Information for employers

What is the new Australian Apprenticeship Support Network?
The Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (the Apprenticeship Network) will replace the existing Australian Apprenticeships Centres from 1 July 2015 and will make it much easier for employers like you to recruit, train and retain apprentices and trainees.

The Australian Government will invest up to $200 million annually to establish the new Apprenticeship Network services in 440 locations. These services will be available to employers and apprentices throughout the apprenticeship lifecycle, from commencement to completion and will comprise two service types:

- **Universal services** for all employers, providing essential administrative, payment processing and regular contact; and
- **Targeted services** for employers and individuals assessed as needing additional support to complete the apprenticeship.

How can the Apprenticeship Network help me recruit?
Apprenticeship Network providers can provide customised services to you before the apprenticeship starts, and assist by selecting the apprenticeship that is most suited to you and the apprentice.

The Apprenticeship Network can also assist employers who want to attract and recruit apprentices for the first time. Apprenticeship candidates can be screened to assess their aptitude and suitability prior to matching individuals with an employer. These services will help ensure candidates are well-suited to an Australian Apprenticeship, can hit the ground running and are the “right fit” apprentice doing the right training for your requirements.

Apprenticeship Network providers will support you and your business as you sign-up to the training contract, as well as assess your eligibility for Australian Government incentives.

How will the Apprenticeship Network help me train?
Apprenticeship Network providers will work with you to identify the right training for your apprentices and make sure they get the skills they need for your business.

They will engage with State Training Authorities to help manage administration of apprenticeship arrangements through to completion, including training contract, training plan approvals and completion arrangements.

You will be regularly contacted by your Apprenticeship Network provider as the Australian Apprenticeship progresses and you can contact your provider any time you need help. The Apprenticeship Network providers will focus on supporting employers and their apprentices through to completion.

How will the Apprenticeship Network help me retain my Australian Apprentice?
Targeted services will identify apprentices who are at high-risk of not completing their apprenticeship so that tailored support, such as mentoring, can be provided. You will also receive tailored assistance if you are facing difficulties retaining an apprentice in training.

Who can access the Apprenticeship Network?
Any employer can access the Apprenticeship Network. It will support both new and existing employers. It is expected that the Apprenticeship Network will be used by more than 100,000 employers (three-quarters of whom are small businesses) training more than 350,000 apprentices.

Where can I find out more?
The Apprenticeship Network will commence from 1 July 2015 and provide services nationwide.

For more information, or to learn about Apprenticeship Network providers in your area, call 13 38 73 or go to www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au.