

What is ParentsNext?



ParentsNext is a pre-employment program that assists parents with young children to identify their education and employment goals, develop a pathway to achieve their goals and link them to activities and services in the local community.

Since April 2016 ParentsNext has been operating in 10 locations around Australia. ParentsNext project providers operate at a local level and have strong connections with community organisations, they deliver tailored assistance which varies depending on the needs of each parent and their family.

ParentsNext has engaged thousands of parents and had a positive impact on their lives and those of their young children. Feedback from both participants and providers has been extremely positive. Parents are receiving the support and guidance they need to find their pathway into employment.

National Expansion

From 1 July 2018 ParentsNext will be expanded nationally. The national rollout will consist of two streams.

Intensive ParentsNext

The intensive ParentsNext stream will operate in 30 locations, the 10 current locations and 20 further locations selected due to the high proportion of Indigenous parents in receipt of Parenting Payment.

This stream will have a stronger emphasis on getting parents into work, by providing connections to pre-employment training, mentoring, work experience, wage subsidies, and job opportunities.

ParentsNext providers will be expected to deliver assistance appropriate for Indigenous parents including a high level of community engagement.

Funds will be made available to providers to assist parents by paying for services such as mentoring, training, post-placement support, work related assistance, non-vocational assistance and participant support.

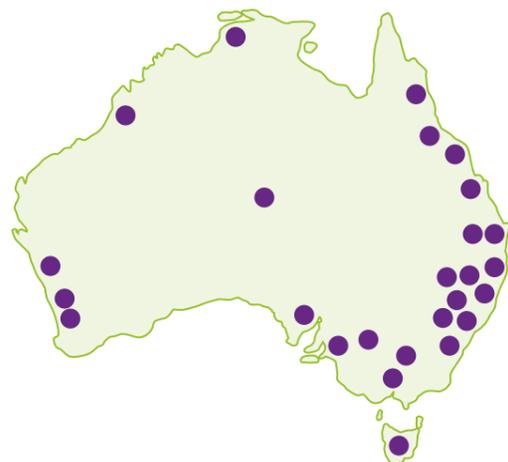
Providers will be eligible for education and/or employment outcome payments when a parent completes education courses or gains sustainable employment.

Targeted ParentsNext

The targeted ParentsNext stream will assist the most disadvantaged parents and will operate in all 51 employment regions covered by jobactive (except where the intensive stream is operating).

Parents eligible for the targeted ParentsNext will receive tailored assistance to identify education and employment goals, develop a pathway to reach those goals and connect with local services in their local community.

Intensive ParentsNext areas



Who will be eligible for ParentsNext

From 1 July 2018 parents will be eligible for ParentsNext if they have been:

- receiving Parenting Payment for the last six months,
- have had no earnings during this period,
- have a child aged under six years,

AND

- fall into one of the following groups

Intensive – 30 locations

Compulsory participants

- Early school leavers aged under 22 without year 12 and have a youngest child at least **six months of age**.
- Are assessed as being highly disadvantaged and have a youngest child at least **six months of age**.
- Have a youngest child **aged five**.

Voluntary participants

Other Parenting Payment recipients **can** participate voluntarily.

Locations

NSW: Bankstown, Wyong, Shellharbour, Dubbo, Sydney Central, Mid Coast, Orange, North Coast Tamworth

NT: Darwin-Palmerston, Alice Springs

SA: Playford, Port Adelaide, Port Augusta & Whyalla

QLD: Cairns, Logan, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Mackay, Townsville

WA: Kwinana, Perth-South, Perth-East, Geraldton and Broome

Tas: Burnie and Brighton

Vic: Greater Shepparton, Hume and Mildura

Targeted - other locations (non-remote)

Compulsory participants

- Early school leavers aged under 22 without year 12 and have a youngest child at least **one year of age**.
- Are assessed as being highly disadvantaged and have a youngest child at least **three years of age**.
- Are in a jobless family and have a youngest child **aged five**.

Voluntary participants

Other Parenting Payment recipients **cannot** participate voluntarily.

Locations

All 51 employment regions (where intensive stream is not operating)

Get the know-how here:

employment.gov.au/parentsnext

Next Steps - indicative

August – September 2017	Late 2017 – 2018	Late 2017 – 2018	May – June 2018	1 July 2018
Consultation with stakeholders about the ParentsNext national expansion.	Purchasing process, seeking proposals for ParentsNext providers.	Development and tabling of new legislative instrument to support eligibility for ParentsNext	Successful applicants set-up ParentsNext services	ParentsNext commences (doors open Monday 2 July 2018)