



Remote Jobs and Economic Development Program

The Remote Jobs and Economic Development Program (RJED) 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 Remote Jobs and Economic Development Program (RJED) 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 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.

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, 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

We are also learning from [three different trials](#) that are currently taking place.

We will continue talking to people as we implement the RJED program about what is working and what isn't working.

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.

Under CDEP, people did not get fair workplace conditions such as:

- a paid job
- good wages
- decent conditions
- superannuation
- leave.

Plus, community organisations had to do complicated paper work.

The new RJED program will include leave and superannuation. It will also be simpler for community organisations to get involved and to manage.

For more information

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