

JobKeeper Payment

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/
- Last modified: 19 Jun 2020
- QC 62125

Media: JobKeeper Payment – A simple guide for employers http://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bi9or7on4xahe1 (Duration: 00:45)

The JobKeeper Payment scheme is a temporary subsidy for businesses significantly affected by coronavirus (COVID-19). Eligible employers, sole traders and other entities can apply to receive \$1,500 per eligible employee per fortnight.

Key points:

- JobKeeper is paid to employers. The ATO does not make payments directly to employees.
- On 8 June, the government announced proposed JobKeeper changes for employers and sole traders providing a child care subsidy approved service, see <u>JobKeeper key dates</u>.
- A monthly business declaration must be made by the 14th day of each month, starting in June, to receive reimbursements for payments made in the previous month.
- Step-by-step instructions are available for sole traders, see <u>JobKeeper guide for sole traders</u>.
- We have compliance activities underway to make sure JobKeeper payments are getting to eligible employers, see <u>Keeping JobKeeper</u> <u>payments fair</u>.

Information for:

- Employers
- Employees
- Sole traders
- Partnerships, trusts and companies
- Tax and BAS agents

Not-for-profits and charities

See also:

- JobKeeper guides
- Enrol for the JobKeeper payment

We regularly update information on this website, for a summary of changes see <u>JobKeeper timeline of content updates</u>.

JobKeeper key dates

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/JobKeeper-key-dates/
- Last modified: 26 Jun 2020
- QC 62432

Skip to:

- Key dates
- JobKeeper fortnights
- Past dates and fortnights

Key dates

30 June – enrolments will close for June fortnights

30 June 2020 is the final date to enrol for JobKeeper and identify employees to claim for wages paid for <u>JobKeeper fortnights</u> in June. If you have not completed your enrolment by 30 June 2020, you will not be able to claim JobKeeper payment for the June fortnights.

8 June 2020 – announcement

On 8 June, the Government announced that JobKeeper payments will cease from 20 July for employees of a child care subsidy approved service and for sole traders operating a child care service.

The announced change is subject to amendments being made to the Coronavirus Economic Response Package (Payments and Benefit) Rules 2020 through Parliament.

We are working through the details of the announcement and will share more information as soon as we can.

For more information, see the <u>media release</u>[™] from the Hon Dan Tehan, Minister for Education.

20 April – enrolments opened

On 20 April 2020, enrolments for the JobKeeper payment opened.

Enrolling and identifying employees after June

If you are enrolling for JobKeeper payments for the first time after June, you must enrol your business and identifying your eligible employees and business participant by the end of the month you wish to claim for.

Each month

You must make a business monthly declaration each month to claim JobKeeper payments for the previous month.

You need to do this between the 1st and 14th of the month (for example, to be reimbursed for JobKeeper payments in May you need to complete your declaration by 14 June).

JobKeeper fortnights

JobKeeper Fortnight	Period relating to each JobKeeper Fortnight	Employees are paid on or before
7	22 June – 5 July	5 July
8	6 July – 19 July	19 July
9	20 July – 2 August	2 August
10	3 August – 16 August	16 August
11	17 August – 30 August	30 August
12	31 August – 13 September	13 September
13	14 September – 27 September	27 September

When <u>paying eligible employees</u>, you do not need to adjust your pay cycle through your existing payroll solution.

If you usually pay your employees less frequently than fortnightly, the payment can be allocated between fortnights in a reasonable manner.

Past dates and fortnights

31 May – enrolments closed for April and May fortnights

31 May 2020 was the final date to enrol for JobKeeper and identify employees to

claim for wages paid for JobKeeper fortnights in April and May.

4 May

From 4 May 2020 - Identify your employees

• Make sure you are successfully enrolled.

Once you are successfully enrolled, you need to identify the eligible employees and/or the business participant for who you are claiming the JobKeeper wage subsidy. To find out how, read our <u>JobKeeper guides</u>.

• You have until 31 May to identify your employees for JobKeeper payment.

8 May

By 8 May - Make sure you have paid your employees for April

- Pay your eligible employee a minimum of \$1,500 (before tax) for each of JobKeeper fortnights 1 and 2 by this date to be able to claim JobKeeper payments for April.
- The first two JobKeeper fortnights in April
 - JobKeeper Fortnight 1 − 30 March to 12 April
 - ∘ JobKeeper Fortnight 2 13 April to 26 April.

Past JobKeeper fortnights

JobKeeper Fortnight	Period relating to each JobKeeper Fortnight	Employees are paid on or before
1	30 March – 12 April	8 May
2	13 April – 26 April	8 May
3	27 April – 10 May	10 May
4	11 May – 24 May	24 May
5	25 May – 7 June	7 June
6	8 June – 21 June	21 June

Employers

https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employers/

- Last modified: 28 May 2020
- QC 62126

If your business is affected by the coronavirus, you may be eligible to access the JobKeeper payment to assist you to be able to continue paying your employees.

Employers can choose to participate in the scheme and then nominate all the employees they are entitled to claim for. An employer can choose not to participate in the JobKeeper payment.

Step-by-step instructions

For information on how to enrol, identify and maintain employees, and make a monthly business declaration, see:

- JobKeeper guide employers reporting through STP
- JobKeeper guide employers not reporting through STP

Find out about:

- Extension of time to enrol to 31 May 2020
- Eligible employers
- Your eligible employees
- Amount of JobKeeper payment
- Enrol for the JobKeeper payment
- Paying your eligible employees
- Employers' frequently asked JobKeeper questions

Extension of time to enrol to 31 May 2020

The Jobkeeper payment scheme runs for the fortnights from 30 March until 27 September 2020. You can enrol any time within this period to claim JobKeeper. However, to claim the JobKeeper payment for a fortnight you must enrol before the end of that JobKeeper fortnight. For the initial JobKeeper fortnights, the Commissioner extended the time to enrol until 31 May 2020.

If you enrolled by 31 May, you will still be able to claim for the fortnights ending in April and May, provided you meet all the eligibility requirements for each of those fortnights. This includes having paid your employees by the appropriate date for each fortnight.

For the first two fortnights (30 March - 12 April, 13 April - 26 April), we will accept the minimum \$1,500 payment for each fortnight has been paid by you even if it has been paid late, provided it is paid by you by 8 May. If you do not pay your staff by this date, you will not be able to claim JobKeeper for the first two fortnights.

You can enrol and claim for JobKeeper earlier if you choose. For example, you can enrol by the end of April to claim JobKeeper payments for the two fortnights in April.

If you've enrolled for the JobKeeper Payment and identified your eligible employees, you need to make a business monthly declaration to the ATO. You will be able to do this from the 1st to the 14th day of each month, to receive reimbursements for the

payments you have made to your employees in the previous month.

For example, the business monthly declaration for reimbursement of JobKeeper payments for the month of May needs to be completed by 14 June.

Eligible employers

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employers/Eligibleemployers/
- Last modified: 15 Jun 2020
- QC 62127

Employers are eligible for the JobKeeper payment if all of the following apply:

- On 1 March 2020, you carried on a business in Australia, or were either
 - a not-for-profit organisation that pursued your objectives principally in Australia, or
 - deductible gift recipient (DGR) endorsed either, as a public fund or for a public fund you operated, under the Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility
 Scheme (DGR item 9.1.1) or for developed country relief (DGR item 9.1.2)
- You employed at least one eligible employee on 1 March 2020.
- Your eligible employees are currently employed by your business for the fortnights you claim for (including those who are stood down or re-hired).
- Your business has faced either a
 - 30% fall in turnover (for an aggregated turnover of \$1 billion or less)
 - 50% fall in turnover (for an aggregated turnover of more than \$1 billion)
 - 15% fall in turnover (for ACNC-registered charities other than universities and schools).
- Your business is not in one of the ineligible employer categories.

Calculating turnover

The turnover calculation is based on GST turnover. This applies even if an entity is not registered for GST. There are some modifications, including disregarding GST grouping where two or more associated business entities operate as a single GST group.

You can apply the basic test even if you are not registered for GST.

Find out about:

Applying the turnover test

Aggregated turnover

Your aggregated turnover broadly includes your annual turnover, plus the annual turnover of all the entities that are connected or affiliated with you, subject to specific adjustments (for example, for transactions between you and those other entities). These connected entities or affiliates may be based in Australia or overseas.

See also:

Aggregated turnover tests for entities likely to exceed \$1 billion in turnover

On this page:

- Ineligible employers
- Sole traders
- Business owners actively engaged in their business
- Entities earning passive income
- Religious institutions
- How to determine a fall in turnover
- Entities that are members of a larger group
- Not-for-profit organisations
- Once you've worked out that you're an eligible employer

Ineligible employers

An employer is not eligible for the JobKeeper payment if:

- the Major Bank Levy was imposed on the entity or a member of its consolidated group for any quarter before 1 March 2020
- the entity is an Australian government agency (within the meaning of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997)
- the entity is a local governing body
- the entity is wholly owned by an Australian government agency or local governing body
- the entity is a sovereign entity or an entity owned by a sovereign entity
- the entity is a company in liquidation
- the entity is an individual who has entered bankruptcy.

Sole traders

Sole traders can be eligible for the JobKeeper payment if their business has experienced a downturn according to the eligibility criteria.

See also:

Sole traders

Business owners actively engaged in their business

Other businesses in the form of a company, trust or partnership can also qualify for

JobKeeper payments where a business owner (a shareholder, adult beneficiary or partner) is actively engaged in the business, or a director is actively engaged in the business.

This is limited to one entitlement for each entity even if there are multiple business owners or participants.

See also:

Partnerships, trusts and companies

Entities earning passive income

Merely earning passive income such as rent, interest or dividends does not ordinarily amount to carrying on a business.

A company will ordinarily be carrying on a business if it is established and maintained to make a profit for its shareholders, and invests its assets to earn a commercial return. However, in order for an individual to be an eligible business participant for such a company they must be actively engaged in the company's business. This means the individual must take regular and ongoing action to manage the company's investments. It is not enough for the individual to merely allow the company to continue to be a passive recipient of rent, interest or dividends.

Religious institutions

If you are a religious institution, you may qualify for the JobKeeper payment if you pay a minister of religion, or a full-time member of a religious order, who is not an employee to perform religious activities.

See also:

• Religious institutions

How to determine a fall in turnover

You only need to satisfy this requirement once – you don't need to retest your turnover each month. However, you will be asked each month to tell us your current and projected turnover.

At the time you enrol in the JobKeeper Payment scheme, you need to confirm that your business in a relevant period has had, or is likely to have, a:

- 30% fall in turnover (for an aggregated turnover of \$1 billion or less)
- 50% fall in turnover (for an aggregated turnover of more than \$1 billion), or
- 15% fall in turnover (for ACNC-registered charities other than universities and schools).

How to calculate a fall in turnover for the first fortnight starting 30 March 2020

To work out your fall in turnover, you can compare either:

- GST turnover for March 2020 with GST turnover for March 2019
- projected GST turnover for April 2020 with GST turnover for April 2019
- projected GST turnover for the quarter starting April 2020 with GST turnover for the quarter starting April 2019.

How you choose to project your fall in turnover is not dependent on whether you report a quarterly or monthly BAS, though you can do that if it is easier. The turnover calculation is based on GST turnover. This applies even if an entity is not registered for GST. There are some modifications, including disregarding GST grouping (where two or more associated business entities operate as a single GST group).

If you work out that you qualify for JobKeeper payments for the first fortnight because your turnover has declined by the relevant amount, you remain eligible and do not need to keep testing turnover in following months. However, you will have ongoing monthly reporting requirements.

There are some special rules for universities in calculating fall in turnover. They must compare the six-month period starting 1 January 2020 to the six-month period from 1 January 2019. Appropriations under the High Education Support Act and the Australian Research Council Act are included in turnover.

The Commissioner of Taxation has also determined some <u>alternative tests</u> that can establish your eligibility for some cases when turnover periods are not appropriately comparable. However, if an entity satisfies the basic test it does not need to consider an alternative test.

Find out about:

• Applying the turnover test

Entities that are members of a larger group

Where an entity is part of a larger group, this may affect how they apply the fall in turnover test to determine whether they are eligible.

If the larger group has, or estimates they will have, an aggregated turnover of more than \$1 billion for the income year in which the test period occurs or had an aggregated turnover of more than \$1 billion for the previous year, the entity will be required to show a 50% decline in turnover to be eligible to receive JobKeeper payments.

Testing the decline in turnover is done on an individual employer entity basis for the basic test. It only takes into account the turnover of the entity which is the employer, and not other members of a group.

Modified basic test for group employer entities

For certain group structures (where you are a member of a GST, consolidated or consolidatable group) there are special rules if an entity's principal activity is

supplying employee labour services to other members of their group.

If this entity – the employer entity – doesn't meet the fall in turnover rules in the basic test, they may be able to use a modified fall in turnover test.

The modified test takes into account the GST turnover of other members (the test members) in the consolidated, consolidatable or GST group when working out the turnover of the employer entity.

See also:

- Modified basic test
- Aggregation

Not-for-profit organisations

Not-for-profit entities (including charities) that meet the turnover tests are eligible to enrol for the JobKeeper payment. An ACNC-registered charity, other than a university and school, only needs to show a decline in turnover of 15% or more. There are special rules on calculating turnover for these entities to exclude some funding from the calculation if they elect to – such as Australian government grants. We will provide more information soon to help charities.

Once you've worked out that you're an eligible employer

After you have worked out that you are an eligible employer, you then need to check whether your employee or employees are eligible.

