

LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

This PDF has been created for digital preservation. It may be used for research but is not suitable for other purposes. It may be superseded by a more current version or just be out-of-date and have no relevance to current situations.



Forest information kit

Information Sheet no 2

WORKERS' ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If you are a forest worker and have been made redundant as a result of the State Government's *Protecting our old growth forests* policy, then you may be eligible for the WA Worker Assistance Program.

The types of assistance are outlined below.

For more detailed information, see the Western Australian Worker Assistance Guidelines, available from the Forest Liaison Officer (contact details below).

Who can apply?

Timber workers whose employment has been directly affected by Government policy and those workers retrenched by businesses that close because the owners have accepted Business Exit Assistance.

What types of assistance are available?

If you meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Worker Assistance Guidelines, you may be eligible for the following types of assistance.

Pre/post redundancy training: This includes short training courses that help assess skills, aid in planning career goals and identify options for the future.

Vocational training: Up to \$5,000 will be available for workers to access training to improve language and literacy skills, gain a skill or qualification to take up a local work opportunity, or to gain a skill or qualification to secure employment in another area. The assistance will be available to cover the cost of training courses (including books and fees), return travel between the training site and home and accommodation expenses.

Employment assistance: Up to \$3,000 may be available as an incentive to an employer to

engage a displaced employee in full-time or part-time employment.

Travel and relocation assistance: Up to \$2,000 will be available for expenses incurred in travel for job interviews, job search activities, or expenses incurred in relocating to another area.

Mortgage and rent assistance: Up to \$5,000 will be available for costs associated with the sale of a home and the purchase of a new home, or for moving from one rental home to another. Funds will also be available to cover rental or mortgage payments.

Special redundancy payment: A special redundancy payment is available to eligible Western Australian Timber Industry Assistance program workers.

Review of decisions

If your application for assistance is rejected, you are entitled to have the decision reviewed by the Worker Assistance Advisory Committee.

How to apply

If you believe you are eligible to apply for any of the assistance options outlined above, contact the Forest Liaison Officer at the address below.

For Workers in the south-west region

Forest Liaison Officer
Worker Assistance Program
20 Giblett Street
Manjimup WA 6258
Freecall: 1 800 139 777
Telephone: (08) 9777 2486
Fax: (08) 9777 2498

For workers in the northern region

Jobmate
8 Kent Street
East Victoria Park WA 6101
Telephone: (08) 9470 5566