

BusinessPlus+ Newsletter

Issue – April 2020

JobKeeper Payment Scheme

The Federal parliament passed the government's JobKeeper package on 8 April 2020 and some key features are: -

- Businesses must qualify by substantiating that they have lost at least 30% of their turnover in a month-long period or a three-month period, depending on the duration of the Business Activity Statements being lodged by that business.
- The payments being made by the government to eligible businesses relate to persons employed by the business on 1 March 2020, will be \$1,500 per fortnight from 30 March 2020 for 6 months and relates to, full-time, part-time and casual staff who have worked with the business for more than 12 months.
- The legislation also applies to partnerships, sole traders and self-employed workers.
- Workers, on temporary visas, are not included unless they are New Zealanders on special category (subclass 444) visas.
- Employers only have to pay superannuation on any top up amounts above the \$1,500.
- Employers can change their staff hours to whatever amount would bring their pro rata pay down to \$1,500 per fortnight as long as they comply with new Fair Work guidelines and amended Awards.
- **Online registrations via the ATO for JobKeeper commenced on 20th April and must be completed by no later than 30th April 2020 if the employer wants to have it available for its employees effective from 30 March 2020;**
- **The payments will be made at least a month in arrears with the first payment scheduled to be made by the Australian Taxation Office on 14th May 2020. You'll need to factor this payment delay into your cashflow forecast.**

Please click on the attached links below for additional useful information on JobKeeper: -

- [JobKeeper Payment Eligibility & Checklist - here;](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions – Q & A's - here;](#)
- [More JobKeeper FAQ's – CPA Summary - here;](#)
- [CCIWA Employer Guide on JobKeeper - here;](#)

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