
CIRCULAR NO. GEN/29/CCV/2020
DATE: 7 August 2020
SUBJECT: JobKeeper 2.0 updates
ATTENTION: Club Managers

The purpose of this circular is to outline the latest announcements in relation to the JobKeeper scheme which have:

- expanded the scope of workers eligible for JobKeeper payments; and
- loosened the business eligibility requirements.

We note that the information set out below is based on the latest media releases and announcements from the Federal Government, and the Factsheets published by the Federal Government available below:

- [Extension of the JobKeeper Payment](#)
- [JobKeeper Payment](#)

The actual amendments in the JobKeeper legislation that give effect to the announcements may differ and provide further detail and we will provide further advice as it is available.

Changes to employee eligibility requirements

Previously, employees needed to have been employed as at 1 March 2020 (and for a minimum of 12 months for long-term casual employees employed on a regular and systematic basis) in order to be eligible for JobKeeper payments.

From 3 August 2020, the relevant date of employment will move from 1 March to 1 July 2020.

The requirement for casuals to be employed for a minimum of 12 months on a regular and systematic basis will remain.

Business eligibility changes

From 28 September 2020, in order to qualify for the first JobKeeper payment extension (i.e. from 28 September 2020 to 3 January 2021) businesses and not-for-profits will be required to demonstrate that they have suffered a decline in their actual GST turnover for the September quarter of 2020 (being July, August and September). This is a change to the previous announcement which required demonstrating the decline in turnover for the June and September quarters.

From 4 January 2021, businesses and not-for-profits will be required to reassess their eligibility for the second JobKeeper extension (i.e. from 4 January 2021 to 28 March 2021), with reference to their actual GST turnover for the December quarter of 2020 (being October, November and December).

The decline in turnover is compared to a comparable period (i.e. the corresponding 2019 quarter generally). For not-for-profit, the decline will need to be 15%. Businesses operating for profit must demonstrate a 30% drop in turnover (or 50% drop in turnover if the business's aggregated turnover is more than \$1 billion).

JobKeeper payments

From 28 September 2020 there will also be gradual reductions to the JobKeeper payment rates per eligible employee. The gradual reductions will remain in force, however they have been updated to reflect the changes in the relevant employment date for eligible employees. This is summarised further below:

From 28 September 2020 to 3 January 2021, the JobKeeper Payment rates will be:

- *\$1,200 per fortnight for all eligible employees who were working in the business or not-for-profit for 20 hours or more a week on average in the four weeks of pay periods before either 1 March 2020 or 1 July 2020, and for eligible business participants who were actively engaged in the business for 20 hours or more per week on average; and*
- *\$750 per fortnight for other eligible employees and business participants.*

From 4 January 2021 to 28 March 2021, the JobKeeper Payment rates will be:

- *\$1,000 per fortnight for all eligible employees who were working in the business or not-for-profit for 20 hours or more a week on average in the four weeks of pay periods before either 1 March 2020 or 1 July 2020, and for business participants who were actively engaged in the business for 20 hours or more per week on average; and*
- *\$650 per fortnight for other eligible employees and business participants.*

The reference period for employees regarding their hours worked to determine their tier of payment will be the two fortnightly pay periods prior to 1 March 2020 or 1 July 2020. The period with the higher number of hours is to be used for employees who were eligible at 1 March 2020.

Businesses and not-for-profits will be required to nominate which payment rate they are claiming for each of their eligible employees (or business participants).

Further information (including a worked example on the new turnover test and how to determine the JobKeeper payment rate to be claimed) is set out in the relevant Factsheet from the Federal Government [here](#).

The information provided in this e-mail is generic advice. For advice in respect of your specific situation, please contact the SIAG National Advisory Service on 03 9644 1400 or 1300 742 447.



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