



Australian Government
**Department of Education,
Skills and Employment**

About the Australian Apprenticeship Priority List

The Australian Apprenticeships Priority List identifies trade, community and personal services occupations identified as experiencing national skills shortage.

The Australian Apprenticeships Priority List identifies occupations classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as Technician and Trade Workers and Community and Personal Service Workers and assessed by the National Skills Commission as being in national skills shortage.

An Australian Apprentice undertaking a qualification at either Certificate III, IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level leading to an occupation on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List may be eligible for an Apprentice Training Support Payment of up to \$5,000 for the first two years of their Australian Apprenticeship.

Employers of Australian Apprentices in Australia Apprenticeships Priority List occupations may be eligible for a wage subsidy of up to \$1,500 per quarter for the first two years of the apprenticeship and up to \$750 per quarter for the third year.

Employers of Australian Apprentices in occupations not identified on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List may be eligible for a hiring incentive of up to \$3,500 in the first year of the apprenticeship.

- For more information about the Australian Apprenticeship Priority List, contact your Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) provider.
- For more information on the National Skills Commission and the Skills Priority List go [here](#).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How have the occupations on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List been selected?

- The occupations on the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List meet the following criteria:
 - assessed by the National Skills Commission as being in shortage; and
 - classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) as either Technicians and Trades Workers (ANZSCO Major Group 3) or Community and Personal Service Workers (ANZSCO Major Group 4).
- These criteria were applied as they identify occupations with a labour market need and those most likely to involve an Australian Apprenticeship entry pathway.

How does the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List differ from the previous National Skills Needs List for Australian Apprenticeships?

- There is significant overlap between the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List and the previous lists that targeted funding under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program.
- The Australian Apprenticeships Priority List targets funding under the new Australian Apprenticeships Incentive System and replaces the former National Skills Needs List, the Priority Occupations List and the Additional Identified Skills Shortage list.
- The Australian Apprenticeship Priority List will be updated annually. The National Skills Needs List was last updated in 2011.

Were stakeholder submissions to the Review of the National Skills Needs List considered in the development of the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List?

- Yes, the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List is based on the Skills Priority List published by the National Skills Commission in June 2021.
- Stakeholder input to the Review of the National Skills Needs List was considered by the National Skills Commission in the development of the Skills Priority List.

Why does the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List rely on the work of the National Skills Commission?

- The National Skills Commission has primary responsibility for identifying occupations in national skills shortage, along with potential future demand across the Australian labour market.
- The Australian Government recognises the need for reliable and consistent skills shortage analysis to support the development of policy and programs nationally. Basing the new Apprenticeships Priority List on the work of the National Skills Commission is part of the Government's commitment to alignment in national skills forecasting.

How often will the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List be updated?

- The inaugural Australian Apprenticeships Priority List is based on the Skills Priority List published by the National Skills Commission in June 2021.
- The list will be updated annually in line with updates to the Skills Priority List published annually by the National Skills Commission.

How does the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List align with the Skills Priority List published by the National Skills Commission?

The inaugural Australian Apprenticeships Priority List is based on the Skills Priority List published by the National Skills Commission in June 2021. From 2023, the Australian Apprenticeships Priority List will be updated annually to more closely align with annual updates of the Skills Priority List published by the National Skills Commission.

Australian Apprenticeships Priority List

- Aged or Disabled Carer
- Agricultural Technician
- Airconditioning and Mechanical Services Plumber
- Airconditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Avionics)
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Mechanical)
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Structures)
- Arborist
- Automotive Electrician
- Baker
- Bricklayer
- Butcher or Smallgoods Maker
- Cabinetmaker
- Cabler (Data and Telecommunications)
- Carpenter
- Carpenter and Joiner
- Chef
- Child Care Worker
- Civil Engineering Draftsperson
- Civil Engineering Technician
- Cook
- Dental Assistant
- Diesel Motor Mechanic
- Diversional Therapist
- Drainer
- Electrical Engineering Draftsperson
- Electrical Engineering Technician
- Electrical Lines worker
- Electrician (General)
- Electrician (Special Class)
- Enrolled Nurse
- Farrier
- Fibrous Plasterer
- Fitter (General)
- Fitter and Turner
- Fitter-Welder
- Floor Finisher
- Furniture Finisher
- Gasfitter
- Glazier
- Greenkeeper
- Hairdresser
- Joiner
- Landscape Gardener
- Locksmith
- Meat Inspector
- Metal Casting Trades Worker
- Metal Fabricator
- Metal Machinist (First Class)
- Motor Mechanic (General)

- Motorcycle Mechanic
- Nurseryperson
- Nursing Support Worker
- Painting Trades Worker
- Panel beater
- Pastrycook
- Personal Care Assistant
- Plumber (General)
- Pressure Welder
- Roof Plumber
- Roof Tiler
- Shearer
- Sheetmetal Trades Worker
- Shipwright
- Signwriter
- Small Engine Mechanic
- Solid Plasterer
- Stonemason
- Technical Cable Jointer
- Telecommunications Cable Jointer
- Telecommunications Lines worker
- Telecommunications Technician
- Upholsterer
- Vehicle Painter
- Wall and Floor Tiler
- Welder (First Class)
- Wood Machinist