

Regional Skills Relocation Grant

Fact sheet



Regional Skills Relocation Grant

The NSW Government has established the Regional Skills Relocation Grant to increase the availability of skilled and experienced workers for businesses setting up in, relocating to, or existing in regional NSW.

Grants will be available for regional NSW businesses operating in eligible industries to assist with the relocation costs of eligible skilled workers moving from metropolitan areas to regional NSW.

Approved businesses will be reimbursed up to \$10,000 to assist with the relocation expenses incurred by the eligible skilled workers they employ. The relocation expenses covered by this grant are:

- furniture removal
- travel for immediate family to relocate
- temporary accommodation for up to three months
- furniture storage for up to three months.

The NSW Government has committed \$10 million for applications over the next four years; \$2.5 million will be available each year, providing 250 grants of up to \$10,000.

Eligible industries

Eligible industries vary by region and are identified in the Regional Economic Development Strategies (REDS). These regions normally have a competitive advantage and tend to trade goods outside the local area or sell services to non-locals. Retail and restaurants are ineligible because they only operate and sell locally. Examples of eligible industries include:

- agriculture
- forestry
- manufacturing
- mining
- tourism.

The government has determined eligible industries for each region using the applicable REDS prepared by the Centre for Economic and Regional Development. Further information on industry eligibility is available at dpc.nsw.gov.au/REDS

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Eligibility

Eligible businesses must be operating in a regional NSW eligible industry and:

- are relocating to, or setting up in, regional NSW and creating at least five ongoing full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in a regional local community

or

- are already operating in regional NSW and seeking to recruit eligible workers.

The business must be seeking employees that:

- are relocating from a metropolitan area to regional NSW, with the regional residence being at least 50 kilometres from the original metropolitan residence and within the region of the eligible business
- have an occupation listed on the NSW Department of Industry Skilled Occupation List, found at industry.nsw.gov.au/skilled-occupations-list
- are Australian citizens or permanent residents on the date they commence employment.

How to apply

Businesses can register their interest with the NSW Department of Industry Investment Concierge Service. Registered businesses operating in eligible industries will be invited to complete an eligibility form.

1. Register

- Businesses setting up in, relocating to, or already operating in regional NSW register with the NSW Department of Industry Investment Concierge Service.

2. Eligibility

- Registered businesses operating in applicable eligible industries are invited to complete an eligibility form.
- Eligible businesses receive confirmation and a grant pre-approval ID, valid for six months.

3. Activation

- Businesses notify the department within five days of filling the role and complete a grant activation form.
- The department determines the eligibility of the employee and provides confirmation of grant activation.

4. Claim

- Eligible employees must have worked a minimum of three months before relocation costs will be reimbursed.
- Businesses submit the reimbursement form with copies of paid invoices to receive the grant payment.

5. Evaluation

- The business and employee complete an evaluation survey up to 12 months from the employee's commencement date.

More information

All initial enquiries should be directed to the NSW Department of Industry Investment Concierge Service at:
e: industry.nsw.gov.au/regional-investment
p: +61 2 8222 4888