

Advance Notice of Opening for Applications to the Innovative (Disability) Workforce Fund

Applications Open 6 March to 27 March 2017

The Innovative Workforce Fund (the Fund) is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

- support projects that explore more efficient and effective ways to engage, develop and utilise the disability workforce;
- build a strong evidence base that supports innovative approaches for participants of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The Fund has been established from an allocation of the Sector Development Fund and will be administered by National Disability Services.

Applications will open on **6 March 2017**, and will be accepted from organisations and individuals throughout Australia.

Applicants must address one or more of the following four Fund priority areas:

Stream 1: Redesign support worker roles and test new work roles, including strategies to improve access to allied health-related supports in areas of thin supply such as shared workforce and allied health assistant models.

Stream 2: Streamlined administration practices such as human resources, recruitment and retention of staff, including work arrangements that demonstrate more effective workforce utilisation, supervision and support.

Stream 3: Role of technology in workforce practices.

Stream 4: Workforce development in rural and remote areas (including Indigenous workers) and strategies to build capacity to attract and develop the workforce in thin markets.

Applications for three project types will be sought, including showcase projects funded up to \$200,000.

Applications will not open until 9am on Monday 6 March 2017.

At this time, you will be able to apply and access funding guidelines at www.workforce.nds.org.au/innovation.

For more information, contact Leila Wright, Project Manager, Innovative Workforce Fund, National Disability Services, leila.wright@nds.org.au.