



NOT WORKING: EXPERIENCES OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS WITH JOBACTIVE

August 2017



Refugee Council
of Australia



Why focus on refugee and migrant jobseekers

- “Refugees & migrants” in this report refer to:
 - refugee and humanitarian entrants
 - non-humanitarian migration pathways (including family, skilled & student)
- Refugees and migrants face significant barriers in seeking employment
- Meaningful employment is critical to successful settlement
- There are social, economic and community benefits in supporting people gain employment

Research Objectives & Scope

- The report highlights key barriers that refugees & migrants face under the Federal Government jobactive arrangements
- The report recommends changes to the jobactive model to effectively meet the unique needs of refugees & migrants
- Fairfield LGA is the primary focus of the study but it covers feedback gathered across Australia by RCOA's consultations
- Fairfield LGA is primary area of settlement, receiving 36% of Australia's humanitarian entrants (visa subclass 202 and 200) from late 2016 to April 2017

Research Methodology

- Fairfield Multicultural Interagency (FMI) conducted 102 qualitative surveys of refugees and migrants' experiences of Jobactive, from June 2016 to December 2016
- The surveys were designed to elicit qualitative data about the issues, desires and employment barriers refugees and migrants face
- The case studies were supplemented by 66 annual RCOA consultations conducted with refugee communities around Australia in 2016

Key Barriers

- Lack of specialised jobactive providers
- Choosing between learning English and looking for work
- Streaming and the Job Seeker Classification Instrument
 - Particularly the issue of assessment of people with disability
- Compliance driven approach

Key Barriers

- Limited support with resume writing and interview preparation
- Job plans and lack of awareness of rights and responsibilities
- Under-use of interpreters and lack of translated materials
- Inappropriate Work for Dole placements

Key Barriers

- Lack of support for the use of technology
- Lack of respect

There are also a number of longstanding barriers to employment:

- Lack of opportunity to get Australian work experience
- Difficulties in recognition of prior qualifications and experiences
- De-skilling rather than upskilling

Recommendations

The Australian Government to:

- Develop a national multicultural employment strategy
- Review & improve jobactive services
- Invest in targeted employment programs
- Invest in knowledge sharing through research

Innovative and specialised employment initiatives



navitas English | AMEP

AMEP-SLPET Course Information Sheet

Term 1, July - September 2017

Learn English and gain local work experience through the free* Settlement Language Pathways to Employment Training Program (SLPET) courses for AMEP eligible students.

Course Objectives

Course Structure

Course Details

Course	Level	Hours	Days	Enrolment Dates	Course Dates	Course Location
English for Employment	Level 1 English for Employment (E1E)	100	Monday - Friday	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Navitas - The Settlement Centre
English for Employment	Level 2 English for Employment (E2E)	100	Monday - Friday	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Navitas - The Settlement Centre
English for Employment	Level 3 English for Employment (E3E)	100	Monday - Friday	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Navitas - The Settlement Centre
English for Employment	Level 4 English for Employment (E4E)	100	Monday - Friday	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Monday 20 June 2017 - Friday 14 July 2017	Navitas - The Settlement Centre

navitas-english.com.au/slpet

navitas English | 0800 888 888 | www.navitas-english.com.au



bright[™]
employment
creating career pathways

Ignite
small business
start-ups
AN SSI INITIATIVE

Thrive
REFUGEE ENTERPRISE