Remote Australia Employment Service

What a new service means for providers

Australian Government

The Australian Government is replacing the Community Development Program (CDP) with the Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES – pronounced RAYS).

This service will support around 40,000 job seekers who are currently looking for work, or may need help to become job ready, to get the skills and resources they need to take up job opportunities. This includes jobs created through the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program.
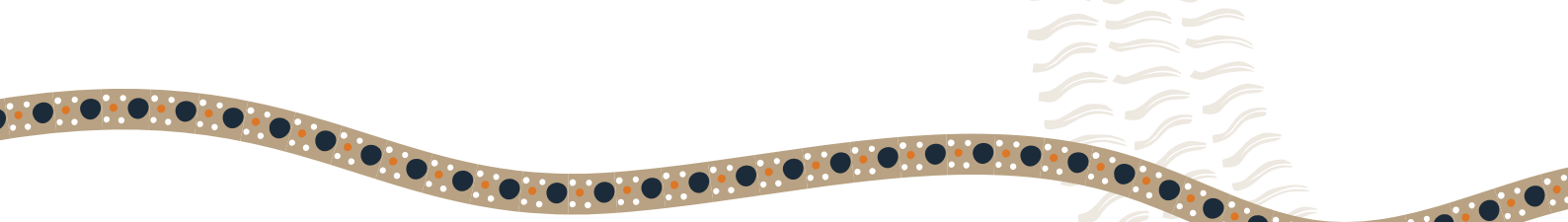
This service will begin on 1 November 2025, with a smooth transition for RAES providers and job seekers currently on CDP.

As a RAES provider, you will:

- ✔ Help job seekers prepare for work and stay employed with greater access to mentoring and tailored support.

- ✔ Support job seekers get ready for work through engagement in community projects or participation options.

- ✔ Support improved service delivery in critical areas identified by the community.

- ✔ Invest in training and resources to deliver higher quality, culturally safe services.

- ✔ Link job seekers with employment pathways and support them to move into work.

You may also contribute to pilots that will happen in a small number of regions to:

- ✔ Trial new approaches to build language, literacy and numeracy.

- ✔ Trial ways to improve job seekers assessment processes.

I want to be a provider under the new service - how do I apply?

Interested organisations in **RAES regions** (currently known as CDP regions) are able to apply for funding to provide remote employment services.

The Grant Opportunity Guidelines (GOGs) for RAES opened on 30 June 2025. There is only one chance to apply, and this grant round is competitive. This means that the NIAA will be assessing each application against other applications in the same areas.

Is there grant support available?

- ✓ The dedicated RAES Helpdesk is available for support during the application period. Reach out by calling **1800 939 500** or emailing **RAESHelpdesk@niaa.gov.au**.

- ✓ There are two online information sessions where potential applicants can hear information directly from NIAA officials and ask questions.

- ✓ There is also grant writing support available for eligible organisations.

- ✓ Find details at **niaa.gov.au/remote-services**.

For more information

Visit **niaa.gov.au/remote-services**

Subscribe for email updates on remote employment via the website

Call your local National Indigenous Australians Agency regional office on **1800 079 098**

View a map of where RAES will operate at niaa.gov.au/raes-regions

Read a factsheet on the website about the Remote Australia Employment Service