



Australian  
Human Rights  
Commission



IncludeAbility

# Self-employment



Easy Read

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CID made this document Easy Read.

You need to ask CID if you want to use any of the pictures.

Contact CID at [business@cid.org.au](mailto:business@cid.org.au).

## About this guide



This guide is about self-employment.



**Self-employment** means you have your own business.



You do **not** work for a company or organisation with regular pay.



You get paid because you sell a product or service.



**Product** means a thing you can sell.

Like

- Clothes
- Cars



**Service** means you get something done for someone else.

Like

- A haircut
- Fix a car

# About self-employment



People who are self-employed are also called

- Small business owners
- Independent contractors
- Freelancers



You can do different kinds of work when you are self-employed.

Like

- Hairdresser
- Plumber
- Lawyer



Many people with disability are self-employed.

This is because you can



- Earn money



- Do something you like



- Choose who you work with

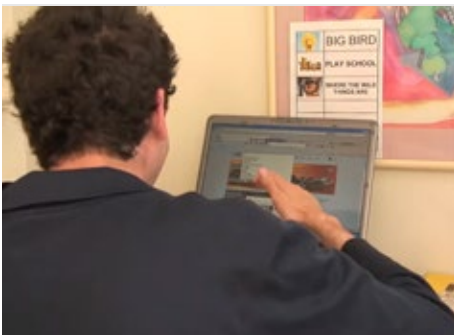


- Get the right support

## Adams story



Adam is self-employed.



He set up his own business.

It is called Adams Apple.



Adam has autism.



He had an idea to bring food boxes to peoples houses.



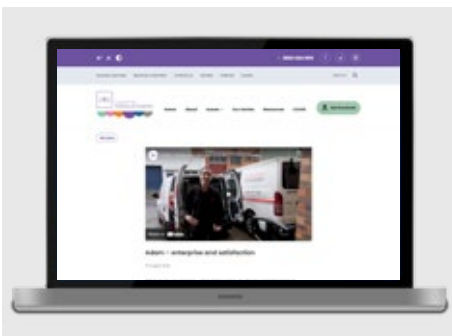
He talked to Food Connect Sydney about his idea.



He picks up the boxes from the warehouse.  
Then he brings to box to the right place.



Adam has run his business for more than 10 years.



You can watch a video about Adams story.

Go to

**[www.cid.org.au/our-stories/adam-enterprise-and-satisfaction](http://www.cid.org.au/our-stories/adam-enterprise-and-satisfaction)**

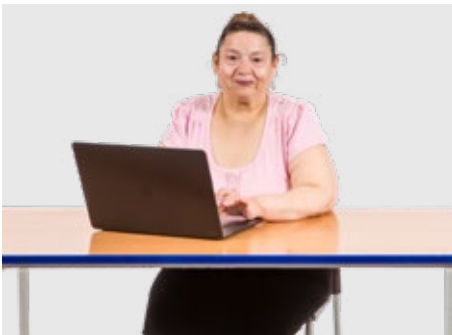


# Good things about self-employment



Good things about self-employment are different for every person.

Here are some things that can be good.



Self-employment lets you control **where** you work.

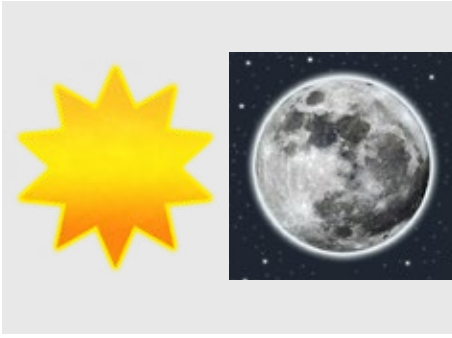


You can work from

- Home
- A café
- An office

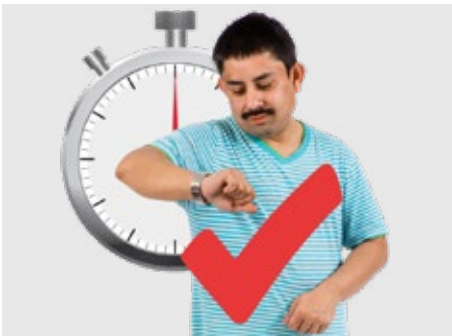


Self-employment lets you control **when** you work.



You may like to work in the morning.

You may like to work in the evening.



When you are self-employed you can choose what times are best for you.



This can also make it easier to book support workers.



You can also change the times you work when you have other things to do like

- Go see your doctor
- Look after family

# Difficult things about self-employment



It is important to think about the difficult things about self-employment.

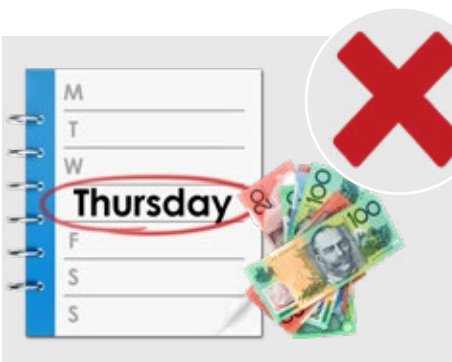
Here are some things that can be difficult.



