

BACK TO WORK

South East Queensland

Important Program Updates from 1 July 2018

The geographic program delivery areas for the Back to Work SEQ program are changing soon. Applications under the existing program can continue to be accepted until 30 June 2018.

From 1 July 2018, eligible Local Government Areas (LGAs) for Back to Work SEQ will be:

- Logan
- Scenic Rim
- Ipswich
- Lockyer Valley
- Somerset and
- Moreton Bay.

Why will Back to Work SEQ only be available in these LGAs from 1 July 2018?

The initial 12 month Back to Work SEQ program has been highly successful and was always due to end on 30 June 2018. The continuation of the Back to Work SEQ program was announced as part of the Queensland Government's 2018 State Budget on 12 June 2018.

From 1 July 2018, Back to Work SEQ will be available in areas of South East Queensland which continue to experience significant labour market challenges.

When will the new eligibility criteria take effect?

The new eligibility criteria will take effect from 1 July 2018. The Back to Work SEQ Guidelines for Funding 2018-2020 and Terms and Conditions will apply to applications received from an eligible employer from 1 July 2018 (subject to funding availability).

What payments are available in Back to Work SEQ from 1 July 2018?

Employer Support Payments of up to \$15,000 will be available for eligible employers who hire a long term unemployed jobseeker (unemployed for 52 weeks or longer).

Youth Boost Payments of up to \$20,000 will be available for eligible employers who hire an eligible unemployed young jobseeker (aged 15-24 years and unemployed for four weeks or longer).

Will there still be support available to me after the 30th June 2018?

Back to Work Teams will still be available to support all employers and jobseekers with any Back to Work SEQ related matters regardless of when the application was made.

Employers not eligible for a Back to Work payment can still obtain a [Work Start](#) incentive payment, for hiring a new trainee or apprentice who had previously participated in a Skilling Queenslanders for Work project. Depending on eligibility, a \$10,000 incentive applies or \$20,000 for young people aged 15-24.

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When will I need to finalise my application to be considered eligible for the Back to Work SEQ program under the 2017-2018 program eligibility criteria?

All applications for the Back to Work SEQ program in areas that will no longer be eligible from 1 July 2018 must be submitted in QGrants by 11.59 pm, 30 June 2018.

Applications received after this date will be assessed under the new 2018-2020 Guidelines for Funding. This means that the job offered will need to be located in an eligible LGA under the new program guidelines to be considered for assessment. If your employee commenced work with you in a job located in an LGA that remains eligible under the new Guidelines then please complete your application as normal.

The Mature Age Worker Boost Payment is only available for applications submitted in QGrants by 11.59 pm, 30 June 2018. If the payment you are applying for was for a Mature Aged unemployed jobseeker who was unemployed 52 weeks or longer, you may still be eligible for an Employer Support Payment of up to \$15,000.

I have already had my initial application approved under the current Back to Work SEQ Guidelines for Funding. Can I still make a claim for my second or final payment?

The Back to Work program will still be processing second and final payment claims. Employers will be sent a reminder as claims become due.

It is important to note these payment claims must be received by the Back to Work Team within 12 weeks of the employee completing:

- for the second payment, 26 weeks of continuous employment
- for the final payment, 52 weeks of continuous employment.

I have had applications approved before 30 June 2018 and the location of the job I am offering is in an eligible LGA under the new program. Will that have impact on the application cap?

No, the application cap has not changed. Each eligible employer may claim a maximum of five Back to Work SEQ applications from the pre and post 30 June 2018 programs combined. This cap applies to SEQ Employer Support, Youth Boost and Mature Aged Worker Boost payments and combinations of those payment types. Once a total of five initial payment applications have been approved, no further initial payment applications can be accepted.

Further Information

To find your local Back to Work Team or obtain further information:

Visit: qld.gov.au/backtowork

Call: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Email: backtowork@treasury.qld.gov.au