

Changes to CITB Apprentice and Trainee Support

The CITB has recently reviewed the support we provide for apprentices and trainees to successfully complete their on-job and off-job training and qualifications. As part of the review we considered:

- The nature and extent of the raft of Commonwealth and State Government incentives currently available to support apprentice and trainee employment and training and ensuring there is no duplication across government and CITB incentives or subsidies;
- How we might simplify the way CITB incentives or subsidies are applied or delivered and improve the experience for our customers; and
- Where we should reinforce the success of current CITB initiatives.

As a result of these considerations we have made some changes to our apprentice and trainee support payments from 1 July 2021 that affect how much we pay, when it is paid, and who it is paid to.

The new Apprentice Training Support (ATS) payment combines the previous On-Job Training and Tuition subsidies into one payment. This allows the CITB to deliver a single payment to employers to cover the costs of off-job and on-job training, supervision and assessment.

It will be paid at the commencement of the 2nd and 3rd year of an apprenticeship. Bringing the ATS payment forward over these two years acknowledges the current significant government support for apprentice employment and training in the first and last year of an apprenticeship, and the importance of cash-flow for small businesses.

It will be paid directly to the employer to remove the requirement for Registered Training Providers (RTO) to 'split' off-job trade training invoices between employers and the CITB.

To qualify for the ATS payment the apprentices or trainees must:

- Be under an active Training Contract (TC) as advised by Trainee and Apprenticeship Services (TAS), irrespective of their eligible employer status, or
- Be completing a CITB approved qualification as published on the CITB website, and
- Have commenced their TC on or after 1 July 2019.

ATS funding conditions

Eligible employers receiving the ATS payment must:

- Comply with the obligations described in the TC and supporting Training Plan (TP) lodged with the relevant State Government department.
- Ensure the apprentice/trainee is still employed by them at the time the ATS claim is submitted.
- Agree to pay the relevant RTO directly for all off-site and associated trade training and assessment costs for the eligible apprentices/trainees supported by the CITB ATS payment.
- Acknowledge that if the TC for a CITB supported apprentice or trainee is terminated within six months of receiving an ATS payment, and the apprentice or trainee has not completed their annual off-site and associated trade training and assessment in accordance with their TP, then the CITB will seek to recover 50% of the ATS payment.



Apprentice Training Support - TC commencing on or after 1 July 2019.



Funding rates are adjusted to 50% for qualifications in electrical, data & voice, and refrigeration.

Apprentices or trainees that commenced their TC before 1 July 2019 will remain eligible for funding under the current apprentice and trainee support framework as detailed below.

Apprentice Training Support - TC commencing before 1 July 2019.



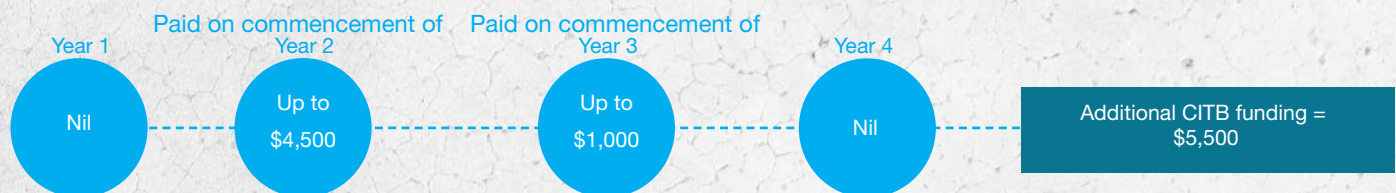
Funding rates are adjusted to 50% for qualifications in electrical, data & voice, and refrigeration.

CITB incentives in addition to ATS

From 1 July 2021 and over the 21/22 financial year the CITB will also:

- Reinforce the success of the Aboriginal Workforce Development Initiative (AWDI) by increasing the number of funded places to 100. AWDI provides an additional \$2,500 each year, paid on the anniversary of the commencement date, directly to the employer; and
- Replace the Targeted Adult Apprenticeship Placement Initiative with funding for 200 Mature Age Supplement (MAS) places. The MAS has been set at a rate that completely closes the cost gap of on-site supervision and training for a mature age apprentice. It will be available to the employers of mature age apprentices under direct indenture or through CITB endorsed GTOs.

Mature Age Supplement (MAS) - paid to employers in addition to ATS



We expect the current Commonwealth and State Government incentives will be reviewed early in 2022. The CITB will review apprentice and trainee support payments once the outcomes of that review are known. Please note the ATS funding rates may change with 4 weeks notice at the discretion of the CITB.

If you have any questions please contact us at citb@citb.org.au or speak with the Apprentice Training Support team on **08 8172 9500**.