# Logo Blind Citizens Australia Logo An eye to the Future

# Disability Employment Services information sheet

**What are Disability Employment Services?**

Disability Employment Services provide specialist employment assistance to support people with disability, injury or health condition to find and retain suitable employment in the open labour market. This fact sheet focuses on supports for people with disability and employers.

**Who provides these services?**

Providers of Disability Employment Services are sometimes called DES providers for short. DES providers are a mix of large, medium and small, for-profit and not-for-profit organisations that are experienced in supporting people with disability as well as providing assistance to employers to put in place practices that support the employee in the workplace.

**What are the main parts of Disability Employment Services?**

Disability Employment Services has two parts:

Disability Management Service is for job seekers with disability, injury or health condition who need assistance to find a job and occasional support in the workplace to keep a job.

Employment Support Service provides assistance to job seekers with permanent disability to find a job and who need regular, ongoing support in the workplace to keep a job.

**If I don’t have a job, how can Disability Employment Services assist?**

If you’re looking for work, a DES provider can support you to:

Get ready to work

Train in specific job skills

Write your resumé

Develop your interview skills

Look for jobs that suit you

**How can Disability Employment Services assist if I have a job?**

If you have a job, a DES provider can support you with:

On-the-job training

Speaking to your boss and co-workers to explain aspects of your disability

Ongoing support in your job

Modifying your workplace

**What if my job is at risk because of my disability?**

If you risk losing your job due to illness, injury or disability, you can get help from a program called Work Assist. For more information, begin here:

<https://www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability/work-assist>

**How can I find a DES provider if I don’t have one?**

To find a provider near you, visit the Australian Government’s job search website and begin by selecting ‘job seekers.’ You can then search using your postal code and the type of provider (ensure you select a type of DES provider from the dropdown menu): <https://jobsearch.gov.au/>

**How can I register for Disability Employment Services?**

You can register for Disability Employment Services through a DES provider (see above for finding a DES provider). Then, contact your chosen provider and ask them to register you. Please note that your DES provider may suggest you get an Employment Services Assessment if you need one.

**What supports are available to employers or potential employers of people with disability?**

There are several options here including wage subsidies: <https://www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability/subsidised-wages-people-with-disability>

In addition, there is a program called Work Assist which provides support to eligible employees who have difficulty fulfilling the essential requirements of their role due to their injury, disability or health condition. The DES provider will work with the Work Assist participant and their employer to provide assistance to maximise support to keep working. For more information, begin here:

<https://www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability/work-assist>

Where can I go for more information?

You can visit the JobAccess website (national hub for employment information for people with disability and employers) where there is a series of information sheets on Disability Employment Services:

<https://www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability/available-support/1631>

Blind Citizens Australia acknowledges the use of content on the JobAccess website to create this information sheet.