



Remote Jobs and Economic Development program

The Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program is coming for people living in remote areas of Australia. It will start in the second half of 2024 and create 3000 jobs over three years.

The RJED program will:

- create local, paid jobs with good conditions
- let communities decide what jobs are created
- be developed in partnership with First Nations peoples.

How will the RJED program work?

Communities will identify the jobs they want and need. The Government will pay for these jobs to be created so community organisations and local government can hire local people.

There will also be a fund for businesses to apply for money for minor equipment and capital. This will help create jobs by giving money to projects the community wants and needs.

Because each community is different, the RJED program may be different in each place.

Some communities already know what jobs they need straight away, while others will need more time.

People will still have support from the Community Development Program (CDP) if they need it until 30 June 2025, before a new remote employment service begins.

How will the RJED program be designed?

We are designing the RJED program by talking to the people who it will impact.

This includes people living in remote communities, First Nations peoples, community organisations, CDP providers and participants and peak bodies.

In 2023, we heard from more than 2250 people and visited more than 100 CDP remote communities about what a new program should look like.

They said a new program should:

- be planned and led by communities
- recognise roles carried out in communities
- take a new approach for youth



- support local jobs and people
- be flexible
- invest in local priorities
- assist people who can't work right now

The next phase of community consultations to help design the new RJED program is being held between April and the end of June 2024.

Around 200 remote communities within the [60 current CDP regions](#) are being consulted on how the program could work, and what types of jobs might be needed.

A [First Nations Reference Group \(FNRG\)](#) was also established in March 2024 to oversee and advise on the design and implementation of the RJED program.

The FNRG is partnering with Government to provide advice on the design and implementation of the new program.

The current [three job trials](#) underway – the New Jobs Program Trial, CDP Trial and Ngaanyatjarra Lands Trial – are also helping us test what works and what doesn't work so we can create the best possible program for the future.

Is this like the old Community Development Employment Projects?

The RJED program will be different to the Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP). Past programs like the CDEP did have some benefits but there were also things that were unfair.

The new program will:

- make sure people are paid properly and have good conditions (including leave and superannuation)
- create jobs that communities want and need
- be much easier for community organisation employers to manage

For more information

- Visit niaa.gov.au/remote-jobs
- Email us at remote.jobs@niaa.gov.au
- [Subscribe for updates](#) on remote employment
- Contact your [local NIAA regional office](#) on 1800 079 098

