



## **Press Release**

### **Covid 19 stimulus measures for Apprentices and Trainees to make positive impact**

The National Australian Apprenticeship Association warmly congratulates the Morrison Government on the measures to support employers of apprentices and trainees through the Covid 19 pandemic.

The seven organisations that comprise the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network assist all apprentices and trainees in Australia. They will be an essential part of the stimulus response by implementing a 50% wage subsidy over the next nine months.

Around 120,000 small businesses will be initially eligible for the subsidy to encourage them to keep employing their apprentices and trainees.

Apprenticeship Network Providers are planning to administer an additional 360,000 payments during the pandemic through a network of over 460 local offices distributed around Australia.

“Our network will rise to the challenge and ensure that as many apprentices and trainees as possible keep their jobs during the Covid 19 outbreak” said Ben Bardon CEO of NAAA.

“We will also support Group Training Organisations and larger companies that will employ out of trade apprentices during this period” Mr. Bardon said.

The \$1.3 billion investment is a bold and proportionate measure to ensure that Australia emerges from the pandemic with the next generation of skilled workers intact.

“It’s a vote of thanks to the small businesses that are the backbone of the apprenticeship system in Australia. It recognises the vital role they play in skills formation and employment.” Mr. Bardon said.

“ANPs support all apprentices, trainees and their employers throughout Australia, we help build community capacity and we are here to support all our communities to get through the Covid19 pandemic” Mr. Bardon said.

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