Find out about:

Your eligible employees

Your eligible employees

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employers/Your-eligibleemployees/
- Last modified: 05 Jun 2020
- QC 62128

Your employee is eligible under the JobKeeper Payment scheme if they:

- are employed by you (including those stood down or re-hired)
- were, at 1 March 2020, either a
 - o full-time, part-time or fixed term employee, and not a casual employee
 - long-term casual employee (employed on a regular and systematic basis for at least 12 months) and not a permanent employee of any other

employer

- on 1 March 2020 were 18 years older (if they were 16 or 17 they can also qualify for fortnights before 11 May 2020, and continue to qualify after that if they're independent or not studying full time)
- were an Australian resident at 1 March 2020 under the Social Security Act 1991, which requires they reside in Australia, and are one of: an Australian citizen, the holder of a permanent visa, or a Protected Special Category Visa Holder. You can find more information about these requirements from the Services Australia website under residence descriptions [□]. Your employee can also be an Australian tax resident who is a Special Category (Subclass 444) Visa Holder. Employees who aren't permanent residents of Australia must notify you of their visa status to allow you to determine if they're eligible for JobKeeper payments
- Didn't receive any of these payments during the JobKeeper fortnight
 - government parental leave or Dad and Partner Pay
 - a payment in accordance with Australian workers compensation law for an individual's total incapacity for work
- agree to be nominated by you (see <u>Nominating employees</u>).

You can't claim for any employees who either:

- were first employed by you after 1 March 2020
- left your employment before 1 March 2020
- have been, or have agreed to be, nominated by another employer.

Casual employees are only eligible if they were employed by you on a regular and systematic basis for at least a year at 1 March 2020.

If you decide to participate in the JobKeeper Payment scheme, nominate all your eligible employees. You shouldn't nominate only some. However, individual eligible employees can choose not to participate.

If your employees have multiple employers, they can usually choose which employer they want to nominate through. However, if your employees are long-term casuals and have other permanent employment, they must choose the permanent employer and can't nominate you. They can't be nominated for the JobKeeper payment by more than one employer.

See also:

Employee test requirements

On this page:

- Nominating employees
- Nominating yourself as a sole trader or eligible business participant
- Nominating a religious practitioner who isn't an employee
- Employees who were stood down or on long term leave
- Employees who've been terminated

After you've worked out you and your employees are eligible

Nominating employees

The design of the JobKeeper scheme is that all eligible employees of an employer who has decided to participate in the scheme are paid the minimum of \$1,500 per fortnight. The employer claims for each of these employees and is not meant to pick and choose between eligible employees.

From 1 May 2020, you must inform your relevant employees of your election to participate in JobKeeper within seven days of enrolment and detail the steps the employee must take to agree to be nominated. If you had already enrolled on or before 1 May 2020, you needed to satisfy this requirement by 8 May 2020.

If you enrolled:

- between 19 April and 1 May 2020, and already provided all your relevant employees with an Employee nomination notice, you've met the requirement to notify all your relevant employees
- on or after 1 May 2020, you must provide an Employee nomination notice to all your relevant employees within seven days of enrolling.

If you haven't provided all your relevant employees with an employee nomination notice within seven days of enrolling to receive JobKeeper payments, you need to do this as soon as possible.

If your relevant employees agree to be nominated by you, they must return a completed <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> to you for your records. This confirms your employee is an eligible employee under the JobKeeper scheme.

You may choose to <u>create your own employee nomination notice</u> if it's not practical to have each employee complete and return our notice to you. This allows you to use your own portal or communication channel to obtain this information.

You don't need to give us the employee nomination notice, but you do need to keep a copy of the completed form as part of your legal record keeping obligations.

The process for nominating eligible business participants (for example, a partner in a partnership, an adult beneficiary of a trust, or a shareholder or director of a company), religious practitioners who are not employees and sole traders is different.

Rules for those under 18 years old

From JobKeeper fortnight four, starting 11 May, there are new eligibility requirements for employees who were 16 or 17 years old on 1 March 2020.

This means that 16 and 17 year old employees who identified as eligible under the original eligibility criteria for the first three JobKeeper fortnights (30 March to 10 May 2020) may no longer be eligible employees under the JobKeeper scheme from JobKeeper fortnight four, which began on 11 May.

For those who were 16 or 17 years old on 1 March 2020 to remain eligible employees, at 1 March 2020 they need to have been either:

- independent
- not in full-time study.

In a practical sense, this means that from JobKeeper fortnight four, full-time students are no longer eligible employees unless they're also independent.

If you have an employee who was 15 on 1 March 2020 and has since turned 16, they won't be eligible for JobKeeper, even if they are independent, or not in full-time study.

What you need to do

If you've already received a nomination form from an employee who was 16 or 17 years old at 1 March 2020 – that form isn't valid for JobKeeper fortnights four to 13.

You'll need to provide your 16 and 17 year old employees with the updated JobKeeper Employee nomination notice and have them complete and return it as soon as possible to confirm they meet the new eligibility criteria.

If your employees who were 16 and 17 years old at 1 March 2020 are no longer eligible, you will no longer identify them as an eligible employee from JobKeeper fortnight four, which starts on 11 May.

Nominating yourself as a sole trader or eligible business participant

If you're a sole trader or eligible business participant, you can also nominate yourself.

Sole traders can complete the nomination process through ATO online services using myGov, or in the Business Portal or through a registered tax or BAS agent.

If you're an eligible business participant such as a partner, adult beneficiary of a trust, or a shareholder in or director of a company, you need to complete the <u>Eligible business participant nomination notice (excluding sole traders)</u> to record you've agreed to be nominated to receive JobKeeper payments through an eligible business.

Eligible businesses can enrol by logging in to the Business Portal using myGovID.

See also:

- Sole traders
- Partnerships, trusts and companies

Nominating a religious practitioner who isn't an employee

If you're a religious institution, you can nominate a religious practitioner for a JobKeeper payment where you remunerate a minister of religion or a full-time

member of a religious order who isn't an employee to perform religious activities for you.

You can enrol through the Business Portal or through a registered tax or BAS agent.

Before you enrol, you need to notify each eligible religious practitioner that you intend to nominate them under the JobKeeper Payment scheme. They must agree to be nominated by you by completing the <u>JobKeeper religious practitioner</u> nomination notice.

See also:

Religious institutions

Employees who were stood down or on long term leave

Employees who have been stood down from work under the *Fair Work Act 2009* without pay may still be eligible employees if they were in your employment and met the eligibility criteria on 1 March 2020.

You will need to have paid them at least the minimum amount of \$1,500 for each fortnight you claim for, to receive the JobKeeper payment.

Employees who've been terminated

If you terminated an employee after 1 March 2020, you can re-engage them, and they'll be eligible if they met the eligibility criteria on 1 March 2020.

If you want to claim the JobKeeper payment for employees you've re-engaged, you need to:

- confirm they want to be re-hired and participate in the JobKeeper Payment scheme with you
- re-engage the employees you want to claim for
- ask them to complete the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> (or your own employee nomination notice) and return it to you. You're required to keep this form as part of your record keeping obligations under the law
- start paying them a minimum of \$1,500 (before tax) for each fortnight they're employed that you claim for.

You'll only be paid a JobKeeper payment for employees from the fortnight they were re-engaged. You can't claim retrospectively for employees you re-engage.

Example

Peta runs a retail business. Due to the effects of COVID-19, she decides to stand down her full time employee, John, on 20 March 2020. Peta meets the fall in turnover test and decides she wants to re-engage John and receive the JobKeeper payment for him as an eligible employee for the fortnight

beginning 30 March 2020.

Peta needs to confirm John wishes to participate and, if so, obtain a completed nomination form from him. Peta pays him at least \$1,500 to be eligible to claim a JobKeeper payment for John in the fortnight.

After you've worked out you and your employees are eligible

If you meet the eligibility criteria and want to start claiming the JobKeeper payment on behalf of your employees, you need to start paying them at least \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight and continue to pay them for as long as you keep claiming.

Find out about:

- Amount of JobKeeper payment
- Enrol for the JobKeeper payment
- Paying your eligible employees

Amount of JobKeeper payment

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employers/Your-eligibleemployees/Amount-of-JobKeeper-payment/
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- QC 62129

As an employer, you'll receive \$1,500 from us per employee per fortnight as long as you and your employees meet the <u>eligibility criteria</u>.

We pay you for each eligible employee monthly in arrears (JobKeeper payments began in the first week of May 2020).

An employer will usually get \$3,000 a month per eligible employee for the two fortnightly periods in a month.

Example of amounts paid to employers

Payment date	Amount per employee
May	\$3,000 (for fortnights starting 30 March and 13 April)
June	\$3,000 (for fortnights starting 27 April and 11 May)

July	\$3,000 (for fortnights starting 25 May and 8 June)
August	\$3,000 (for fortnights starting 22 June and 6 July)
September	\$4,500 (for fortnights starting 20 July, 3 and 17 August)
October	\$3,000 (for fortnights starting 31 August and 14 September)

Find out about:

• Enrol for the JobKeeper payment

Enrol for the JobKeeper payment

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employers/Enrol-for-the-JobKeeper-payment/
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- QC 62130

To enrol for the JobKeeper payment, employers should follow the steps below.

On this page:

- How to prepare
- Step 1: Enrol for the JobKeeper payment
- Step 2: Identify your eligible employees
- Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration
- What you need to do for your employees

See also:

We have created <u>JobKeeper guides</u> which provide a practical 'step by step' summary to help you take the best action according to your circumstances, your number of employees and whether you use Single Touch Payroll (STP) or other reporting arrangements.

How to prepare

- Check your business or not-for-profit organisation meets the <u>eligibility</u> <u>requirements</u>, including the <u>turnover test</u>. The turnover calculation is based on GST turnover. This applies even if an entity is not registered for GST.
- If you are a director or a shareholder of a company, a partner in a partnership, or an adult beneficiary of a trust, consider whether you will nominate as an <u>eligible business participant</u> and check you meet the eligibility requirements.
- Download the JobKeeper eligible business participant nomination notice

(excluding sole trader) form and ensure one eligible business participant has completed the nomination notice and returned it to you. You do not need to send this form to us but you must keep it for your records.

- If you have employees, check they meet the employee eligibility requirements.
- Re-hire or re-engage employees you let go or stood down and pay them if you want to claim the JobKeeper payment for them.
- Continue to pay at least \$1,500 to every eligible employee per JobKeeper fortnight (the first JobKeeper fortnight was the period from 30 March to 12 April).
- Send a <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> to all your eligible employees to complete and return to you before you claim JobKeeper payments for those employees. You can either
 - use our JobKeeper employee nomination notice
 - create your own employee nomination notice if it is not practical to have each employee complete and return the ATO version to you. This will allow you to use your own portal or communication channel to obtain this information.
- Each eligible employee must agree to be nominated by you. They do this by completing the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> and returning it to you for your records before you claim the payment for that employee. Keep the employee nomination notice on file.
- If you use the Business Portal, you will need a myGovID linked to your ABN in relationship Authorisation Manager (RAM). You can find out how to set this up at ato.gov.au/mygovid
- Your registered tax or BAS agent can enrol, identify and declare for JobKeeper on your behalf using Online service for agents.
- If you find it difficult to interact with us online and don't use a registered tax or BAS agent, you can call us for assistance.
- Enrol and identify your eligible employees by the end of the month that you are claiming for.

Step 1: Enrol for the JobKeeper payment

You only need to complete this step once. Your registered tax or BAS agent can also enrol for you.

- Log into to the Business Portal using myGovID.
- To enrol, you will need to confirm:
 - business has experienced a fall in turnover
 - expected number of eligible employees (if you have them)
 - o an eligible business participant, if you are enrolling one
 - bank and contact details for receiving JobKeeper payments
- Notify all your eligible employees that you have nominated them.
- You will need to enrol before you can move to Step 2, and identify any employees you are claiming for.

Detailed information on how to enrol available in our <u>JobKeeper guides</u> for employers.

Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees

Media: Step 2 – Identify and maintain your eligible employees http://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bi9or7on4973rb
☐ (Duration: 1:17)

You or your registered tax or BAS agent need to identify each person that you will claim the JobKeeper Payment for. You only need to identify your eligible employees and eligible business participant once.

If you have an eligible business participant, remember not to include them as an employee. You can add them in the Business Portal.

How you identify your eligible employees depends on your payroll software and number of employees.

- <u>Directly into your STP enabled payroll software if it is updated with JobKeeper functionality</u>
 - First, you will need to update each eligible employee in your payroll software and then lodge an STP pay event using your payroll software.
 - Then, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the fortnights you are claiming for and the number of employees you are claiming for based on your lodged STP pay report.
- If your STP payroll software is not updated with JobKeeper functionality and you have 200 employees or less
 - First, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the JobKeeper fortnights you are claiming for yourself.
 - We'll give you a list of all your employees that you reported to us through your STP pay reports at the start of March. You will then need to confirm each of your employees' eligibility and the fortnights you are claiming for them.
- If your STP payroll software is not updated with JobKeeper functionality and you have more than 200 employees
 - You'll need to identify your eligible employees before you log in to the Business Portal. You can choose any one of these methods:
 - Manually create a JobKeeper allowance in your STP enabled payroll software.
 - Ask the ATO for a prefilled JobKeeper report which you can update and send back to us to through the Business Portal Transfer file function.
 - Or use the <u>JobKeeper Payment guide</u> (<u>DOCX</u>, <u>271KB</u>) <u>JobKeeper Payment guide</u> (<u>DOCX</u>, <u>271KB</u>) <u>JobKeeper Payment guide</u> (<u>DOCX</u>, <u>285KB</u>) and <u>Example file</u> (<u>CSV</u>, <u>710KB</u>) to produce your own JobKeeper report and provide it back to us by uploading it through the Business Portal Transfer file function.
- If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, and you have 40 employees or less

- You'll need all your eligible employees tax file number (TFN) and date of birth handy before you log in.
- Then, log in to the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the JobKeeper fortnights you are claiming for yourself.
- From there, you will need to add your eligible employees by entering their tax file number (TFN) and date of birth and the JobKeeper fortnights you are claiming for them. You can add up to 40 employees.
- If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, and you have more than 40 employees
 - You might want to consider using STP and JobKeeper enabled payroll software if you can. Look at the <u>STP product register</u>[□] to find STP software.
 - Otherwise, you will need to create your own JobKeeper report. Download
 the <u>JobKeeper Payment Guide</u> (<u>DOCX</u>, <u>271KB</u>) sample payload files –
 <u>Blank file</u> (<u>XLS</u>, <u>11KB</u>) and <u>Example file</u> (<u>XLS</u>, <u>11KB</u>) – to produce your
 own JobKeeper report and fill it in with the details of all your eligible
 employees.
 - You can provide it back to us securely through our Business Portal File transfer function. You will need to allow three days for the report to process.
 - Then, log in to the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the fortnights you are claiming for and the number of employees you are claiming for based on your lodged STP pay report.