You have to do lots of other things on top of your work.

Like

- Tell people about what you do
- Paperwork
- Buy things you need for your work



When you are self-employed you do not get regular pay.



You may have to wait some time for people to pay you.



You also do not always know how much you will earn.



When your business does well you earn more.

When your business does not do well you earn less or nothing.



It can be hard to stay motivated.

You need to stay in control.



You will not have a manager to help you.

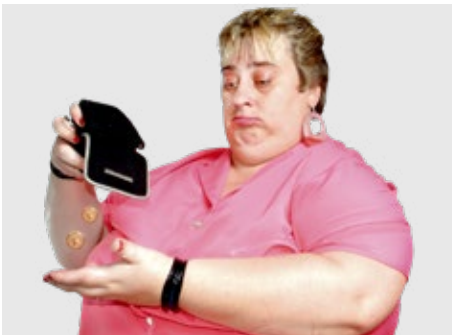


You need to make sure your customers stay happy.

# Things to think about



If you are thinking about self-employment there are some more things to think about.

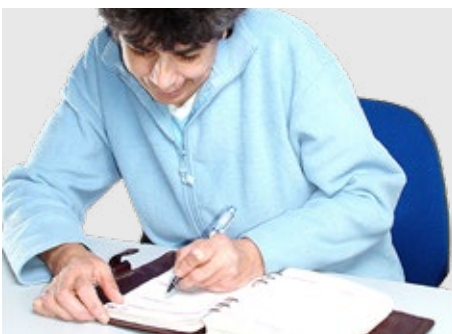


Think about how much money you have to start your business.



Remember that you will not have regular pay.

You may need money for times when your business makes less.



Think about how you will do all the extra work for your business.

Like

- Paperwork
- Pay tax



You can pay someone to do this for you.

Or you can learn these skills before you start your business.



Think about how you will tell people about your business.

You will need to tell people how they can buy from you.



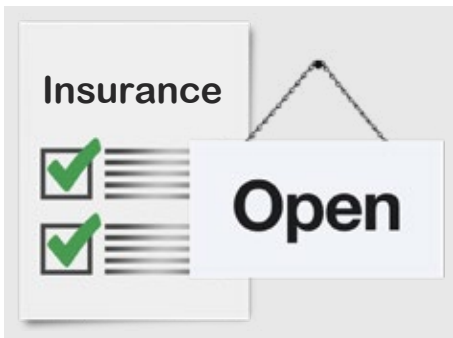
You may need

- A website
- Social media



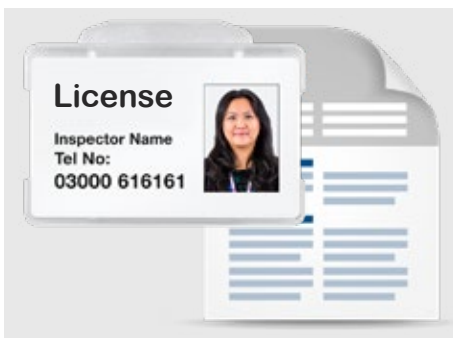
You need to think about insurance.

**Insurance** means you pay a company money to help you out when things go wrong.



The law says businesses must have insurance.

Find out what you need for your business.



You need to think about registrations and licenses.

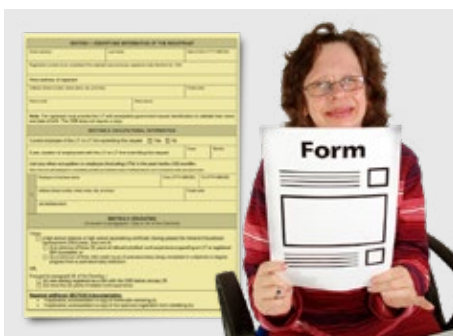
**Registrations and licenses** mean you need an okay from the government to do your work.



You are not allowed to do some work without a license.

Like

- Lawyer



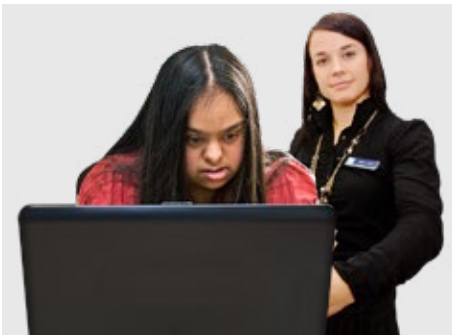
Make sure you know about all about licenses for your work.

# Support for self-employment



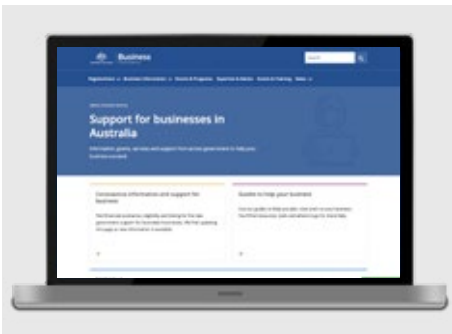
There is lots of support for self-employment from the government.

This section talks about some good websites.



