



## Trade Support Loans – at a glance

### What is a Trade Support Loan?

Apprentices and trainees working in skills need areas may be eligible for a Trade Support Loan (TSL) of up to \$20,808 to help them cover the costs of living and learning.

TSLs are flexible to meet your individual needs with payments hitting your nominated bank account every month.

As an additional incentive, you'll get a 20 per cent discount on your loan when you successfully complete your apprenticeship.

The loans are interest free but indexed annually with the consumer price index.

### How much can I borrow?

You have the choice of how much you borrow and what you spend your money on.

You can opt-in and out of the loan at any time and can borrow a small amount, say \$1000, or take the full \$20,808 over four years.

The loan amounts are highest in the early years of training when your wages are lower.

Payments have annual limits of:

- \$8,323 in year one
- \$6,242 in year two
- \$4,162 in year three
- \$2,081 in year four.

### How do I get a Trade Support Loan?

To opt-in for a TSL talk to your local Apprenticeship Network provider.

They will take you (and your parent or guardian, if you're under 18) through the loan program in detail and lodge the paperwork.

### How do I pay the loan back?

You will only start repaying your loan when you're earning an annual income of over \$51,957.

Repayments are made through the tax system (like a university HELP loan). If you notify your employer they can make repayments automatically

### What can I spend the loan on?

It's your loan so you choose how to spend the money – but remember you will have to pay the money back!

You could buy work gear like tools or boots, use the money to cover living expenses, or even save up your payments to buy a second hand car or ute.

If you're old enough to have a job you're old enough to manage a loan and the Government believes this program will encourage financial responsibility.

### Who is eligible?

To be eligible you must be an apprentice or trainee studying (Cert III or IV qualification) in an area that leads to an occupation on the Trade Support Loans Priority List.

Apprentices or trainees studying agriculture or horticulture (Cert II, III or IV qualification), in regional and rural areas may also be eligible for the loan.

Full-time, part-time and school based apprentices and trainees can access the loan.

### Can existing apprentices get a loan?

Yes, apprentices can opt-in for a loan in line with the year of your apprenticeship.



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## Current National Skills Needs List

- Airconditioning and Mechanical Services  
Plumber
- Airconditioning and Refrigeration  
Mechanic
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Avionics)
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer  
(Mechanical)
- Arborist
- Automotive Electrician
- Baker
- Binder and Finisher
- Boat Builder and Repairer
- Bricklayer
- Butcher or Smallgoods Maker
- Cabinetmaker
- Carpenter
- Carpenter and Joiner
- Cook
- Diesel Motor Mechanic
- Drainer
- Electrical Linesworker
- Electrician (General)
- Electrician (Special class)
- Electronic Equipment Trades Worker
- Fibrous Plasterer
- Fitter (General)
- Fitter and Turner
- Fitter-Welder
- Floor Finisher
- Furniture Finisher
- Gasfitter
- Glazier
- Hairdresser
- Joiner
- Landscape Gardener
- Lift Mechanic
- Locksmith
- Metal Fabricator
- Metal Machinist (First class)
- Motor Mechanics (General)
- Motorcycle Mechanic
- Optical Mechanic
- Painting Trades Worker
- Panel Beater
- Pastrycook
- Picture Framer
- Plumber (General)
- Pressure Welder
- Printing Machinist
- Roof Plumber
- Roof Tiler
- Screen Printer
- Shearer
- Sheetmetal Trades Worker
- Signwriter
- Small Engine Mechanic
- Solid Plasterer
- Stonemason
- Telecommunications Linesworker
- Telecommunications Technician
- Toolmaker
- Upholsterer
- Vehicle Body Builder
- Vehicle Painter
- Vehicle Trimmer
- Wall and Floor Tiler
- Welder (First class)
- Wood Machinist

## Additional skills priority list

- Agriculture
- Horticulture (in rural areas only)