Detailed information on how to identify and maintain your employees is available in our <u>JobKeeper guides</u> for employers.

Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

Media: Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration <a href="http://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bi9or7on5q6358" http://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bi9or7on5q6358" (Duration: 1:25)

Once you've enrolled for the JobKeeper payment and identified your eligible employees, you need to make a business monthly declaration to the ATO every month

You must do this between the 1st to the 14th day of each month, to receive reimbursements for the JobKeeper payments you made to your eligible employees in the previous month.

For example, the business monthly declaration for the JobKeeper payments you paid your employees in May needs to be completed by 14 June.

Your tax or BAS agent can also make the business monthly declaration for you.

We will ask you to reconfirm your business participant details and your eligible employees. You will also need to provide us with information about your GST turnover for the reported month and projected GST turnover for the following month.

If your eligible employees change or leave your employment, you will need to notify us through your monthly declaration.

To make your business declaration each month:

- Log into the Business Portal using myGovID.
- Reconfirm your eligible employees and business participant if you have them.
- Provide your business' GST turnover for the month you are declaring and following month's projected month GST turnover

What you need to do for your employees

From 1 May 2020 with the introduction of Coronavirus Economic Response Package (Payments and Benefits) Amendment Rules (NO 2) 2020 there is an obligation that within seven days of enrolling to receive JobKeeper payments, you must provide an Employee nomination notice to each of your employees. If you had already enrolled on or before 1 May 2020, you need to satisfy this requirement by 8 May 2020. Find out about this at Employers.

If your employees have multiple employers, they can usually choose which employer they want to nominate through. However, if your employees are long-term casuals and have other permanent employment, they cannot nominate you. They cannot be nominated for the JobKeeper payment by more than one employer.

If an employee is receiving – or in the process of applying for – a Services Australia income support payment like JobSeeker payment, they should contact Services Australia and let them know that their employer has applied for the payment.

The ATO and Services Australia are working together to identify instances of incorrect eligibility for JobKeeper versus JobSeeker. If your employee does not report the income or cancels their JobSeeker payment, they may incur a debt that they will be required to pay back.

Find out about:

Paying your eligible employees

Paying your eligible employees

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employers/Paying-your-eligible-employees/
- Last modified: 18 Jun 2020
- QC 62135

You need to pay all your eligible employees at least the minimum amount of \$1,500,

even if they earn less than this per fortnight. You cannot pay your employees less than \$1,500 per fortnight and keep the difference. You will not be eligible for the JobKeeper payment if you pay your nominated employee less than \$1,500 per fortnight.

The amount of \$1,500 includes gross salary, wages, commission, bonus payments and allowances, inclusive of PAYG withholding, and any fringe benefits or superannuation contributions provided under an effective salary sacrifice agreement.

On this page:

- How to pay
- When to pay
- How much to pay
- Payment types
- Tax consequences
- Superannuation guarantee
- What you can't do
- Examples

How to pay

You need to re-start or continue to pay all your eligible employees at least \$1,500 a fortnight in line with your existing pay cycle through your existing payroll solution.

When to pay

You should pay your employees for each JobKeeper fortnight you plan to claim for. The first fortnight is from 30 March – 12 April and each JobKeeper fortnight follows after that.

For the first two fortnights (30 March - 12 April, 13 April - 26 April), we will accept the minimum \$1,500 payment for each fortnight has been paid by you even if it has been paid late, provided it is paid by you by 8 May. This means that you can make two fortnightly payments of at least \$1,500 per fortnight by 8 May, or a combined payment of at least \$3,000.

For the third fortnight (27 April – 10 May) you must pay your eligible employees by 10 May.

If you usually pay your employees less frequently than fortnightly, the payment can be allocated between fortnights in a reasonable manner. See How much to pay for further information on reasonable manner of allocation.

If your eligible employees change or leave your employment, you need to notify us.

How much to pay

You must pay the minimum \$1,500 (gross salary inclusive of PAYG withholding) to each eligible employee in each fortnight to claim the JobKeeper payment for that

fortnight. You should also consider your obligations under the *Fair Work Act 2009* to pay each eligible employee the minimum \$1,500 (gross salary inclusive of PAYG withholding) each fortnight. For more information, see <u>JobKeeper changes to the Fair Work Act</u>.

If your eligible employees earn less than \$1,500 (gross salary inclusive of PAYG withholding) per fortnight, you must pay them at least \$1,500 in each fortnight to claim the JobKeeper payment. This is a 'top up' of their salary or wages and will ensure you remain eligible.

You cannot pay your employees less than \$1,500 in each fortnight and keep the difference. You will not be eligible for the JobKeeper payment if you pay your nominated employee less than \$1,500 (gross salary inclusive of PAYG withholding) in each fortnight.

If your eligible employees earn more than \$1,500 per fortnight, you should continue to pay them their regular salary or wages. However, you will only receive \$1,500 for each eligible employee. Any amount you pay above \$1,500 in a fortnight is not subsidised by the JobKeeper payment.

If an employee was stood down after 1 March 2020, you can start paying them \$1,500 in each fortnight to qualify for the JobKeeper payment for that employee.

If an employee ceased working for you after 1 March 2020, you can re-engage them and pay them at least \$1,500 in each fortnight. You will only be eligible to claim for the fortnights after you re-engaged your employee.

What if you pay monthly?

If you usually pay your employees monthly, the payment can be allocated between fortnights in a reasonable manner. What is reasonable will depend on your particular circumstances. There might be more than one reasonable method of allocation and what is reasonable in one context may not necessarily be reasonable in another.

In many circumstances, an allocation that fairly reflects what the employee would have been paid in each relevant fortnight had the employer had a fortnightly rather than a monthly pay cycle would be considered reasonable.

If an employee's work pattern and employment status remains constant throughout the relevant period, it will be reasonable to allocate a monthly payment equally to each fortnight. We will also accept an equal allocation as reasonable even if there is only minor variation between fortnights.

However, if the work performed by the employee differs significantly over the period, it may not be reasonable to allocate a monthly payment equally to each fortnight. An equal allocation is more likely to be unreasonable in cases where the difference is caused by a change to the employee's usual work patterns or employment status – for example, the employee is stood down or their usual hours of work are significantly reduced during the month.

In some cases, employers who have paid at least \$3,000 before tax to employees in a four-week period may have, in good faith, simply allocated that payment equally to each fortnight. There may be some circumstances where that allocation is not reasonable (for example, because the work performed by the employee significantly differed between the two fortnights). In these cases, for JobKeeper fortnights ending in April or May, we will allow you until the end of June to make any additional payments necessary to ensure that a reasonable allocation of the payments you have made is at least \$1,500 per fortnight.

Payment types

These payments to employees count towards the \$1,500 per fortnight:

- salary and wages covered by section 12-35 of Schedule 1 to the Taxation Administration Act 1953
- all allowances other than a reimbursement of expenses or a fringe benefit
- overtime, shift and penalties
- bonuses and commissions
- PAYG withholding amounts under section 12-35 of Schedule 1 to the Taxation Administration Act 1953
- amounts applied under an effective salary sacrifice arrangement.

These payments do not count towards the \$1,500 per fortnight:

- Government Paid Parental Leave (GPPL)
- workers' compensation absence (not able to work)
- reimbursements of expenses incurred by employees'
- directors' fees (that are not salary and wages)
- lump sum payments (lump sum A, B, D and E)
- exempt foreign income (exempt from pay as you go withholding)
- employment termination payments
- fringe benefits provided to an employee which are not part of an effective salary sacrifice arrangement.

Tax consequences

All JobKeeper payments are assessable income of the business that is eligible to receive the payments. The normal rules for deductibility apply in respect of the amounts your business pays to its employees where those amounts are subsidised by the JobKeeper payment.

The JobKeeper payment is not subject to GST.

Operating on an accruals basis

For a business entity which operates on an accruals accounting basis, JobKeeper payments will be derived when the entity provides a valid completed business monthly declaration to us.

This means that JobKeeper payments for fortnights ending in June will generally be derived in July (or a later month) and will be assessable in the 2020–21 income

year.

This is because the payments are derived when the entity has a legal entitlement to those payments. It is the ATO's receipt of the business monthly declaration that triggers an entity's entitlement to JobKeeper and payment of that entitlement.

Operating on a cash accounting basis

For a business entity which operates on a cash accounting basis, the payments for a JobKeeper fortnight are derived when the entity receives those payments.

For JobKeeper fortnights ending in June, those payments will be made in July (or later), following receipt of the entity's business monthly declaration, and will be assessable in the 2020–21 income year.

Superannuation guarantee

One of the conditions that employers must satisfy to receive the JobKeeper payment for eligible employees is called the wage condition.

This is when the employer must have already paid at least \$1,500 (less PAYG withholding and any salary sacrificed amounts) to the employee for the fortnight.

In some cases, the \$1,500 the employer pays will be more than the amount it is required to pay its employee solely in relation to the performance of their work and any paid leave they take for that fortnight.

For the purposes of calculations made under the super guarantee (SG) legislation, this additional amount is excluded from being salary and wages and is not included as part of the employee's ordinary time earnings. This is provided that the additional amount was reasonably attributable to the employer satisfying the wage condition of the employee for a particular fortnight. The additional amount will be reasonably attributable to the employer satisfying the wage condition where the employer has a reasonable belief that it is entitled to a JobKeeper payment. It does not matter if it is ultimately determined that the employer was not entitled to a JobKeeper payment (for example, where the employer has acted on an incorrect statement made by an employee).

For SG purposes the employer does not need to make any super contributions in respect of that additional amount in order to avoid a super guarantee charge (SGC) liability – though the employer can choose to do so.

Employers may have other super obligations under an industrial agreement, award or contract.

Examples of super guarantee

Example 1 – Earnings in respect of work performed

Sophisticated Software Solutions (SSS) has a variety of employees

servicing the business, including a full-time technical consultant, Dinesh.

Dinesh is an eligible employee of SSS for the purposes of the JobKeeper scheme. He receives a gross salary of \$2,800 per fortnight, all of which is for the performance of ordinary hours of work.

SSS continues to make SG contributions on Dinesh's ordinary time earnings of \$2,800 in order to avoid an SGC liability.

Example 2 – Employee receives an additional amount arising from the JobKeeper scheme

Landscape & Earthworks (L&E) has several employees including a long-term casual employee, Antonio.

Antonio was stood down by L&E due to a reduction in trade. He is later provided work by L&E, but with reduced work hours. Antonio is an eligible employee of L&E for the purposes of the JobKeeper scheme. L&E pays him gross salary or wages of \$850 which is all for ordinary hours of work performed in the fortnight.

In order to qualify for the JobKeeper payment, L&E also pays Antonio an additional amount of \$650. This brings the total payment to Antonio for the fortnight to \$1,500.

L&E continues to make SG contributions on Antonio's ordinary time earnings of \$850 in order to avoid an SGC liability. However, it does not have to make superannuation contributions for SG purposes with respect to the additional amount of \$650 in order to avoid an SGC liability.

Example 3 – Less than \$450 per calendar month

The hair and beauty salon Shine has a number of long-term casual employees including Melissa.

Melissa is an eligible employee of Shine for the purposes of the JobKeeper scheme. She is usually paid \$205 per fortnight for the performance of work.

Shine pays Melissa an additional \$1,295 per fortnight to meet the JobKeeper wage condition. Melissa is now paid \$1,500 per fortnight.

For SG purposes, super contributions do not need to be paid for employees who are paid less than \$450 in a calendar month. The additional payments Shine makes to Melissa to qualify for the JobKeeper payment are not for the performance of work.

As the remaining amount for the calendar month is less than \$450, the hair and beauty salon does not need to make superannuation contributions for SG purposes for that month in order to avoid an SGC liability.

Example 4 – Employee agrees to be nominated by more than one employer

In February 2020, Mohammed is stood down by ClearSky Parachuting School (CPS). It continues to pay him a gross amount of \$1,500 per fortnight.

Mohammed agrees to be nominated by CPS as an eligible employee for the JobKeeper scheme. He provides an employee nomination notice to CPS on 9 April 2020.

Unknown to CPS, Mohammed has also previously given an employee nomination notice to another employer of his.

Although these circumstances result in CPS not being entitled to a JobKeeper payment for Mohammed, the gross amount of \$1,500 it pays to Mohammed each fortnight is reasonably attributable to it satisfying the wage condition.

For SG purposes, CPS is not required to make super contributions for Mohammed for the \$1,500 to avoid an SGC. The payment does not relate to his performance of work or paid leave. It is reasonable for CPS to consider that, based on the information Mohammed has provided, it is eligible for a JobKeeper payment for him. Accordingly, the payment CPS makes to Mohammed is reasonably attributable to CPS satisfying the wage condition and will be excluded salary or wages.

What you can't do

You cannot claim the JobKeeper payment on behalf of employees who were not paid at least \$1,500 (before tax) during each JobKeeper payment period.

You cannot claim the JobKeeper payment in advance. The JobKeeper payment is a reimbursement from us to an employer in arrears, and cannot be paid in advance in any circumstances.