These websites are not in Easy Read.

You may need support to read them.

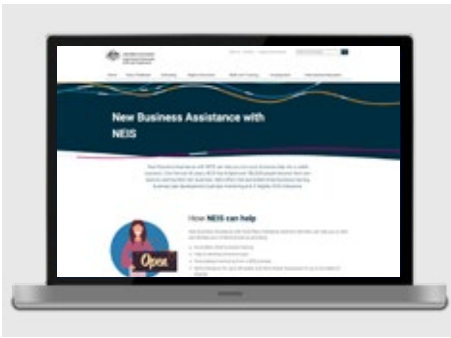


Business.gov.au is a website with information about how to run a business.

Go to

**[www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au)**





The New Business Assistance with New Enterprise Incentive Scheme helps people who are not working to set up a business.

**NEIS** for short.

Go to

**[www.dese.gov.au/new-business-assistance-neis](http://www.dese.gov.au/new-business-assistance-neis)**



SelfStart has information for people who want to start their own business.

Go to

**[www.jobsearch.gov.au/selfstart](http://www.jobsearch.gov.au/selfstart)**

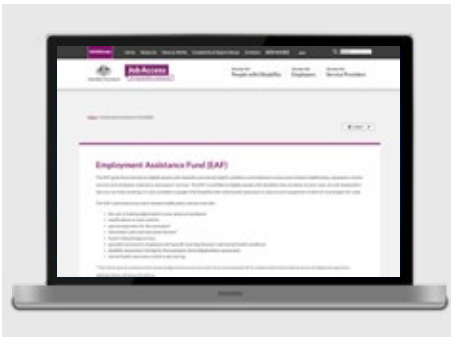


Money Smart helps people to take care of money.

It has information about how to start a business.

Go to

**[www.moneysmart.gov.au/teachingresources/starting-a-small-business-starter-pack](http://www.moneysmart.gov.au/teachingresources/starting-a-small-business-starter-pack)**



The Employee Assistance Fund can pay for things to access work like

- Communication tools
- Supports at work

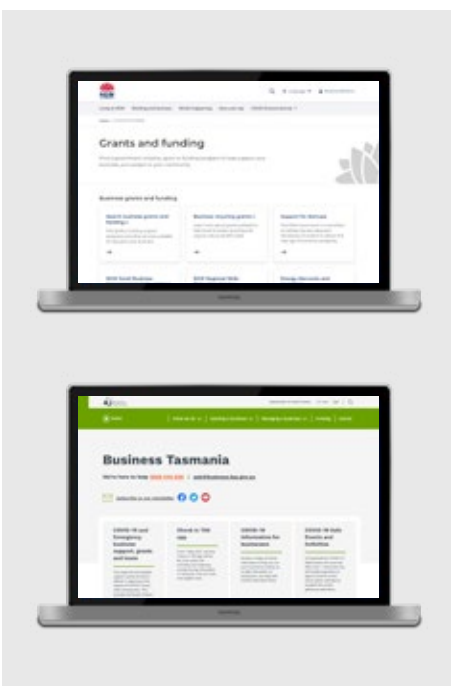
Go to

**[www.jobaccess.gov.au/employment-assistance-fund-eaf](http://www.jobaccess.gov.au/employment-assistance-fund-eaf)**

## State websites



Every state has its own supports for people who want to start a business.



New South Wales

**[www.business.nsw.gov.au/support-for-business/assistance-and-support](http://www.business.nsw.gov.au/support-for-business/assistance-and-support)**

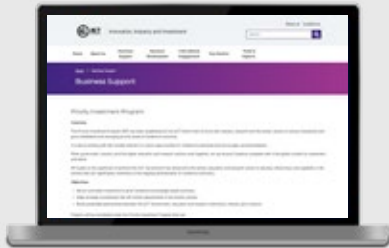
Tasmania

**[www.business.tas.gov.au](http://www.business.tas.gov.au)**



Queensland

[www.business.qld.gov.au/starting-business/advice-support/grants](http://www.business.qld.gov.au/starting-business/advice-support/grants)



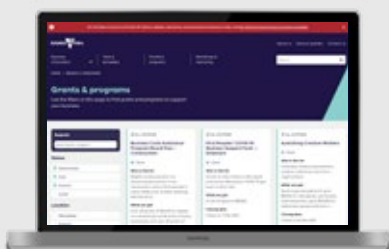
Australian Capital Territory

[www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/economic-development/innovation-industry-investment/business-support](http://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/economic-development/innovation-industry-investment/business-support)



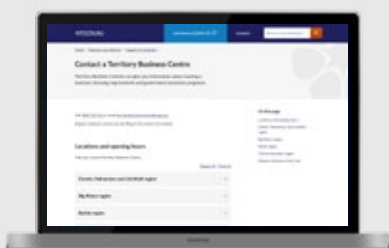
Western Australia

[www.wa.gov.au/service/business-support](http://www.wa.gov.au/service/business-support)



Victoria

[www.business.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs](http://www.business.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs)



Northern Territory

<http://nt.gov.au/industry/business-support/contact-territory-business-centre>