



FACT SHEET

Eligibility for the Group Training Organisation Wage Subsidy

The Group Training Organisation (GTO) Wage Subsidy has been introduced in response to a WA State Government election commitment, to assist small to medium enterprises (SMEs) working on government projects in the building and construction sector, and non-government residential construction projects.

The GTO Wage Subsidy commenced on 1 January 2022, and will assist SMEs by providing access to apprentices and trainees employed through group training organisations (GTOs).

The GTO Wage Subsidy covers the average estimated award wage payable to apprentices and trainees in the building and construction sector, for the period of time the apprentice or trainee remains actively employed in a training contract registered with the Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD).

The GTO Wage Subsidy does not cover superannuation, leave and other allowances, overtime or over-award payments.

Eligibility

GTO eligibility criteria

To be eligible for the GTO Wage Subsidy program, a GTO must be:

- 1 registered with DTWD to operate as a GTO in Western Australia;
- 2 compliant with the *National Standards for Group Training Organisations*, or managing minor non-compliances with DTWD through an approved action plan;
- 3 offering apprenticeships and traineeships in [Priority Start](#) trade qualifications;
- 4 working with a registered training organisation (RTO) funded by DTWD;
- 5 engaging apprentices and trainees to work on government projects in the building and construction sector, and non-government residential construction projects; and
- 6 hosting apprentices and trainees to small and medium enterprises (SME) working in the construction industry in WA.

Eligible apprenticeships and traineeships

To be eligible for a place in the program, GTOs must enter into a training contract with a new apprentice or trainee:

- that has nominated a qualification in scope of the Priority Start program;
- who lives and works in Western Australia (including the Indian Ocean Territories);
- who is hosted to an SME;
- who has an active training contract(s) registered with DTWD's Apprenticeship Office, that commences:

- on or after 1 January 2022 and on or before 30 June 2023 (government projects only); or
- on or after 1 July 2023 and on or before 31 December 2024 (government building and construction projects, and non-government residential construction projects).

GTOs who were allocated places in the 2022 program, and the 2023 program prior to 1 July 2023, will continue to be required to commit to hosting apprentices and/or trainees, to SMEs working on contracted government projects, for a reasonable portion of their employment.

Priority groups

Eligible GTOs are encouraged to enter into training contracts with:

- apprentices and trainees from regional WA;
- female apprentices;
- Aboriginal people; and
- people with disability.

If there is a strong demand for places from 1 July 2023, these groups will be prioritized.

Program exclusions

The GWS does not apply to:

- training contracts that are in receipt of subsidies under the Construction Training Fund (CTF) mature age wage gap subsidy; and
- school-based apprenticeships or traineeships.

Further information

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