Examples

Example 5 – Employer with employees on different wages

Adam owns a real estate business with two employees. The business is still operating at this stage, but Adam expects that GST turnover will fall by more than 30% in the coming months. The employees are:

- Anne, who is a permanent full-time employee on a salary of \$3,000 (before tax) per fortnight and who continues working for the business, and
- Nick, who is a permanent part-time employee on a salary of \$1,000 (before tax) per fortnight and who continues working for the business.

Adam is eligible to enrol and receive the JobKeeper payment for each employee.

Adam must provide both Anne and Nick with a <u>JobKeeper payment</u> – <u>employee nomination notice</u> within seven days of enrolling, and Anne and Nick need to complete and return to Adam to confirm they agree to be nominated.

Adam then identifies his eligible employees to the ATO by providing Anne's and Nick's details (and keeping a record of their completed employee nomination notice). In addition, Adam is required to advise his employees that he has nominated them as eligible employees to receive the payment.

The business continues to pay Anne her full-time salary of \$3,000 (before tax) per fortnight, and the business will receive \$1,500 per fortnight from the JobKeeper payment to subsidise part of the cost of Anne's salary.

The business continues to pay Nick his \$1,000 (before tax) per fortnight salary and an additional \$500 per fortnight before tax, totalling \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight. The business receives \$1,500 per fortnight from the JobKeeper payment, which will subsidise the cost of Nick's salary.

Adam will provide information to the ATO on a monthly basis and receive the payment monthly in arrears.

Example 6 – Employer with employees who have been stood down without pay

Zahrah runs a beauty salon in Melbourne. Ordinarily, she employs three permanent part-time beauticians, but the government directive that beauty

salons can no longer operate has required her to shut the business. As such she has been forced to stand down her three beauticians without pay.

Zahrah's turnover will likely fall by more than 30%, so she can be eligible to enrol for the JobKeeper payment for each employee, and pay at least \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight to each of her three beauticians for the period up to 27 September.

If Zahrah chooses to enrol in the JobKeeper scheme, she must provide each of her employees with a <u>JobKeeper payment – employee nomination notice</u> within seven days of enrolling, which states that they must complete and return the notice if they agree to be nominated as an eligible employee, and describes steps they need to take.

If Zahrah's employees have already started receiving income support payments like the JobSeeker payment when they receive the JobKeeper payment, they should advise Services Australia of their change in circumstances online at my.gov.au or by phone to avoid incurring a debt that they will need to repay.

Example 7 – Monthly pay cycles if employees ordinarily earn less than \$1,500 per fortnight

Following from the above example, if Zahrah usually pays her employees on a monthly basis, the monthly payment can be allocated between JobKeeper fortnights in a reasonable manner.

As her employees have been stood down and are not working, they will not be receiving their ordinary wages. Zahrah calculates how much she must pay her employees each month in order to be eligible for JobKeeper payments.

She could pay each employee at least \$3,000 (before tax) for each month of April to September, with the exception of August, which has three JobKeeper fortnights where (using this method), Zahrah would need to pay each employee at least \$4,500 (before tax).

Instead, Zahrah could work out her minimum monthly payments to each employee by looking at the work days falling in a JobKeeper fortnight in each month (for example, if her usual work fortnight has 10 working days, this would be \$150 per work day).

Zahrah could also consider paying \$3,300 (before tax) to each employee for each month of April to August, and \$3,000 (before tax) in September.

In Zahrah's circumstances, any of these methods would be accepted as

allowing a reasonable allocation that results in Zahrah paying \$1,500 (before tax) to each employee for each JobKeeper fortnight.

Example 8 – Reasonable allocation of monthly payments

Mabel runs a publishing business and is eligible to enrol and receive JobKeeper payments for her employees.

She has two eligible employees who are paid a monthly salary:

- Benita works full-time and is paid a monthly salary of \$7,000 (before tax).
- Fernando works part time and is paid a monthly salary of \$4,000 (before tax).

In April, Fernando and Benita continue to work their regular hours. It would be reasonable to allocate each employee's monthly payments evenly between the two fortnights. Mabel is taken to have paid each employee at least \$1,500 each fortnight and is entitled to receive JobKeeper payments for each employee.

Mabel's business has a critical project due on 11 May. Fernando works additional hours in early May to help meet the deadline. He is given an equivalent amount of time off in lieu in late May. As a result, Fernando works a slightly unequal number of hours each fortnight. However, in the circumstances, it is still reasonable to allocate Fernando's monthly pay equally between the two JobKeeper fortnights.

Benita commences a period of extended unpaid leave from the middle of September. Mabel therefore only pays her \$3,500 for that month. Having regard to the days Benita worked in each fortnight, it would not be reasonable to allocate the \$3,500 evenly across the two JobKeeper fortnights. Mabel needs to make a top-up payment to Benita so that Benita receives at least \$1,500 for the second JobKeeper fortnight.

Employees

https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employees/

- Last modified: 26 Jun 2020
- QC 62134

The JobKeeper payment supports businesses significantly affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) by helping with the costs of their employees' wages, so more Australians can retain their jobs and continue to earn an income.

Key points:

- You will not be paid the JobKeeper payment by the ATO. Payment comes from your employer who is reimbursed by the ATO.
- Tax is withheld from payments at your marginal tax rate, so you may receive less than \$1,500 in your bank account.
- Talk to your employer if you are interested in the JobKeeper payment.
- If you are receiving an income support payment, like JobSeeker, contact Services Australia and let them know that your employer has applied for the JobKeeper payment.
- JobKeeper payments must be included as income in your tax return.

Your employer will notify you if they intend to claim the JobKeeper fortnightly payment of \$1,500 on your behalf.

You can estimate how much tax will be withheld from your pay by using our <u>tax</u> withheld calculators.

What you can do

Here are five steps that you should take to help your employer claim the JobKeeper payment on your behalf:

- Step 1 Check you meet the eligibility requirements.
- Step 2 Talk to your employer and let them know if you want them to claim the JobKeeper payment for you.
- Step 3 If you have multiple jobs
 - Choose which employer you want to claim the JobKeeper payment for you. You can only choose one employer. If you are a long-term casual but also have a permanent employer, you can only choose a permanent employer.
 - Let your chosen employer know that you want them to claim the JobKeeper payment for you.
 - Let the other employers know you have nominated a different employer for the JobKeeper payment.
 - If you run a business, but are also a permanent employee, you cannot nominate to be an eligible business participant of that business. We will provide more information soon about the eligibility of business participants for the JobKeeper payment.

- Step 4 Complete the JobKeeper employee nomination notice provided by your chosen and agreed employer and return it to them as soon as possible.
 The form captures simple information to confirm who you are and that you choose to be nominated by them.
- Step 5 If you are receiving or in the process of applying for a Services
 Australia income support payment, like JobSeeker payment, contact <u>Services</u>
 <u>Australia</u> and let them know that your employer has applied for the JobKeeper payment. If you do not report the income or cancel your JobSeeker payment, you may incur a debt that you will be required to pay back.

Refer to <u>fairwork.gov.au</u> for information and advice about your workplace rights and obligations, including:

- hours of work
- stand downs from work
- flexible work arrangements
- pay and leave entitlements.

JobKeeper and your tax return

If you're an employee who has received JobKeeper payments, they will be included in your income statement as either salary and wages or as an allowance, depending on your circumstances.

We will automatically include your income statement information in your tax return for you. For most people this will occur by the end of July.

If you're a sole trader who has received JobKeeper payments, you need to include the payments as business income in your individual tax return.

Find out about:

- Eligible employees
- How much you will get from your employer
- How the JobKeeper payment affects income support payments
- Employees' frequently asked JobKeeper questions

Eligible employees

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employees/Eligibleemployees/
- Last modified: 02 May 2020
- QC 62136

On this page:

- Work out if you are an eligible employee
- If you are nominated by your employer
- Employees on a fixed term contract
- Employees with multiple employers
- Employees who were stood down or terminated

Work out if you are an eligible employee

You are an eligible employee if you:

- are currently employed by the eligible employer (including if you were stood down or re-hired)
- were for the eligible employer (or another entity in their wholly owned group),
 either a:
 - full-time, part-time or fixed-term employees at 1 March 2020
 - long-term casual employee (employed on a regular and systematic basis for at least 12 months) as at 1 March 2020 and not a permanent employee of any other employer
- were aged 18 years or older at 1 March 2020 (if you were 16 or 17 you can also qualify for fortnights before 11 May 2020, and continue to qualify after that if you are independent or not undertaking full time study)
- · were either:
 - an Australian resident (within the meaning of the Social Security Act 1991) – visit the Services Australia website and read <u>residence</u> <u>descriptions</u> for more details
 - an Australian resident for the purpose of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1936 and the holder of a Subclass 444 (Special Category) visa as at 1 March 2020
- were not in receipt of any of these payments during the JobKeeper fortnight:
 - government parental leave or Dad and partner pay under the Paid Parental Leave Act 2010
 - a payment in accordance with Australian worker compensation law for an individual's total incapacity for work.

If you started work with your current employer after 1 March 2020, your employer will not be eligible to claim the JobKeeper payment on your behalf.

If you aren't eligible to be paid JobKeeper payments by your employer, you may be able to apply for support through <u>Services Australia</u> depending on your personal circumstances.

See also:

• Employee test requirements

If you are nominated by your employer

It is optional for your employer to participate in the JobKeeper Payment scheme. If they do not participate in the scheme, you cannot be nominated by them.

If your employer chooses to participate in the JobKeeper Payment scheme, and you are an eligible employee, they must provide you with a <u>JobKeeper payment – employee nomination notice</u>. Find out about this at <u>Employers</u>. It is important to return the employee nomination notice to your employer as soon as possible in order for them to make a JobKeeper claim for you.

Your employer will not be able to claim the JobKeeper payment on your behalf if:

- you do not agree to be nominated
- you do not return your employee nomination notice before they make a claim for you
- they, or you, do not meet the eligibility criteria.

Once you and your employer have agreed they are claiming the JobKeeper payment on your behalf, they will enrol to receive the payment from us.

Employees on a fixed-term contract

Fixed-term contractors are eligible for the JobKeeper payment if they were employed at 1 March 2020 and meet the other eligibility criteria for the JobKeeper payment. If your contract ends and is renewed before 27 September 2020, the JobKeeper payment will only be available for the fortnights where the employment relationship exists until 27 September 2020.

Employees with multiple employers

If you have multiple employers, only one employer can claim the JobKeeper payment on your behalf. Your employers may ask you to tell them if you agree to be nominated as an eligible employee of theirs to receive the JobKeeper payment.

If you are employed by more than one employer, you should contact your employers and tell them which employer you want to receive the JobKeeper payment from.

If you are a long-term casual and you have other permanent employment, you must choose your permanent employer – you cannot be nominated by your casual employer.

Employees who were stood down or terminated

If you were stood down after 1 March 2020, your employer will be able to claim the JobKeeper payment on your behalf if you both meet the eligibility criteria including that your employer starts paying you a minimum of \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight.

If you were terminated after 1 March 2020, your employer may choose to re-engage you and claim the JobKeeper payment on your behalf if you both meet the eligibility criteria.

If you have taken up other work after being stood down, you may earn additional

income without your eligible employer's JobKeeper payment being affected. As long as you are eligible and maintain your employment (including being stood down) with your JobKeeper-eligible employer (including receiving \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight from them). However, you can only nominate one employer to receive the JobKeeper payment from.

Example: Employee made redundant after 1 March and later re-hired by same business

Sanjay worked as a permanent part-time personal trainer at a gym for six months earning \$1,200 a fortnight and was made redundant on 20 March 2020.

In response to the announcement of the JobKeeper payment, the gym reengages Sanjay so they are well placed to resume their operations once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Under the JobKeeper Payment scheme, Sanjay will receive \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight from the gym. Sanjay will need to advise Services Australia of his income. Services Australia will determine he is no longer eligible for the JobSeeker payment and the Coronavirus Supplement from Services Australia as a result of receiving payment from his employer.

Find out about:

- How much you will get from your employer
- How the JobKeeper payment affects income support payments

How much you will get from your employer

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employees/How-muchyou-will-get-from-your-employer/
- Last modified: 19 Apr 2020
- QC 62137

On this page:

- How payment is made
- Normally earning less than \$1,500 per fortnight
- If you are stood down or have reduced hours
- Normally earning more than \$1,500 per fortnight

How payment is made

The JobKeeper payment is paid to your employer. You will continue to receive salary or wages from your employer and we will reimburse your employer after they have paid you.

If you are an eligible employee and your employer is claiming the JobKeeper payment to subsidise your salary or wages, you will receive a minimum of \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight.

Normally earning less than \$1,500 per fortnight

If you are eligible and normally receive less than \$1,500 in income (before tax) per fortnight, your employer must pay you at least \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight in order to receive the JobKeeper payment.

Your employer will likely continue paying you your ordinary income and provide a 'top-up' so you receive at least \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight.

If you are stood down or have reduced hours

If you normally earn more than \$1,500 but are stood down or working reduced hours, such that your ordinary income is nil (that is, stood down) or less than \$1,500 (that is, reduced hours) per fortnight before tax, then your employer must pay you at least \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight in order to receive the JobKeeper payment.

Normally earning more than \$1,500 per fortnight

If you are eligible and receive \$1,500 or more in income (before tax) per fortnight, you may continue to receive your regular income according to your current workplace arrangements. The JobKeeper payment will assist your employer by subsidising part of your income.

Example: Employer with five employees who all currently get paid more than \$1,500 per fortnight

Taiyo runs a landscaping company, and employs five full-time gardeners. Taiyo is paying his employees \$1,700 (before tax) per fortnight. He expects that his GST turnover will fall by more than 30% over the coming months and that he will either need to lay staff off, or reduce their hours significantly.

