



**CIRCULAR NO.** GEN/31/CCV/2020 **DATE:** 18 August 2020

SUBJECT: JobKeeper 2.0 Updates

ATTENTION: Club Managers

Further to our Circular of 7 August 2020 regarding the announced changes to the employee eligibility requirements for JobKeeper payments, the ATO has now updated its website information regarding these changes.

## JobKeeper Employee Nomination Notice (1 July employees only)

The JobKeeper Employee Nomination Notice has been updated.

The Notice is to be given to newly eligible employees, who, from 3 August 2020, will now be eligible for JobKeeper payments as a result of the date of employment test changing from 1 March to 1 July 2020 ("**the 1 July eligibility test**").

The Notice will ask these newly eligible employees if they agree to be nominated by you as their employer so that you can receive JobKeeper payments for them.

A copy of the updated Notice can be found on the ATO website here.

#### Long-term casual employees

The ATO has provided new information <u>here</u>, including worked examples, to help determine if your casual employee is a 'long-term casual employee' for JobKeeper purposes under the 1 July eligibility test.

From 3 August 2020, a long-term casual employee employed on a regular and systematic basis during the 12-month period that ended on 1 July 2020 (and is not a permanent employer of any other employer) will now be eligible.

According to the information published by the ATO as at the date of this Circular:

- The test requires that the employee be employed on a regular and systematic basis for the period 2 July 2019 to 1 July 2020.
- A casual employee is likely to have been employed during the relevant 12 month period on a regular and systematic basis if they had a recurring work schedule or maintained a reasonable expectation of ongoing work.
- While a pattern or roster of hours may be a strong indication of regular and systematic employment, it is
  not necessary to have worked the same days and hours over each pay period. For example, due to the
  effects of the coronavirus on employment, an individual may have worked fewer shifts in the months of
  March to June 2020.
- Relevant factors which may indicate that an individual was not employed on a regular and systematic basis include:
  - the employer was unable to offer suitable work to the individual for substantial periods of time;

- the individual made themselves unavailable for work over a substantial period of time;
- the individual was only offered, and/or only accepted, work irregularly or occasionally.

We have extracted below one of the worked examples published by the ATO on its website:

### Example 4 - period of absence

Sam had a recurring work schedule throughout the first 2 months of the 12 month period that ended on 1 July 2020. However, after those 2 months, he did not work for a period of 2 weeks , after which he returned to his recurring work schedule. His employer became unable to offer shifts to Sam for around 3 months from March 2020. However, Sam returned to work with shifts in June 2020. The combined absences of around 3-4 months may affect whether he was employed on a regular and systematic basis during the 12 month period.

Although Sam did not work for a period of around 3-4 months in the 12 month period that ended on 1 July 2020, both before and after his periods of absence he had recurring work. As Sam had recurring work for about 8-9 months out of the 12 month period that ended on 1 July 2020, it is likely that he will have been employed on a regular and systematic basis throughout the 12 month period.

# JobKeeper key dates including payments

Eligible employers must enrol in the JobKeeper scheme by 31 August 2020 to claim JobKeeper payments for the August JobKeeper fortnights (3 August to 16 August, and 17 August to 30 August), including for new eligible employees included under the 1 July eligibility test.

The ATO is allowing employers until 31 August 2020 to meet the wage condition for all new eligible employees included under the 1 July eligibility test.

Please note that the information contained in this Circular is based on the information published on the ATO website. 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.

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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