

Minister's Introduction

In one of my first duties as the Minister for Families and Social Services, I am happy to announce that 39 projects will share \$48.5 million in funding under the second and final round of the Try, Test and Learn Fund. These trial projects will help address barriers to work for mature unemployed people, working-age migrants and refugees, working age carers, at-risk young people, and other groups at risk of welfare dependency.

This is in addition to the Australian Government's \$23 million investment in 14 tranche 1 projects to assist young parents, young carers, students and at-risk young people to remain in education or enter the workforce.

I am particularly impressed with the range of innovative Try, Test and Learn Fund projects that the Australian Government is supporting across the country.

As a former small business owner in country South Australia, I know first-hand the value of education and work experience—it helps people get a foot in the door and can be the first critical step towards long-term employment. But not everybody gets the same opportunities to take these first critical steps.

As you know, the Try, Test and Learn Fund focuses on building the evidence base for what works to help particular disadvantaged groups of people get on track, so that they can have better life outcomes for themselves and their children.

Tranche 2 received a high volume and high quality of applications. I would like to thank each and every one of you who took the time to apply. It was a very competitive round and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I am sure you will join me in looking out for the results of these trials into the future.

Senator the Hon. Anne Ruston, Minister for Families and Social Services

Tranche 2 update

The assessment of the 443 applications received for tranche 2 has been finalised. All grant applicants should by now have received notification from the Department of Social Services; anyone who has not received notification should contact the Community Grants Hub. While we are unable to provide individual feedback on applications, we do provide a <u>general feedback summary</u>. We encourage all applicants to read this summary on the Community Grants Hub website to support your future endeavours.

We will progressively publish details of all tranche 2 projects on the department's website.

Keep updated and in touch

More information about the TTL Fund can be found on the department's <u>website</u>. You can also contact us at <u>TTLFund@dss.gov.au</u>.

Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to your networks, and encourage them to sign up for updates <u>here</u>.