As a result of the JobKeeper payment, Taiyo is able to keep employing every gardener at \$1,700 per fortnight, with the JobKeeper payment subsidising these wage costs by \$1,500 per fortnight.

Find out about:

How the JobKeeper payment affects income support payments

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Employees/How-the-JobKeeper-payment-affects-income-support-payments/
- Last modified: 05 Jun 2020
- QC 62138

The JobKeeper payment is treated as income for the purposes of social security payments.

If you're receiving income support, you need to report the income you receive through the JobKeeper payment to <u>Services Australia</u>. This may make you ineligible for the JobSeeker payment or other income support payments.

We are working with Services Australia to share information to identify instances of the incorrect eligibility for JobKeeper or JobSeeker. If you don't report the income or cancel your JobSeeker payment, you may incur a debt you'll have to repay.

Example: Employee who has been stood down and applied for income support

Lowanna worked at a cinema as a permanent full-time employee but has been stood down under the Fair Work Act without pay. She had registered an intent to claim with Services Australia for access to the JobSeeker payment and the Coronavirus supplement. Lowanna is single with no children and in total would be eligible to receive \$1,124.50 (before tax) per fortnight from Services Australia.

Lowanna's employer has decided to enrol for the JobKeeper payment and nominate Lowanna (with her agreement). Lowanna's employer must pay her \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight. Lowanna's employer is required to advise her that she's been nominated as an eligible employee to receive the payment.

Services Australia will determine Lowanna isn't eligible for income support from Services Australia as a result of receiving JobKeeper payments from her employer.

Sole traders

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Sole-traders/
- Last modified: 24 Jun 2020
- QC 62190

Media: JobKeeper Payment for sole traders http://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bi9or7on4zii67 (Duration: 1:17)

Sole traders may be eligible for the JobKeeper scheme under the business participation entitlement if their business has experienced a downturn according to the eligibility criteria.

The <u>JobKeeper guide – sole traders</u> provides step-by-step information on how to enrol, identify and maintain employees, and make a monthly business declaration.

On this page:

- Work out your eligibility
- Enrol and claim the JobKeeper payment

Work out your eligibility

As a sole trader, you may be entitled to the JobKeeper payment for yourself if:

- you meet the conditions of an eligible entity
- you are also an eligible business participant.

An eligible business participant is an individual who is actively engaged in the operation of the business but is not an employee of the business.

If you are eligible, you can claim one \$1,500 JobKeeper payment per fortnight for yourself as the eligible business participant.

If you have employees, you may also be able to claim JobKeeper payments of \$1,500 per fortnight for each eligible employee.

On this page:

- Work out if you are an eligible entity
- Work out if you are an eligible business participant
- Work out if you have eligible employees

Work out if you are an eligible entity

To claim the JobKeeper payment, an entity must satisfy certain eligibility requirements. As a sole trader, you are an eligible entity if:

on 1 March 2020, you carried on a business in Australia

- you satisfy the fall in turnover test for the relevant period
- you satisfied certain conditions at 12 March 2020, being
 - o you had an ABN on 12 March 2020, and
 - o you had lodged, on or before 12 March 2020, at least one of
 - a 2018–19 income tax return showing an amount included in your assessable income in relation to carrying on that business, or
 - an activity statement or GST return for any tax period that started after 1 July 2018 and ended before 12 March 2020 showing you made a taxable, GST-free or input-taxed sale.

Note: 'tax period' has a specific meaning. For example, where you report GST on a quarterly basis, your last tax period before 12 March 2020 would be the quarter ended 31 December 2019.

If you did not meet 12 March deadline

We have discretion to grant further time, but only in limited circumstances, to:

- hold an ABN where an ABN was not held on 12 March 2020
- provide notice of assessable income or taxable supplies during the relevant period to the Commissioner, where notice was not provided by 12 March 2020
- your circumstances may fall within a category where we have exercised our discretion to grant you further time. If so, you do not need to apply for the Commissioner's discretion.

Find out more:

• Exercise of the Commissioner's discretion

If your circumstances do not fit within one of those categories, and you meet all other JobKeeper requirements, then you can consider applying to the Commissioner to exercise his discretion to grant further time.

See also:

• <u>JobKeeper application for Commissioner's discretion in respect of an eligible business participant.</u>

Note: You cannot enrol to receive a JobKeeper payment until you are notified that the Commissioner has granted the further time requested.

Ineligible entities

A sole trader is not eligible for the JobKeeper payment if they have entered bankruptcy.

Work out if you are an eligible business participant

There needs to be an eligible business participant for the fortnight that you are claiming a JobKeeper payment.

If you are a sole trader – that is, you own your business and are not an employee of your business – only you can be the eligible business participant. You will qualify as

an eligible business participant provided you satisfy the following conditions:

- You are <u>actively engaged</u> in your business (at 1 March 2020 and for the fortnight you are claiming).
- You are a sole trader at 1 March 2020 and for the fortnight you are claiming
- At 1 March 2020, you are both
 - o at least 16 years old
 - an Australian resident (under section 7 of the Social Security Act 1991), or a resident for income tax purposes and the holder of a Special Category (Subclass 444) visa.
- You are not receiving government parental leave or Dad and Partner Pay.
- You are not totally incapacitated for work and receiving payments under an Australian workers' compensation law in respect of your total incapacity to work.
- You are not an employee (other than a casual employee) of another entity.
- You have given us a JobKeeper nomination notice
 - as a sole trader, this is done during the online enrolment process in the Business Portal or in ATO online services using myGov. You do not need to complete a separate nomination notice for yourself.
- You have not previously given another entity, or us, a JobKeeper nomination notice.

A limit applies of one \$1,500 JobKeeper payment per fortnight for the eligible business participant.

Actively engaged

As a sole trader – that is, you own your business and are not an employee of your business – you will be actively engaged in your business if you regularly:

- perform or manage the performance of services the business provides
- sell or manage the sale of goods of the business
- perform other activities associated with managing the business
- exercise control over activities related to business strategy and growth.

You will not be actively engaged in the business simply because you:

- own an interest in the business or invest capital in it
- provide advice or other assistance to the business from time-to-time.

Example

Annette owns a tourism business associated with Australian ski resorts.

During the ski season Annette works long hours managing all aspects of ski holidays for her clients.

During the off-season Annette works on marketing, building business partnerships, securing future bookings and bookkeeping.

Annette is actively engaged in the business.

Work out if you have eligible employees

If you are a sole trader with employees, you may also be able to claim JobKeeper payments of \$1,500 per fortnight per eligible employee.

See also:

• Eligibility requirements

Enrol and claim the JobKeeper payment

When you, as a sole trader, have worked out that you satisfy the eligible entity requirements, as well as the eligible business participant requirements, you need to enrol.

To claim the JobKeeper payment for a fortnight you must enrol before the end of the JobKeeper fortnight.

As a sole trader, you can nominate yourself as the eligible business participant during the online enrolment process in the Business Portal or in ATO online services using myGov.

Note: Sole traders do not need to complete a separate nomination notice for themselves.

On this page:

- How to prepare
 - If you don't have employees
 - If you have employees
 - If you are both a sole trader and employee of another business
 - If you are a sole trader with more than one business
- Instructions
 - Step 1: Enrol and nominate for the JobKeeper payment
 - Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees or business participants
 - Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

How to prepare

- Check your business meets the <u>eligibility requirements</u>.
- Work out if your business has had a fall in turnover. You can use the <u>basic test</u> to determine this. If you don't meet the basic turnover test, <u>alternative tests</u> are available for some cases when turnover periods are not appropriately comparable.
- Choose whether to use ATO online services or the Business Portal and set up your systems if you don't have an account.
- Get advice from your registered tax or BAS agent if you need help. They can

- enrol, identify and declare for JobKeeper on your behalf.
- Enrol and identify your eligible employees by the end of the month that you are claiming for.
- If you find it difficult to interact with us online and don't use a registered tax or BAS agent, you can contact us for help.

See also:

• <u>JobKeeper guide – sole traders</u> – for detailed information on how to prepare.

If you don't have employees

As a sole trader, you can only nominate yourself as the <u>eligible business participant</u>. Where you meet the <u>eligibility requirements</u>, you can qualify for the JobKeeper payment.

Example – sole trader eligibility

Jameela is a sole trader and operates a cupcake business. She is an Australian resident with an ABN and has run her business since 2017. Jameela runs her business as a sole trader with no employees.

Jameela projects a fall in turnover of about 80% in April 2020 compared with April 2019 as a result of COVID-19.

Jameela is an eligible business participant and qualifies for the JobKeeper Payment.

If you have employees

If you have employees you wish to claim the JobKeeper payment for, you need to:

- Check your employees meet the <u>eligibility requirements</u>.
- Continue to pay at least \$1,500 to every eligible employee per <u>JobKeeper</u> fortnight.
- Re-hire or re-engage employees you let go or stood down and pay them if you want to claim the JobKeeper payment for them.
- Send a <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> to all your eligible employees to complete and return to you before you claim JobKeeper payments for those employees. You can either
 - use our <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u>, or
 - create your own employee nomination notice if it's not practical for each employee to complete and return our version to you. This will allow you to use your own portal or communication channel to obtain this information.
- Each eligible employee must agree to be nominated by you. They do this by completing the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> and returning it to you for your records before you claim the payment for that employee. Keep the employee nomination notice on file.

If you are both a sole trader and employee of another business

- As a sole trader you cannot receive JobKeeper payments if you are also an employee (other than a casual employee) of another entity.
- If you are both a <u>long-term casual employee</u> of another business and also an
 eligible sole trader, you can choose to either let your employer claim the
 JobKeeper payments on your behalf or you can claim as a sole trader but not
 both.

Example – Sole trader and employee

Zora is a sole trader and actively manages her florist business, Flowers by Zora. She is also employed in another business owned by another entity on a permanent part-time basis as an administrative assistant.

Flowers by Zora has suffered a significant downturn due to COVID-19. Zora's hours at her permanent part-time job have also been cut as a result of COVID-19, causing a decline in the business of her employer.

Zora is an eligible employee for the purpose of the JobKeeper Payment scheme for her permanent part-time job, and her employer qualifies for a JobKeeper payment for her employment.

Zora, in her capacity as a sole trader, isn't eligible for the JobKeeper payment because she is a permanent (not casual) employee of another entity. This conclusion would be the same whether her employer qualifies for JobKeeper payments or not.

If you are a sole trader with more than one business

A sole trader can only receive one JobKeeper payment per fortnight as the eligible business participant. This is even if you operate more than one business as a sole trader.

You can only be an eligible business participant of one entity. This means that, if you nominate yourself as an eligible business participant as a sole trader, you can't be an eligible business participant of a different type of entity (for example, a company) through which you might also carry on a business.

Example – Sole trader with more than one business

Matthew is a sole trader and actively manages two businesses:

- Matt's Sculptures which sells Mathew's sculptures at markets and galleries
- Matt's Designs which is Mathew's graphic design business.

Both businesses are operated in Australia with annual turnovers from

\$60,000 to \$80,000. Matthew has an ABN, is 43 years old and is an Australian resident.

Matt's Sculptures and Matt's Designs have both experienced a fall in turnover as a result of COVID-19. Matt's Sculptures has stopped selling at markets and galleries while they're closed, but continues to sell sculptures online, and using a delivery service. Matt's Designs also continues to operate, online.

Matthew forecasts his turnover will fall by 45% in April 2020 compared with April 2019, due to a reduction in work contracts and discretionary spending by customers.

Matthew is an eligible business participant for the purpose of the JobKeeper Payment scheme, satisfying all requirements. He cannot however, qualify for the JobKeeper payment twice on the basis that he runs two businesses. He can only nominate under the JobKeeper Payment scheme as the eligible business participant for one entity (himself as sole trader).

If Matthew instead operated Matt's Designs through a company, Matt's Designs Pty Ltd, the outcome would still be the same in that only one JobKeeper payment can be claimed.

This is because only one entity (Matthew as sole trader, or Matt's Designs Pty Ltd) may be entitled to the JobKeeper payment for the one individual who is the eligible business participant (that is, Mathew).

If both Matthew in his capacity as a sole trader and shareholder or director of Matt's Designs Pty Ltd satisfies the eligibility conditions for a JobKeeper payment, he would need to decide in which capacity he will be an eligible business participant and therefore whether he becomes entitled to the JobKeeper payment as a sole trader, or Matt's Designs Pty Ltd becomes entitled to the JobKeeper payment.

Instructions

This section sets out the steps you need to follow:

- Step 1: Enrol and nominate for the JobKeeper payment
- Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees and/or eligible business participant
- Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

For detailed instructions on how to enrol, identify and maintain employees and make a monthly business declaration, see <u>JobKeeper guide</u> – <u>sole traders</u>.

Step 1: Enrol and nominate for the JobKeeper payment

You only need to complete this step once. Your registered tax or BAS agent can also enrol for you.

- Log in to ATO Online services via myGov or the Business Portal using myGovID.
- To enrol, you need to confirm
 - your business has experienced a fall in turnover of at least 30%
 - expected number of eligible employees (if you have them)
 - that you are enrolling as a sole trader (so you can claim payments for yourself)
 - o financial institution and contact details for receiving JobKeeper payments.
- Notify all your eligible employees (if any) that you've nominated them.
- You need to enrol before you can move to Step 2 and identify yourself and any employees you're claiming for.

Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees and/or eligible business participant

You or your registered tax or BAS agent need to identify each person you will claim the JobKeeper Payment for. You only need to identify yourself or eligible employees once.

If you don't have any employees:

- Log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm
 - your details as the sole trader and eligible business participant
 - the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for
 - that you don't have any employees.

If you have employees

If you have eligible employees, how you identify them depends on your payroll software and number of employees.

