

Mutual Obligation Requirements for Self-Employment Assistance Participants

Factsheet for Participants

What are Mutual Obligation Requirements?

Mutual Obligation Requirements are the tasks and activities job seekers agree to do while receiving certain Centrelink payments. Compliance action may apply if they are not met.

How does Self-Employment Assistance help me meet my Mutual Obligation Requirements?

Accessing certain Self-Employment Assistance services can contribute to your points target or fully meet your Mutual Obligation Requirements.

Exploring Self-Employment Workshops

These workshops help participants generate and test business ideas, and decide if they want to be self-employed. Workshop participants who have a points requirement as part of their Mutual Obligation Requirements are awarded 20 points per week while participating in a workshop. If you are undertaking these workshops you will need to look for work and complete the minimum job search requirement to meet your monthly points requirement.

Small Business Training

Small Business Training helps participants develop the foundational business skills required to start and run a successful small business.

Participating in Small Business Training will meet your Mutual Obligation Requirements for up to 8 weeks. Participating in Small Business Training will earn you 25 points per week and you are not required to complete the minimum jobsearch as part of your points requirement. You should report your participation weekly via the Workforce Australia website, mobile app or to your Workforce Australia Service provider.

For the 8 week period while you are participating in Small Business Training you are not required to undertake other activities such as attending appointments with a Workforce Australia Services provider.

Small Business Coaching

Small Business Coaching provides you with up to 52 weeks of business mentoring and other support while they establish and/or develop their small business.

Most recipients of income support payments who commence Small Business Coaching are required to transfer from their income support payment to Self-Employment Allowance – a payment equivalent to the basic rate of JobSeeker Payment. This means that they have no Mutual Obligation Requirements while accessing Small Business Coaching.

If you are receiving certain types of income support (such as Disability Support Pension or Parenting Payment) you may remain on that income support payment while accessing Small Business Coaching. If that Participant has Mutual Obligation Requirements, participating in Small Business Coaching will fully meet those requirements for the duration of their participation.