

## **Back to Work Teams**

### **ABOUT BACK TO WORK**

Back to Work is a two year \$100 million package that gives businesses the confidence to employ jobseekers in regional Queensland and provides an economic boost to regions facing challenging times. The world is in transition following the unwinding of the commodities boom - economies and jobs are changing. Queensland is not immune.

We know some regions, some employers and some jobseekers need a confidence boost and support. Back to Work is an assistance package aimed at those regions and those individuals who need our help the most.

Back to Work provides:

- support for employers to build confidence to take on employees;
- support for regions doing it tough; and
- support for jobseekers to build confidence, upskill and retrain for jobs in a more agile Queensland economy.

### **What will the Back to Work Teams do?**

Back to Work Teams will help build regional employment solutions, identify and meet local need, and help create the capacity needed to meet emerging needs.

### **FOR EMPLOYERS**

Back to Work Employer Officers will help employers navigate the employment system – particularly if they are looking to recruit disadvantaged jobseekers. They will work with employers to:

- identify job opportunities and help to articulate the skills/attributes required;
- help them access the available supports to help fill vacancies, including working with schools, jobactive or Skilling Queenslanders for Work;
- provide advice on available subsidies and supports and how to access them;
- provide advice on the training opportunities and pathways available to increase skills and to assist workers to adapt to a changing employment landscape; and
- support them to work with employees to foster retention, particularly of priority cohort jobseekers.

Employer Officers will focus on businesses looking to grow or diversify, with a focus on identified priority industries for the region.

Particular attention will be paid to employers who are considering employing disadvantaged jobseekers including young people, long term unemployed, people with a disability, mature aged jobseekers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

# **BACK TO WORK**

*regional employment package*

## **FOR JOBSEEKERS**

Back to Work Jobseeker Officers will help jobseekers or those at risk of losing their jobs to: navigate the training system; get career advice that helps them to find a job that suits them; and find training that is linked to real jobs in the region. They will:

- help jobseekers to determine their individual skills as well as services and supports which may be of assistance;
- provide independent advice on career and training opportunities;
- help jobseekers navigate the training system and link them with training connected with jobs in the region; and
- work effectively with new employees through the first 12 months of employment.

Jobseeker Officers will have two key target groups

- Unemployed people – particularly those who are traditionally disadvantaged in the labour market. This includes young people, long term unemployed, people with a disability, mature aged jobseekers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- At-risk workers - existing workers who are at risk of losing their job and who require reskilling to move to alternative employment opportunities.

## **FOR REGIONS**

Employers, jobseekers and the Back to Work Teams will work together to build regional networks, build regional capacity and create local opportunities. They will:

- work with a regional network that works to identify regional employment creation opportunities and priorities;
- build relationships between, and provide support to, employers, industry groups, trainers and employment services to improve employment outcomes for young people, long-term unemployed, culturally and linguistically diverse jobseekers, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander jobseekers;
- develop or support the development of resources which close information gaps and facilitate greater understanding of programs and services available to employers and jobseekers; and
- identify systemic gaps in and encourage the collaborative development of solutions to join up the service system.

## **HOW TO ACCESS BACK TO WORK TEAMS**

Back to Work is a regional employment package and applies in regions outside of South East Queensland. Back to Work Teams are being rolled out in stages from 1 July 2016 across the following regions: Wide Bay Burnett, North Queensland, Far North Queensland, Mackay/Whitsunday, Central Queensland, North West and South West.

To contact your local Back to Work Team or for more information

go to [qld.gov.au/backtowork](http://qld.gov.au/backtowork) or call 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or email [backtowork@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:backtowork@treasury.qld.gov.au).