- If your STP enabled payroll software is updated with JobKeeper functionality
 - first, you need to update each eligible employee in your payroll software and then lodge an STP pay event.
 - then, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the fortnights you're claiming for and the number of employees you're claiming for based on your lodged STP pay report.
- If your STP payroll software doesn't have JobKeeper functionality and you have 200 employees or fewer
 - first, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details and the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for yourself.
 - we'll give you a list of all employees you reported to us through your STP pay reports at the start of March. You then need to confirm each of your employees eligibility and the fortnights you're claiming for them.
- If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, and you have 40 employees or fewer
 - Have all your eligible employees tax file numbers (TFNs) and dates of birth handy before logging in.

- Log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details and the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for yourself.
- From there, you need to add your eligible employees by entering their TFNs and dates of birth and the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for them. You can add up to 40 employees.
- If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, and you have over 40 employees
 - You might want to consider using STP and JobKeeper enabled payroll software. Look at the <u>STP product register</u>[™] to find STP software.
 - Otherwise, you need to create your own JobKeeper report. Download the
 <u>JobKeeper Payment Guide (DOCX, 290KB)</u> sample payload files <u>Blank</u>
 <u>file (XLS, 11KB)</u> and <u>Example file (XLS, 11KB)</u> – to produce this and fill in
 the details of all your eligible employees.
 - You can return this to us securely through our Business Portal File transfer function. Allow three days for the report to process.
 - Then, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the fortnights you're claiming for and the number of employees you're claiming for based on your lodged STP pay report.

See also:

• Paying your eligible employees

Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

You must provide information as to your current and projected turnover. This isn't a retest of your eligibility, but rather an indication of how your business is progressing under the JobKeeper scheme.

If your eligible employees change or leave your employment, you need to notify us through this monthly declaration.

To make your business monthly declaration:

- Log in to ATO online services through myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID.
- Provide us with your business's current and projected GST turnover.
- Reconfirm your eligible employees and your own details.

What you need to do for your employees

- From 1 May 2020 with the introduction of Coronavirus Economic Response
 Package (Payments and Benefits) Amendment Rules (NO 2) 2020 there is an
 obligation that within seven days of enrolling to receive JobKeeper payments,
 you must provide an Employee nomination notice to each of your employees.
- If your employees have multiple employers, they can usually choose which employer they want to nominate through. However, if your employees are longterm casuals and have other permanent employment, they cannot nominate you. They cannot be nominated for the JobKeeper payment by more than one

employer.

- If an employee is receiving or in the process of applying for a Services
 Australia income support payment like JobSeeker payment, they should
 contact <u>Services Australia</u>[™] and let them know that their employer has applied
 for the payment.
- The ATO and Services Australia are working together to identify instances of incorrect eligibility for JobKeeper versus JobSeeker. If your employee does not report the income or cancels their JobSeeker payment, they may incur a debt that they will be required to pay back.

JobKeeper and your tax return

If you are a sole trader who has received JobKeeper payments, you need to include the payments as business income in your individual tax return.

If you have any employees, JobKeeper payments are treated the same as their usual salary or wages from their employer. It will be included in their income statement as either salary and wages or as an allowance, depending on their circumstances. If they self-prepare their tax return, we will automatically include this information once their income statement is finalised. For most people this will occur by the end of July. A registered BAS or tax agent will also have access to this information to complete their client's tax returns.

Exercise of the Commissioner's discretion

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Sole-traders/Exercise-ofthe-Commissioner-s-discretion/
- Last modified: 17 Jun 2020
- QC 62916

If your circumstances fall within one of the categories below, you do not need to apply for the Commissioner's discretion. We have exercised our discretion to grant you further time.

If you have already applied for discretion, you can still rely on this statement.

Additional time to hold an ABN

If you were carrying on an active business solely in the external territories of Australia on 12 March 2020 but did not hold an ABN, you have until 30 June 2020 to apply^{L3} for, and receive, an ABN.

Additional time to notify assessable business income for 2018–19 income year

Notifying assessable business income for the 2018–19 income year

Class of entities	Additional conditions	When you must notify us	How you provide notice
You have a pre-existing lodgment deferral in place for your 2018–19 income tax return. For example: • under the tax agent lodgment program, your 2018–19 tax return is not due until after 12 March 2020 • you have an automatic deferral applied to your lodgment because you are located in an area that was affected by the Australian bushfires in late 2019, and your 2018-19 income tax return is not due until after 12 March 2020, or • you had, prior to 12 March 2020, an agreed extension with the ATO to lodge your 2018–19 tax return after 12 March 2020.	You are not registered for GST and are not required to be registered for GST.	You have until your existing deferred lodgment date to provide notice of your assessable business income for the 2018–19 income year.	Lodge your 2018–19 income tax return, including your business income.

Additional time to notify sales for tax period 1 July 2018 to 12 March 2020

Notifying sales for a tax period starting on or after 1 July 2018 and ending before 12 March 2020.

Class of entities	Additional conditions	When you must notify us	How you provide notice
 You: are a new business established from 1 July 2019 with an income year ending 30 June are registered for GST, and 	You have made sales in the relevant period.	You have until your existing deferred lodgment date to	Lodge all your relevant BAS, including your sales.

 have a pre-existing lodgment deferral in place for all your activity statements in the period from commencement of your business until the end of the last tax period ending before 12 March 2020 ('relevant period'), or all activity statements in that period for which you have sales to report. 		provide notice of sales you have made in the relevant period.	
 You: are a new business established from 1 July 2019, with an income year ending 30 June made sales on or before 31 December 2019, and are not registered for GST and are not required to be registered for GST. 	You have made sales in the relevant period.	You have until 30 June 2020 to provide notice of sales you have made on or before 31 December 2019.	Enrol for JobKeeper if you are in this class and want to participate. We will then contact you via email with instructions on how to provide us notice.

Discretion only gives you further time

Exercise of the Commissioner's discretion does not mean you are eligible or entitled to the JobKeeper payment. You must obtain your ABN, and/or provide the relevant notice, by the extended date outlined above.

If you have already provided notice of your assessable business income by lodging your 2018–19 income tax return with business income declared, you do not need to contact us.

When you do need to apply for Commissioner's discretion

If your circumstances do not fit in the categories above, but the business entity and eligible business recipient meet all other JobKeeper requirements, then you can consider applying to the Commissioner to exercise his discretion to grant further time.

See also:

• JobKeeper application for Commissioner's discretion in respect of an eligible

business participant.

Find out about:

 <u>Law Administration Practice Statement 2020/1</u> Commissioner's discretion to allow further time for an entity to register for an or provide notice to the Commissioner of assessable income or supplies – further guidance on when the Commissioner will consider exercising his discretion.

Partnerships, trusts and companies

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Partnerships,-trusts-andcompanies/
- Last modified: 17 Jun 2020
- QC 62814

Entities such as partnerships, trusts or companies, may be entitled to the JobKeeper scheme under the business participation entitlement. However, not for profit organisations are not included.

On this page:

- Work out your eligibility
- Enrol and claim the JobKeeper payment

Work out your eligibility

Your entity (partnership, trust or company) may be eligible for the JobKeeper scheme if it is an eligible business entity and has an eligible business participant.

An eligible business participant is an individual who is actively engaged in the operation of the business and is not an employee of the business. There can only be one eligible business participant for the entity.

If your entity is eligible, it can claim one \$1,500 JobKeeper payment per fortnight in respect of the eligible business participant. The entity, not the eligible business participant, receives the JobKeeper payment.

If your entity also has employees, it may also be able to claim JobKeeper payments of \$1,500 per fortnight for each eligible employee.

On this page:

- Work out if you are an eligible business entity
- Work out if you have an eligible business participant
- Work out if you have eligible employees

Examples

Work out if you are an eligible business entity

To claim the JobKeeper payment, an entity must satisfy certain eligibility requirements. Your entity is eligible if:

- on 1 March 2020, it carried on a business in Australia
- it satisfies the fall in turnover test for the relevant period
- it satisfied certain conditions at 12 March 2020, being
 - o it had an ABN on 12 March 2020, and
 - o it had lodged, on or before 12 March 2020, at least one of
 - a 2018–19 income tax return showing it had an amount included in its assessable income in relation to carrying on a business, or
 - an activity statement or GST return for any tax period that started after 1 July 2018 and ended before 12 March 2020 showing it made a taxable, GST-free or input-taxed sale.

Note: 'tax period' has a specific meaning. For example, where you report GST on a quarterly basis, your last tax period before 12 March 2020 would be the quarter ended 31 December 2019.

If you did not meet 12 March deadline

We have discretion to grant further time, but only in limited circumstances, to:

- hold an ABN where an ABN was not held on 12 March 2020
- provide notice of assessable income or taxable supplies during the relevant period to the Commissioner, where notice was not provided by 12 March 2020.

Your circumstances may fall within a category where we have exercised our discretion to grant you further time. If so, you do not need to apply for the Commissioner's discretion.

Find out more:

Exercise of the Commissioner's discretion

If your circumstances do not fit within one of those categories, and you meet all other JobKeeper requirements, then you can consider applying to the Commissioner to exercise his discretion to grant further time.

See also:

• <u>JobKeeper application for Commissioner's discretion in respect of an eligible business participant.</u>

Note: You cannot enrol to receive a JobKeeper payment until you are notified that the Commissioner has granted the further time requested.

Ineligible entities

An entity isn't eligible for the JobKeeper payment for an eligible business participant if

- the Major Bank Levy was imposed on the entity or a member of its consolidated group for any quarter before 1 March 2020
- the entity is a not-for-profit organisation
- the entity is an Australian government agency (within the meaning of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997)
- the entity is a local governing body
- the entity is wholly owned by an Australian government agency or local governing body
- the entity is a sovereign entity or an entity owned by a sovereign entity
- the entity is a company in liquidation.

Work out if you have an eligible business participant

An individual may be an eligible business participant of your entity for the fortnight if they meet all the following:

- They're not employed by your entity.
- They're <u>actively engaged</u> in the business carried on by your entity (at 1 March 2020 and for the fortnight you're claiming).
- They're one of the following (at 1 March 2020 and for the fortnight you're claiming)
 - a partner in the partnership
 - o an adult beneficiary of the trust
 - o a shareholder in or director of the company.
- As at 1 March 2020, they are both
 - at least 16 years old (or 18 years or over if a beneficiary in the case of a trust)
 - an Australian resident (under section 7 of the Social Security Act 1991) or a resident for income tax purposes and the holder of a Special Category (Subclass 444) visa.
- They're not receiving government parental leave or Dad and Partner Pay.
- They're not totally incapacitated for work and receiving payments under an Australian workers' compensation law in respect of their total incapacity to work.
- They're not an employee (other than a casual employee) of another entity.
- They haven't previously given another entity, or us, a JobKeeper nomination notice.
- If they're a partner, an adult beneficiary of a trust, or a shareholder in or director of a company, they've provided a completed <u>Eligible business</u> <u>participant nomination notice (excluding sole traders)</u> to the entity to record they've agreed to be nominated to receive JobKeeper payments through an eligible business.

There is a limit of one \$1,500 JobKeeper payment per fortnight for the eligible business participant.

Note: your entity cannot have more than one eligible business participant.

Actively engaged

An individual will be actively engaged in the business carried on by the entity if they regularly:

- perform, or manage the performance of, services the business provides
- sell or manage the sale of goods of the business
- perform other activities associated with managing the business
- exercise control over activities related to business strategy and growth.

An individual will not be actively engaged in the business simply because they:

- own an interest in the business or invest capital in it
- provide advice or other assistance to the business from time to time.

Example

Sato and her mother Akari are shareholders in a company carrying on a transport business. Sato drives a company van 6 days a week, while Akari provided capital for the business and occasionally gives Sato advice about ways to grow the business. Sato is actively engaged in the business while Akari is not.

Work out if you have eligible employees

If your entity has employees, you may also be able to claim additional JobKeeper payments of \$1,500 per fortnight for each eligible employee.

See also:

• Eligibility requirements

Examples

Example – partner in a partnership

Danielle, Shelley and Calvin are individual partners in a partnership operating an Australian business, DSC Accounting. The partnership was formed in 2012 and has an ABN. As they are partners, they are not employees, and they each receive partnership distributions. DSC Accounting also employs four full-time staff. Each of the partners and employees is over 16 and an Australian resident.

On 10 April 2020, DSC Accounting projects a fall in turnover of about 25% compared with March 2019 and April 2019. It also projects a 25% fall in turnover for the April 2020 quarter compared with the April 2019 quarter. Accordingly, the business isn't eligible for the JobKeeper Payment scheme as the fall in turnover requirements are not satisfied.

However, on 4 May 2020, a fall in turnover of 45% for May 2020 is projected, compared with May 2019. Therefore, the business meets the requirements for fall in turnover from that time onwards.

As only one partner (Danielle, Shelley or Calvin) can be nominated as the eligible business participant for the JobKeeper payment, the partnership must decide who this will be. This choice applies for the duration of the time the business participates in the JobKeeper Payment scheme. The entitlement to the JobKeeper payment as a business owner applies even if there are no employees in the business.

If DSC Accounting satisfies the JobKeeper eligibility conditions for paid employees, it could also qualify for JobKeeper payments for each of its eligible employees. It could receive up to five JobKeeper payments for each fortnight (for one eligible business participant and four eligible employees).

Example – Adult beneficiary of a trust

Fabian is a personal trainer and operates a gym and an online training program. He runs his Australian business through a discretionary trust where he is a beneficiary and receives trust distributions.

The trust was settled and acquired an ABN in 2011. Fabian isn't employed by his business but actively manages the business and isn't employed elsewhere. There is also one permanent part-time employee employed in the business.

The gym closed on 20 March 2020. The online personal training platform is still operating, and Fabian is focusing on growing this part of his business. As a result of the gym closure, the trust's turnover is expected to fall by 70% in April 2020 compared with April 2019.

Fabian is 36 years old and an Australian resident. He is an eligible business participant and the trust qualifies under the JobKeeper Payment scheme, with the trust receiving the JobKeeper payment.

