or their employers currently receiving Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payments and transitioning to the *Support for Adult Australian Apprentices* payment will receive information about the changes closer to 1 January 2010.

More information about *Support for Adult Australian Apprentices* payment will also be available on the Australian Apprenticeships website at www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au closer to 1 January 2010.