



Smart, skilled and hired

Youth Employment Program

The Youth Employment Program is a \$65 million NSW Government program that targets young people aged 15 to 24 years in regions with the highest youth unemployment rates. It is designed to help young people overcome employment barriers and get them into sustainable jobs, by working closely with local businesses and employers. The program is part of the government's \$100 million Smart, Skilled and Hired initiative.

The program is being delivered by the local service providers who will work closely with local employers, organisations and non-government organisations (NGOs) to connect eligible young people with training, support and jobs. It also assists them to overcome barriers to employment and gain skills and experience that will improve their long-term job and socio-economic prospects.

The flexible nature of the program allows the providers to design tailored support plans for program participants across areas including accommodation and transport, training, and health and wellbeing, while also considering factors like the local labour market.

Locations

The program is delivered in the following regions: Western Sydney, Central Coast/Hunter, New England/North West and North Coast.

These regions have been identified as having some of the highest youth unemployment rates in NSW.

Eligibility

The program supports young people aged 15-24 years living in the target regions, not registered with Commonwealth employment programs and who are not in work or are underemployed—like early school leavers; people in transition between school, training and work; and at-risk groups including young offenders.

Accessing the program

Young people can access the program by directly approaching the program providers or by referral from non-government services, or other NSW Government agencies such as Family and Community Services (FACS), Aboriginal Affairs, Health, and Juvenile Justice.

Providers

Western Sydney	MAX Solutions, MTC and yourtown
Hunter/Central Coast	Advanced Personnel Management (APM) and The Salvation Army Employment Plus
New England/North West	BEST Employment and Joblink Plus
North Coast	TAFE NSW and Job Futures (CHESS, Workways, Uniting)



\$65 million investment



Supporting young people (aged 15-24) to find employment



In regions identified as having the highest youth unemployment in NSW



For more information

Young people and prospective employers can find out more at

 industry.nsw.gov.au/youthemployment