

Topic 5: Australian Apprenticeships Centres

Australian Apprenticeships Centres (AACs) (formerly New Apprenticeship Centres) are located in over 300 sites across Australia and provide information and services to employers and people interested in becoming apprentices or trainees. AACs are nationally funded by the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST).

Services of Australian Apprenticeships Centres include:

- Acting as a *one stop shop* for employers and employees providing information regarding all aspects of training agreements including advice on available apprenticeships and traineeships, RTOs in the local area, Australian and Queensland Government incentives and allowances for employment and training, and the roles and responsibilities of all parties.
- Arrangement of all the paperwork necessary to establish an apprenticeship or traineeship, including personalised help with sign ups. No Training Agreement can be sent direct to DETA without going through an AAC. It is the employer's right to choose the AAC, not the school's. All employers must use an AAC, including GTOs.
- Processing the Commonwealth incentives paid to employers by DEST, including commencement payments, progression payments, and various other incentives.

The relationship between DETA and each of the AACs is underpinned by a Deed of Agreement which has been endorsed by the Commonwealth. This sets out the roles, responsibilities and arrangements between AACs and DETA. For example, it allows AACs read only access to DELTANET.

Useful websites:

- www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au
- www.trainandemploy.qld.gov.au/partners/