



Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is IgniteAbility Small Business Start-ups?

IgniteAbility Small Business Start-ups is a pilot program established by Settlement Services International (SSI) to facilitate business creation for people with disability who are passionate about establishing a small business or expanding an existing one.

SSI is a leader in disability reform by creating opportunities for people with disability to contribute in all aspects of life: economic, social and civic.

ABS data highlights that people with disability have a higher rate of entrepreneurship than people without disability. As a result, SSI has developed a ground-breaking program that 'taps' into individual's ambitions and motivations for a future of sustainable self-employment.

SSI recognises that meaningful employment is important to a stable, secure and independent future.

IgniteAbility Small Business Start-ups demonstrates SSI's commitment to, and innovation in enhancing the social and economic participation of the people it supports.

Program participants who are passionate about starting or expanding a business are supported by an Ignite Ability Facilitator who:

- provides free and confidential support from locations that best suit the client
- supports capacity-building and networking in areas such as product development, marketing and financial management
- works with individuals to overcome barriers that may have prevented them from realising their potential.

2. Can anyone with a disability register for the program?

Yes, we work with people who have all types of disability, including physical, intellectual, sensory and psychological.

3. How does the IgniteAbility program work?

IgniteAbility is an individually tailored program which develops an ecosystem of support for each entrepreneur. We source people who are experts in business, to help support the IgniteAbility entrepreneur and their fledgling businesses.



4. Does IgniteAbility provide one-on-one support to help the entrepreneur?

Yes, we provide a specially trained facilitator who will work closely and supportively with the entrepreneur, their carer and/or family member to ensure that a sustainable small business can be established.

5. How does the facilitator work with the entrepreneur?

The facilitator works with the entrepreneur from commencement up to and until the business is trading and sustainable. The facilitator coordinates all the business start-up processes, provides access to industry experts and professional advice, and can arrange meetings wherever is most comfortable for the entrepreneur.

6. How long is the entrepreneur registered with the program for?

An IgniteAbility entrepreneur remains with the program until their business is established and trading. Our facilitators work at a pace determined by the entrepreneur.

7. What happens if the entrepreneur decides they no longer want to establish a business?

We understand that operating a business is not for everyone and that a change in circumstances can impact on a business. The entrepreneur can withdraw from the program at any time. If a business is in the final stages of establishment we can support the entrepreneur to close it down.

8. How is confidentiality maintained?

IgniteAbility is an SSI program and is therefore bound by its rigorous Confidentiality and Privacy policies.