FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO TAKE ON APPRENTICES

The Territory Government has released $900,000 in new incentives to encourage and assist businesses to take on apprentices and trainees as part of its efforts to build the Territory’s workforce.

Employment and Training Minister Paul Henderson said the grants are part of the Government’s Jobs Plan 3.

“Jobs Plan 3 is about building the Territory’s skilled workforce and providing employers and employees with practical skills and training to access the many opportunities in our strong economy,” Mr Henderson said.

“We are well on track to meeting our target of 10,000 apprentice and trainee commencements over four years – reaching almost 6500 – but we know it can be difficult for businesses to take on a trainee.

“These new financial incentives offer practical support for businesses to help meet their skills shortages and keep the Territory’s home-grown talent here in the Territory.”

Two hundred incentives valued at $4000 each are available for businesses who take on an apprentice or trainee in an occupational shortage area.

“Importantly, this category has been extended from Jobs Plan 2 to include all skill shortage areas, not just those in skilled trades, recognising the growing strength of our economy,” said Mr Henderson.

“For the first time, businesses can now also access incentives for taking on an apprentice or trainee from a disadvantaged group, such as Territorians from remote areas, Indigenous Territorians or recent migrants.

“These incentives are valued at $2000 each, with 50 available in this round of funding.”

“The Northern Territory is forecast to have the highest job growth rate in the country over the next five years and Jobs Plan 3, including financial incentives for business, is one way the Government is working to ensure Territorians benefit from our strong economic future.”

To find out more about Jobs Plan 3, visit www.deet.nt.gov.au/employment or phone 08 8901 1357.

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