



## IMPORTANT FACTS FOR EMPLOYERS OF AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES

### Kickstart Bonus Extended 12 May 2010 – 12 Nov 2010

Key points:

- Kickstart Bonus of **\$3,350** is paid to the employers in two instalments:
  - **\$850** after 3 months
  - **\$2,500** after 9 months
- This is in addition to the commencement incentive of **\$1,500** and completion incentive of **\$2,500**.
- Payable to employers with less than 200 employees.
- Apprentice must be 19 years and under on commencement of apprenticeship and must be undertaking Cert III or IV level qualification in a skills shortage trade.

For more information on Kickstart contact:  
lee.gross@aigroup.asn.au

### Government's Securing Apprenticeships Initiative

The Securing Australian Apprenticeships initiative provides financial support to employers who create new opportunities for eligible Australian Apprentices to continue their incomplete (but formally STA approved) training, or who successfully complete Australian Apprentices, at the Certificate III or IV level in Skill Shortage Trades, or in selected Diploma or Advanced Diploma level Qualifications.

#### Financial support consists of:

- Recommendation Bonus of funding **\$1,800** paid at 12 week point after recommencement where the recommencement occur on or after 1 January 2009
- Completion payment of **\$1,000** payable upon successful completion in respect of Australian Apprentices who successfully complete on or after 1 January 2009.

#### Payments will be made through Apprenticeship Centre and will be available for two years until 31/12/2010.

The new payments are in addition to the existing incentives payable to employers of Australian Apprentices comprising of:

- Commencement **\$1,500**
- Completion up **\$2,500**
- Recommencement **\$750**

For more information go to:  
www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

### What are the new Tools for Your Trade payment

The Tools for Your Trade payment was announced in the 2009–10 Budget. It combines three existing initiatives previously available to Australian Apprentices, the Tools for Your Trade voucher, Apprenticeship Wage Top-Up and the Commonwealth Trade Learning Scholarship. The new payment totals **\$3,800** and will be paid directly to the Australian Apprentice over the life of their Australian Apprenticeship training.

#### At what point will eligible Australian Apprentices receive payment?

The new payment, which commences 1 January 2010, will be delivered as five tax exempt cash payments totalling **\$3,800** over the life of the Australian Apprenticeship. Payments will be made as follows:

- **\$800** payable after three months.
- **\$800** payable after 12 months.
- **\$800** payable after 24 months.
- **\$700** payable after 36 months.
- **\$700** payable upon successful completion.

Part-time Australian Apprentices or Australian School-based Apprentices will also receive the first payment once they have completed three months of training.

For more information on New Tools for your Trade go to: [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)

### Changes to the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices payment commencing on 1 January 2010

From 1 January 2010 the Support for Mid-Career Apprentices initiative is known as **Support for Adult Australian Apprentices**. Financial assistance up to **\$13,000** over the first two years of an apprenticeship is extended to include those:

- Australian Apprentice aged 25 or over when they start an Australian Apprenticeship
- Commence an Australian Apprenticeship at Certificate III or IV level in a trade experiencing a skills shortage
- Australian Apprentice is still in their first or second year of Australian Apprenticeship from 1 January 2010

There will be no changes to the payments made to full-time Support for Mid-Career Apprentices of:

- **\$150** per week paid for the first year of the apprenticeship
- **\$100** per week paid for the second year of the apprenticeship

There will be changes to the payment of part-time Support for Mid-Career Apprentices, the change to the rate of part-time payments will not affect the overall worth of this incentive.

- **\$75** per week paid for the first year
- **\$50** per week paid for the second year

Payments are either paid to the employer to subsidise wage costs or the apprentice, to boost their wage depending on the actual wage paid to the apprentice.

For more information about Support for Adult Australian Apprentices go to:  
[www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)

### Workers Compensation Exemption

For new or renewed policies commencing on or after 31 December 2006, the wages you pay to an apprentice will no longer be used to assess your premium. The amount of premium saved will vary depending on the number of apprentices employed, the apprentice's wage rate, and the employers WorkCover Industry Classification.

For direct advice contact WorkCover NSW on 13 10 50 or [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au)

### Payroll tax arrangements for apprentices and trainees

New arrangements for the payment of payroll tax for apprentices and trainees in NSW take effect from 1 July 2008. Prior to 1 July 2008, wages paid to apprentices and new entrant trainees in NSW were exempt from payroll tax. From 1 July 2008, this exemption no longer applies and all employers are required to include the wages and salaries paid to apprentices and new entrant trainees in their payroll tax calculation.

A rebate scheme replaces this exemption. Rebates are provided by the Office of State Revenue (OSR) by allowing the amount of the rebate to be offset against monthly payroll tax payments. OSR provide this offset facility through their monthly calculator online service.

This facility will be available for the first monthly payroll tax return for the 2008–09 tax year, which is due on 7 August 2008.

For more information contact the Office of State Revenue on 02 9689 6200 or visit the website:  
[www.osr.nsw.gov.au](http://www.osr.nsw.gov.au)