The trust could also qualify for an additional JobKeeper payment if the permanent part-time employee is an eligible employee.

Enrol and claim the JobKeeper payment

When you've worked out your business is an eligible entity and your individual nonemployee is an eligible business participant, you need to enrol. To claim the JobKeeper payment for a fortnight you must enrol before the end of the JobKeeper fortnight.

You also need to provide details of the eligible business participant to us. Then, within seven days you must inform them you've done this.

If the eligible business participant is a partner, adult beneficiary of a trust, or a shareholder in or director of a company, they need to complete the <u>Eligible business</u> <u>participant nomination notice (excluding sole traders)</u> to record they've agreed to be nominated as the eligible business participant.

On this page:

- How to prepare
- <u>Instructions</u>
 - Step 1: Enrol and nominate for the JobKeeper payment
 - Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees or eligible business participants
 - Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

How to prepare

- Check your business meets the <u>eligibility requirements</u>, including the <u>turnover test</u>. The turnover calculation is based on GST turnover. This applies even if an entity isn't registered for GST.
- If you're a director or a shareholder of a company, a partner in a partnership, or an adult beneficiary of a trust, consider whether you will nominate as an <u>eligible business participant</u> and check you meet the eligibility requirements.
- Download the <u>JobKeeper eligible business participant nomination notice</u>
 (excluding sole trader) and ensure one eligible business participant has
 completed and returned it to you. You don't need to send us the form but you
 must keep it for your records.
- If you have employees, check they meet the employee eligibility requirements.
- Re-hire or re-engage employees you let go or stood down and pay them if you want to claim the JobKeeper payment for them.
- Continue to pay at least \$1,500 to every eligible employee per <u>JobKeeper</u> fortnight
- Send a <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> to all your eligible employees to complete and return to you before you claim JobKeeper payments for them. You can either
 - use our JobKeeper employee nomination notice
 - <u>create your own employee nomination notice</u> if it is not practical to have each employee complete and return the ATO version to you. This will allow you to use your own portal or communication channel to obtain this information.
- Each eligible employee must agree to be nominated by you. They do this by completing the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> and returning it to you before you claim the payment for them. Keep the nomination notice on file.
- If you use the Business Portal, you need a myGovID linked to your ABN in relationship Authorisation Manager (RAM). You can find out how to set this up

at ato.gov.au/mygovid

- Your registered tax or BAS agent can enrol, identify and declare for JobKeeper on your behalf using ATO Online services for agents.
- If you find it difficult to interact with us online and don't use a registered tax or BAS agent, you can contact us for help.

Instructions

- Step 1: Enrol for the JobKeeper payment
- <u>Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees</u> and/or eligible business participant
- Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

Step 1: Enrol for the JobKeeper Payment

You only need to do this once. Your registered tax or BAS agent can also enrol for you.

- Log in to the Business Portal using myGovID.
- To enrol, you need to confirm
 - o your business has experienced a fall in turnover
 - expected number of eligible employees (if you have any)
 - o an eligible business participant (if you're nominating one)
 - o bank and contact details for receiving JobKeeper payments.
- Notify all your eligible employees (if any) that you've nominated them.
- You need to enrol before you can move to Step 2 and identify any employees you're claiming for.

Detailed information on how to enrol is available in our <u>JobKeeper guides</u> for employers.

Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees and/or eligible business participant

You or your registered tax or BAS agent need to identify each person you will claim the JobKeeper payment for. You only need to identify your eligible employees and eligible business participant once.

If you have an eligible business participant, remember not to include them as an employee. You can add them in the Business Portal.

How you identify your eligible employees depends on your payroll software and number of employees.

- Directly into your STP enabled payroll software is updated with JobKeeper functionality
 - first, you will need to update each eligible employee in your payroll software and then lodge an STP pay event using your payroll software.
 - then, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the fortnights you're claiming for and the number of employees you're claiming for based on your lodged STP pay report.

- If your STP payroll software doesn't have JobKeeper functionality and you have 200 employees or fewer.
 - first, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details and the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for yourself.
 - then, we'll give you a list of all employees you reported to us through your STP pay reports at the start of March. You then need to confirm each of your employees eligibility and the fortnights you're claiming for them.
- If your STP payroll software doesn't have JobKeeper functionality and you have over 200 employees.
 - First, create a JobKeeper pay report.
 - Then, ask us for a prefilled JobKeeper report which can update and return through the Business Portal Transfer file function.
 - Or use the JobKeeper Payment Guide sample payload files <u>Blank file</u> (<u>CSV, 285KB</u>) and <u>Example file (CSV, 710KB</u>) to produce your own JobKeeper report and return it to us by uploading it through the Business Portal Transfer file function.
- If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, and you have 40 employees or fewer.
 - First, have your eligible employees tax file numbers (TFNs) and dates of birth handy before you log in.
 - Then, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details and the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for yourself.
 - From there, you need to add your eligible employees by entering their TFN and date of birth and the JobKeeper fortnights you're claiming for them. You can add up to 40 employees.
- If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, and you have over 40 employees.
 - You might want to consider using STP and JobKeeper enabled payroll software. Look at the <u>STP product register</u>
 [™] to find STP software.
 - Otherwise, you need to create your own JobKeeper report. Download the
 <u>JobKeeper Payment Guide (DOCX 290KB)</u> sample payload files <u>Blank</u>
 file (XLS, 11KB) and <u>Example file (XLS, 11KB)</u> – to produce your own
 JobKeeper report and fill in the details of all your eligible employees.
 - You can return it to us securely through our Business Portal Transfer file function. Allow three days for the report to process.
 - Then, log in to ATO Online services using myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID to confirm your details, the fortnights you're claiming for and the number of employees you're claiming for based on your lodged STP pay report.

Detailed information on how to identify and maintain your employees is available in our JobKeeper guides for employers:

- JobKeeper guide employers reporting through STP
- JobKeeper guide employers not reporting through STP

See also:

Paying your eligible employees

Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

Each month, we'll ask you to indicate how your business is performing. See Applying the turnover test to calculate your current month and projected next month GST turnover. You'll also need to reconfirm the eligibility of your business and your reported eligible employees.

To make your business declaration each month:

- Log in to ATO online services through myGov, or the Business Portal using myGovID.
- Provide us with your business's current and projected GST turnover.
- Reconfirm your eligible employees and your details.
- Your registered tax or BAS agent can also complete this step.

What you need to do for your employees

From 1 May 2020 with the introduction of Coronavirus Economic Response Package (Payments and Benefits) Amendment Rules (NO 2) 2020 there is an obligation that within seven days of enrolling to receive JobKeeper payments, you must provide an Employee nomination notice to each of your employees.

If your employees have multiple employers, they can usually choose which employer they want to nominate through. However, if your employees are long-term casuals and have other permanent employment, they cannot nominate you. They cannot be nominated for the JobKeeper payment by more than one employer.

If an employee is receiving – or in the process of applying for – a Services Australia income support payment like JobSeeker payment, they should contact Services Australia [□] and let them know that their employer has applied for the payment.

The ATO and Services Australia are working together to identify instances of incorrect eligibility for JobKeeper versus JobSeeker. If your employee does not report the income or cancels their JobSeeker payment, they may incur a debt that they will be required to pay back.

Tax and BAS agents

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Tax-and-BAS-agents/
- Last modified: 29 May 2020
- QC 62139

As tax and BAS agents you play an important role in helping businesses affected by

COVID-19 (novel coronavirus).

A <u>legislative instrument</u>[™] registered on 16 April 2020 now allows registered BAS agents to provide services to support the JobKeeper Payment scheme.

Your clients may be eligible for the JobKeeper Payment to help them continue to pay their employees. Eligible employers can choose to participate in the scheme and nominate their eligible employees. It's not compulsory for employers to participate.

This key information will enable you to manage JobKeeper payments on your clients' behalf.

How to:

- Work out if your client is eligible
- Identify your client's eligible employees
- Ensure your client correctly pays their eligible employees
- Help your client to prepare
- Step 1: Enrol on behalf of your client
- Step 2: Identify eligible employees on behalf of your client
- Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

See also:

 Our <u>JobKeeper guides</u> provide a practical 'step by step' summary to help businesses according to their circumstances, the number of their employees and whether they use Single Touch Payroll (STP) or other reporting arrangements.

Work out if your client is eligible

Your client will be eligible for the JobKeeper payment if:

- on 1 March 2020, they
 - o carried out a business in Australia, or
 - were a not-for-profit organisation that operated in Australia was a deductible gift recipient (DGR) endorsed, under the Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility Scheme (DGR item 9.1.1), or
 - for developed country relief (DGR item 9.1.2), either as a public fund or for a public fund you operated.
- they employed at least one eligible employee on 1 March 2020
- their eligible employees (including those who were stood down and re-hired) are currently employed by their business for the fortnights they claim for and their business has faced either a
 - 30% fall in turnover (if their aggregated turnover is \$1 billion or less)
 - 50% fall in turnover (if their aggregated turnover is over \$1 billion)
 - 15% fall in turnover including donations and gifts (if they are an ACNC-registered charity and not a university or school)

- they pay their eligible employees at least \$1,500 (before tax) for the fortnights they claim for
- they (or you on their behalf) successfully enrol for JobKeeper payments.

Your client can't enrol for the JobKeeper payment if:

- the Major Bank Levy was imposed on the entity or a member of its consolidated group for any quarter before 1 March 2020
- the entity is an Australian government agency (within the meaning of ITAA 1997)
- the entity is a local governing body
- the entity is wholly owned by an Australian government agency or local governing body
- the entity is a sovereign entity or an entity owned by a sovereign entity
- the entity is a company and a liquidator or provisional liquidator has been appointed
- the entity is an individual and a trustee in bankruptcy has been appointed.

<u>Sole traders</u> and <u>other business entities</u> (for example, a partnership, trust or company) are also entitled to the JobKeeper payment if they meet the eligibility criteria for these types of businesses.

Identify your client's eligible employees

Your client is eligible for the JobKeeper payment for employees who:

- are currently employed by the eligible employer (including those stood down and re-hired)
- are either
 - permanent full-time or part-time employees of your client (or another entity in your client's wholly owned group) who were employees at 1 March 2020
 - casually employed by your client (or another entity in your client's wholly owned group) on a regular and systematic basis for at least 12 months at 1 March 2020 and not a permanent employee of any other employer
- were 18 years of age or older on 1 March 2020 (if they were 16 or 17 they can also qualify for fortnights before 11 May 2020, and continue to qualify after that if they are independent or not undertaking full time study).
- were an Australian resident at 1 March 2020 within the meaning of the Social Security Act 1991, which requires they live in Australia, and are either an Australian citizen, or hold a permanent visa or a Protected Special Category Visa
 - o more information about these requirements can be found on the Services Australia website under <u>residence descriptions</u>[™]
 - the employee can also be an Australian tax resident who holds a Special Category (Subclass 444) Visa
- did not receive any of these payments during the JobKeeper fortnight

- government parental leave or Dad and Partner pay
- a payment in accordance with Australian worker compensation law for an individual's total incapacity for work
- haven't agreed with any other employer to be nominated as an eligible employee for the JobKeeper payment
- complete the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u>.

Ensure your client pays their eligible employees correctly

The JobKeeper Payment scheme is designed to reimburse employers that pay all eligible employees the minimum of \$1500 per fortnight (before tax). Employers must pay all eligible employees and can't pick and choose between their eligible employees.

Your client should pay their eligible employees in line with their existing pay amounts and pay cycle, and meet these requirements:

- pay the minimum \$1,500 (before tax) to each eligible employee each fortnight (starting with the fortnight 30 March – 12 April) to claim the JobKeeper payment for that fortnight
- continue to pay employees they are claiming for either
 - o every subsequent fortnight until 27 September 2020 or
 - o until their employees stop being eligible or your client opts out
- for the first two fortnights (30 March 12 April and 13 26 April), we'll accept the minimum \$1,500 payment (before tax) has been paid for each fortnight even if it's been paid late, provided it's paid by 8 May. This means they can make two fortnightly payments of at least \$1,500 per fortnight before 8 May, or a combined payment of at least \$3,000 before 8 May
- even if your client's eligible employees earn less than \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight, your client must pay them \$1,500 per fortnight to claim the JobKeeper payment. This 'top up' of their salary or wages will ensure they remain eligible
- your client can't pay their employees less than \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight and keep the difference
- your client won't be eligible for the JobKeeper payment if they pay their nominated employee less than \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight
- if their eligible employees earn more than \$1,500 per fortnight, they will only receive \$1,500 for each eligible employee and should pay any additional balance themselves
- if an employee has been stood down after 1 March, and your client re-engages them, they must pay that eligible employee at least \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight. They can only claim for the fortnights after they've re-engaged their employee within the pay period
- if an employee was employed on 1 March 2020, subsequently ceased employment with their employer, and has since been re-engaged by them, the employee must receive, at a minimum, \$1,500 (before tax) per fortnight
- your client can't claim reimbursement for the JobKeeper payment for employees who were not paid the full amount during each JobKeeper payment

period

- if your client's ordinary arrangement is to pay their employees less frequently than fortnightly, the payment can be allocated between fortnights in a reasonable manner, e.g. if an employer's ordinary arrangement is to pay an employee every four weeks, it will be reasonable for the employee to be paid at least \$3,000 for every four-week period
- the JobKeeper payment is a reimbursement from the ATO to your client and can't be paid in advance.

All JobKeeper payments are assessable income of the business that is eligible to receive the payments. The normal rules for deductibility apply in respect of the amounts a business pays to its employees where those amounts are subsidised by the JobKeeper payment.

The JobKeeper payment is not subject to GST.

The government will introduce rules that super guarantee won't be required for additional payments made to employees as a result of JobKeeper payments. We'll update this information when this legislation is in place.

