

# CPSISC News Bulletin

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Monday 11 January 2010

## Apprentice Kickstart Bonus

This is the time of year when many employers will be taking on apprentices. Many will have heard about the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus, and some would have already seen the Kickstart Bonus Fact Sheet but it might be useful to notify those who may not have heard of the bonus or have forgotten.



## What is the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus?

Between 1 December 2009 and 28 February 2010, the Australian Government will provide a \$3,350 *Apprentice Kickstart Bonus* to employers who take on a young person aged 19 years and under into a traditional trade Australian Apprenticeship. The introduction of the *Apprentice Kickstart Bonus* represents a tripling of Government support for employers of eligible Australian Apprentices in their first year of an Australian Apprenticeship.

The *Apprentice Kickstart package* also provides \$20 million to state and territory governments for *Increased Pre-Apprenticeship Training Opportunities*. Through increased provision of pre-apprenticeship training in the traditional trades, this initiative will provide a flow of suitable candidates for emerging traditional trade Australian Apprenticeship opportunities resulting from the economic recovery.

These initiatives aim to continue the development of a highly skilled workforce and provide individuals with greater job opportunities to benefit the Australian economy as we move through the global recession into economic recovery and beyond.

## Where can I find out more?

You can download a Fact Sheet from the website:

<http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/about/publications.asp>

Or go to:

[http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/Australian\\_Apprentice/Kickstart.asp](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/Australian_Apprentice/Kickstart.asp)

Please note that the bonus is only available until 28 February.



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.



## Apprentice Kickstart Bonus

### What is the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus?

The Apprentice Kickstart Bonus is an employer incentive designed to counteract the impact of the global recession on commencements and retention of young people in traditional trade Australian Apprenticeships.

### Who is eligible for the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus?

Employers who employ an Australian Apprentice who is aged 19 years and under and is undertaking a Certificate III or IV level qualification that leads to a skills shortage trade occupation.

Trade occupations in national skills shortage are those listed on the National Skills Needs List (NSNL), which is available at [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au).

The Apprentice Kickstart Bonus is payable for commencements from **1 December 2009** until **28 February 2010**, or until 21 000 Apprentice Kickstart Bonus commencements have occurred over this period in a qualification leading to an occupation listed on the NSNL.

The employer must also meet eligibility requirements under the *Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program*.

[www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)

### What financial support is available to employers?

The Apprentice Kickstart Bonus is a total of \$3,350 paid in instalments of:

- \$850 paid at the three month point of the Australian Apprenticeship; and

- \$2,500 paid at the nine month point of the Australian Apprenticeship.

### Are the new payments in addition to existing support for employers of Australian Apprentices?

Yes. The new payment is in addition to the suite of employer incentives already available under the *Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program*.

Employers of Australian Apprentices at the Certificate III level and above may already be eligible to receive \$4,000 in incentives comprising a \$1,500 commencement incentive and a \$2,500 completion incentive.

### How long is the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus available for?

The Apprentice Kickstart Bonus is available for commencements between **1 December 2009** and **28 February 2010**, or until 21 000 Apprentice Kickstart Bonus commencements have occurred over this period.

### How are the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus payments made?

Payments are made directly to the employer's nominated bank account.

### How do I apply?

Your Australian Apprenticeships Centre will advise you of your eligibility for the Apprentice Kickstart Bonus at sign up.

**For more information**

Contact your Australian Apprenticeships Centre. If you do not know the name of your Australian Apprenticeships Centre, call the Australian Apprenticeships referral line on 13 38 73.