



## Seasonal Worker Programme

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This programme is specifically for horticultural growers who are unable to find enough local Australian workers to meet their seasonal labour needs. It provides access to seasonal workers from Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste, who can return in following seasons, giving employers a reliable, returning workforce when they need it.

**How to access the programme:** Growers must be initially approved to participate in the program. Following this, they should contact an approved employer who can manage the recruitment of seasonal workers.

To apply to participate visit **[employment.gov.au/how-become-approved-employer](https://www.employment.gov.au/how-become-approved-employer)**

To find a current list of approved employers visit **[employment.gov.au/listing-current-approved-employers](https://www.employment.gov.au/listing-current-approved-employers)**





**Australian Government**

# Support for Australian horticultural growers to find and recruit seasonal workers



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## Seasonal Work Incentives Trial

The Australian Government is undertaking the Seasonal Work Incentives Trial from 1 July 2017 to help meet the seasonal labour demands of horticultural growers.

The two year Trial offers financial incentives to support people to take up short term seasonal work opportunities in the horticultural industry by providing them with an opportunity to earn more income without affecting their income support payment.

People who are receiving Newstart or Youth Allowance (other) for three months or more and also participating in jobactive, Transition to Work or Disability Employment Services are eligible to participate in the Trial.

There are two incentives to encourage participation in the Trial:

- Participants can earn an extra \$5,000 each financial year without it affecting their income support payments.
- Participants may receive a Living Away and Travel Allowance of up to \$300 each year if the placement is more than 120 km from their home.

The Trial is being delivered through jobactive, Transition to Work and Disability Employment Services providers. Under the Trial, these providers will work closely with growers to ensure they understand their needs and place the right workers in their jobs. Employment services providers will receive a weekly incentive payment, for the duration of the seasonal horticultural work placement, for up to six weeks, under the Trial.

Growers who need workers should contact a jobactive, Transition to Work or Disability Employment Services provider to discuss their labour needs. They are located across Australia, and their contact details are available at [jobsearch.gov.au/providers](http://jobsearch.gov.au/providers).

Growers in the horticultural industry are often in need of short-term labour during peak times, particularly during harvest. The Australian Government has a number of programs that help growers access suitable workers.



## Harvest Labour Services

Harvest Labour Services are specialist providers who link job seekers with harvest employers offering seasonal work.

These providers can assist by:

- providing immediate help when there are insufficient local workers
- screening job seekers to make sure they are suitable for harvest work and permitted to work in Australia
- putting job seekers in touch with growers requiring workers.

The service is offered in eleven harvesting areas across the country.

**How to access the services:** Contact the Employer Hotline on 131 715, or search for a provider in your area at [jobsearch.gov.au/providers](https://www.jobsearch.gov.au/providers) (search by provider type). In the provider type field, select 'Harvest Labour Services' from the drop down menu.

