



Disability Employment Reforms June 2025 Factsheet

A new specialist disability employment program

National Panel of Assessors (NPA) program

Inclusive Employment Australia (IEA) is a new specialist disability employment program that will replace the Disability Employment Program later in 2025.

In line with the IEA program, the National Panel of Assessors (NPA) program will continue to provide high-quality assessment services.

The role of independent NPA providers

The National Panel of Assessors (NPA) is a standing panel of independent assessment service providers contracted to provide assessments to support the needs of people with disability in the workplace.

Services provided by NPA providers will continue to play an important role in helping people with disability in employment. The Australian government is currently undertaking a tender process to identify a suitable network of NPA providers to deliver high-quality assessment services.

Future NPA providers will continue to deliver the following independent assessments.

- Ongoing Support Assessments (OSA): NPA providers will deliver OSAs to ensure that
 IEA participants receive the Ongoing Support they need in the workplace to maintain
 sustainable employment. The approach for these assessments will be updated to align with
 the new IEA program.
- **Supported Wage System (SWS):** NPA providers will deliver SWS Assessments to determine productivity-based wages for eligible people with disability.
- Workplace Modifications Services (WMS): NPA providers will provide WMS
 Assessments to recommend reasonable workplace modifications (such as equipment or assistive technology) that will assist people with disability to undertake their employment duties.

Next steps

Existing NPA providers need to continue to monitor the Provider Portal for any updates to the transition process.

The Department of Social Services will continue to release further information about the procurement process for selecting providers to deliver services under the new program.

More information

For more information about the disability employment reforms, visit the <u>Department of Social Services</u> website. This website, along with the Provider Portal and <u>JobAccess</u> website, will be updated with new information as it becomes available.

For any queries, please contact the NPA Policy team at NPA.Assessors@dss.gov.au.