Help your client to prepare

- Check your client meets the <u>eligibility requirements</u>, including the <u>turnover test</u>.
 The turnover calculation is based on GST turnover. This applies even if an entity is not registered for GST.
- If your client is a director or a shareholder of a company, a partner in a
 partnership, or an adult beneficiary of a trust, consider whether they will
 nominate as an <u>eligible business participant</u> and check they meet the eligibility
 requirements.
- Download the <u>JobKeeper eligible business participant nomination notice</u>
 (excluding sole trader) form and ensure your client's eligible business
 participant has completed the nomination notice and returned it to them. They
 do not need to send this form to us but must keep it for their records.
- If they have employees, check they meet the employee eligibility requirements.
- Your client can re-hire or re-engage employees they let go or stood down and pay them if they want to claim the JobKeeper payment for them.
- Ensure they continue to pay at least \$1,500 to each eligible employee per JobKeeper fortnight (the first JobKeeper fortnight was the period from 30 March to 12 April).
- Ask them to notify their eligible employees that they intend to claim the JobKeeper payment on their behalf and check the employees aren't claiming this payment through another employer or have nominated through another business.
- Send the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> or other nomination notices
 to your client for their nominated employees to complete and return to them
 before they claim the JobKeeper payment for the individual employee. The
 employer should keep the notice on file and may provide a copy to you.
- They (or you) can <u>create their own employee nomination notice</u> if it is not practical to have each employee complete and return the ATO version to you.

This will allow you to use your own portal or communication channel to obtain this information.

Each eligible employee must agree to be nominated by your client. They do
this by completing the <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> and returning it
to their employer for your records. They should do this before your client
claims the payment for that employee. Make sure they keep the employee
nomination notice on file.

Step 1: Enrol on behalf of your client

- Enrol for JobKeeper on behalf of your client through Online services for agents.
- You only need to complete this step once.
- Once you have logged in to Online services for agents
 - to enrol your client, select the 'Business' drop down menu, then select 'JobKeeper enrol'.
- To enrol, you will need to confirm your client's:
 - business has experienced a fall in turnover
 - expected number of eligible employees (if they have them)
 - o eligible business participant, if they are enrolling one
 - bank and contact details for receiving JobKeeper payments.
- Submit the enrolment on your client's behalf through Online services for agents.
- Advise your client that they must satisfy the notification requirements set out at eligible employees.

Enrolments are open throughout the JobKeeper Payment scheme. If your client is claiming payments for April or May, they need to have enrolled by 31 May.

Detailed information on how to identify and maintain employees is available in our <u>JobKeeper guides</u> for employers.

Step 2: Identify and maintain eligible employees on behalf of your client

You need to identify each of your client's eligible employees that they are claiming the JobKeeper payments for.

You will only need to identify your client's eligible employees and eligible business participant once. To determine eligible employees, two tests must be satisfied – see Employee test requirements for more information.

If your client has an eligible business participant, remember not to include them as an employee.

You or your client can identify their employees in the following ways:

Identify employees directly in their payroll software if it is updated with

JobKeeper functionality. This will update the ATO through their STP pay event.

- Log into ATO Online services for agents and select employee details that are prefilled from your clients STP pay reports if they report payroll information through an STP enabled payroll solution.
- Log into ATO Online services for agents and manually enter your client's employee details online if they do not use an STP enabled solution.

Once you have identified your client's eligible employees, submit the confirmation of your client's eligible employees through Online services for agents and wait for the confirmation screen.

Each of these scenarios are explained in detail in our JobKeeper how to guides.

Step 3: Make a business monthly declaration

Each month you must reconfirm your client's reported eligible employees through Online services for agents by making a business monthly declaration.

You need to do this between the 1st to the 14th day of each month, for your client to receive reimbursements for the JobKeeper payments they made to their eligible employees in the previous month.

For example, the business monthly declaration for the JobKeeper payments you paid your employees in May needs to be completed by 14 June.

We will ask you to reconfirm your client's business participant details and your eligible employees. You will also need to provide us with information about your clients GST turnover for the reported month and projected GST turnover for the following month.

If your client's eligible employees change or leave their employment, you or your client will need to notify us through this monthly declaration.

To make your client's business monthly declaration:

- Log into Online services for agents.
- Reconfirm your client's eligible employees and business participant if they have one.
- Provide us with your client's business' GST turnover for the month you are declaring and following month's projected month GST turnover.
- Reconfirm your client's financial institution details for receiving JobKeeper payments.
- If your client's eligible employees or eligible business participant change or leave their employment, you will need to update their details as part of the

business monthly declaration.

How to update details for eligible employees and business participant

If your client's eligible employees change or leave their employment, you need to update and maintain this information in their business declaration each month.

Depending on how you completed Step 2 – Identify and maintain your eligible employees, you will need to do this

- directly into Online services for agents, or
- in your clients STP payroll software or in an updated JobKeeper report before you make the business monthly declaration.

Each of these steps is explained in detail in Step 3 of our JobKeeper how to guides.

What your clients need to do for their employees

From 1 May 2020 with the introduction of Coronavirus Economic Response Package (Payments and Benefits) Amendment Rules (NO 2) 2020 there is an obligation that within seven days of enrolling to receive JobKeeper payments, your client must provide an Employee nomination notice to each of their employees. If they had already enrolled on or before 1 May 2020, they need to satisfy this requirement by 8 May 2020. Find out about this at Employers.

If their employees have multiple employers, they can usually choose which employer they want to nominate through. However, if their employees are long-term casuals and have other permanent employment, they cannot nominate their casual employer. They cannot be nominated for the JobKeeper payment by more than one employer.

If an employee is receiving – or in the process of applying for – a Services Australia income support payment like JobSeeker payment, they should contact $\underline{\text{Services}}$ Australia $\underline{\mathbb{C}}$ and let them know that their employer has applied for the payment.

The ATO and Services Australia are working together to identify instances of incorrect eligibility for JobKeeper versus JobSeeker. If your employee does not report the income or cancels their JobSeeker payment, they may incur a debt that they will be required to pay back.

Find out about:

Paying your eligible employees

Not-for-profits and charities – JobKeeper Payment

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Not-for-profits-andcharities/
- Last modified: 12 Jun 2020
- QC 62709

Not-for-profits (NFPs) may be entitled to JobKeeper payment to help them pay their employees. This information will help you to understand how the rules apply to NFPs. It should be read in conjunction with the other general advice the ATO has issued on JobKeeper for employers.

Eligible NFPs

NFP entities, like other employers, must meet <u>eligibility requirements</u> to qualify for JobKeeper.

Registration with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) is not one of the requirements to qualify for JobKeeper.

NFP entities must be established on or before 1 March 2020 to qualify for JobKeeper. If they are established after 1 March 2020, they are not eligible.

An NFP entity may be eligible for JobKeeper if it pursued its objectives principally in Australia. An NFP entity will generally pursue its objectives principally in Australia when the activities that achieve its purpose mainly occur in Australia.

An NFP entity that is endorsed under the Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility Scheme or for developed country disaster relief does not need to pursue its objectives principally in Australia to qualify for JobKeeper.

See also:

• TR 2019/6 Income tax: the 'in Australia' requirement for certain deductible gift recipients and income tax exempt entities (see paragraphs 63 to 69 for further discussion of where objectives are pursued)

Turnover

One of the requirements of the JobKeeper scheme is that the <u>decline in turnover</u> test is satisfied.

The decline in turnover test is applied to the employer entity. The JobKeeper scheme does not recognise non-profit sub-entities and the <u>decline in turnover test</u> must apply to the NFP entity as a whole. The entity must include the turnover of all its branches and non-profit sub-entities. A non-profit sub-entity cannot choose to participate in the JobKeeper scheme and assess its eligibility for JobKeeper payments based on the sub-entity's turnover.

ACNC-registered charities

A charity, that is not a university or a school, can apply the 15% decline in turnover threshold to receive JobKeeper payments for the first JobKeeper fortnight beginning

30 March 2020 provided the charity:

- has an ACNC registration date of effect that is on or before the end of the first JobKeeper fortnight (12 April 2020)
- receives a notification of its ACNC registration and enrols for the JobKeeper payment before 31 May 2020
- meets <u>other requirements</u> including <u>paying their eligible employees</u> by a <u>certain</u> <u>date</u>.

Gifts

In working out its turnover, a deductible gift recipient (DGR) must include gifts (other than from an associate) whether they are tax deductible to the donor or not. This includes testamentary gifts or gifts from an overseas donor.

An ACNC-registered charity is considered a DGR even if it is not endorsed as a DGR as a whole but operates a fund, authority or institution that is endorsed as a DGR.

An ACNC-registered charity that is not a DGR must include gifts (other than from an associate) of money, property with a market value of more than \$5,000 or listed Australian shares.

A gift is a voluntary transfer of property by way of benefaction with no material benefit or advantage received by the donor.

See also:

• TR 2005/13 Income tax: deductible gifts – what is a gift

National Disability Insurance Scheme

An ACNC-registered charity cannot exclude payments received for providing National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) services from its turnover. Payments received for providing NDIS services are considered to be made from the NDIS participant's funds, even if an NDIS participant selects the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to manage their plan and pay the charity.

Government grants

Government grants that require an ACNC-registered charity to make supplies (whether the supply is taxable or GST-free) are included in the charity's turnover, unless the charity makes an election not to include the consideration for all supplies from government grants. For more information, see GSTR 2012/2 Goods and services tax: financial assistance payments.

If a charity, other than a university or a school, has enrolled for JobKeeper on or before 13 June 2020, it can provide an <u>election</u> to exclude government grants from its turnover by 20 June 2020. The charity can calculate its turnover to exclude government grants on the basis that the election will be given to us by that date.

If a charity has enrolled for JobKeeper after 13 June 2020, it can provide an election

to us within seven days of its enrolment.

Fully government funded employees

A charity must inform its relevant employees of its election to participate in JobKeeper within seven days of enrolment and detail the steps the employee must take to agree to be nominated.

Where a charity has elected to exclude government grants from its turnover, its fully government funded employees are not relevant employees. Therefore, the charity does not need to notify these employees of its election to participate in JobKeeper and the steps for nomination. However, the charity can choose to receive JobKeeper payments for these employees. Where the charity makes this choice, it must notify the employees and they must agree to be nominated by the charity.

Where a charity has not elected to exclude government grants from its turnover, all employees, including fully government funded employees, are relevant employees, unless the charity reasonably believes they would not be eligible employees on 1 March 2020.

See also:

- Your eligible employees
- Nominating employees

Religious institutions

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Religious-institutions/
- Last modified: 27 May 2020
- QC 62541

On this page:

- How JobKeeper applies to religious institutions
- Work out your eligibility
- Enrol for the JobKeeper payment

How JobKeeper applies to religious institutions

If you are a religious institution, you can qualify for the JobKeeper payment if you pay a minister of religion or a full-time member of a religious order who is not an employee to perform religious activities.

In addition to any eligibility to JobKeeper payments you have as an employer, you may also be eligible for the JobKeeper Payment scheme if:

- you have a non-employee individual who performs activities in pursuit of their vocation as a minister of religion or a full-time member of a religious order and as a member of your religious institution – we refer to this individual as the eligible religious practitioner, and
- you are an eligible registered religious institution.

If you meet the requirements, you will be entitled to one \$1,500 JobKeeper payment per fortnight for each of your eligible religious practitioners. If you also have employees, you may be able to claim additional JobKeeper payments for those eligible employees.

See also:

JobKeeper Payment – <u>Employers</u>

Work out your eligibility

You need to be a registered religious institution and have an eligible religious practitioner:

- Eligible religious practitioner
- Eligible registered religious institution.

Eligible religious practitioner

An individual is an eligible religious practitioner of your entity for the fortnight if they meet all of the following:

- They are not employed by you.
- They are a minister of religion or a full-time member of a religious order and undertake activities in pursuit of their vocation as a member of your religious institution (at 1 March 2020 and for the fortnight you are claiming).
- You remunerate them in one or more of the following ways
 - a payment for undertaking activities in pursuit of their vocation as a religious practitioner and as a member of your religious institution
 - o a provision of a fringe benefit
 - a provision of a benefit that is exempt from fringe benefits tax.
- As at 1 March 2020, they were both
 - aged at least 18 (or were 16 or 17, and were independent or not undertaking full-time study)
 - an Australian resident (within the meaning of section 7 of the Social Security Act 1991), or a resident for income tax purposes and the holder of a special category (Subclass 444) visa.
- They are not currently receiving government parental leave or Dad and Partner Pay.
- They are not currently totally incapacitated for work and receiving payments under an Australian workers' compensation law in respect of their total incapacity to work.
- They are not an employee (other than a casual employee) of another entity.
- They have given you a JobKeeper nomination notice.

 They have not previously given another entity, or us, a JobKeeper nomination notice.

Religious practitioner who is also an employee

If a religious practitioner is your employee or an employee (other than a casual employee) of another entity, they cannot be an eligible religious practitioner. However, if they are your eligible employee, you can claim JobKeeper payments on their behalf as an eligible employer.

See also:

• JobKeeper information for **Employers** and **Employees**.

Students

A student minister of religion or a student at a college conducted solely for training people to become members of religious orders are not religious practitioners for the JobKeeper Payment scheme. Only a minister of religion or a full-time member of a religious order can be a religious practitioner for the JobKeeper Payment scheme.

See also:

- TR 2019/3 Fringe benefits tax: benefits provided to religious practitioners refer to paragraphs 14 and 15 on the expressions a minister of religion and a full-time member of a religious order.
- Employees for employee information on JobKeeper payment

Eligible registered religious institution

You are eligible if:

- on 12 March 2020 and for the fortnight you are claiming, you are an ACNC-registered charity, registered under the sub-type 'advancing religion' (whether or not you are also registered under other sub-types),
- on 1 March 2020 you satisfy one of the following
 - you were a non-profit body that pursued your objectives principally in Australia
 - you were a deductible gift recipient (DGR) endorsed, under the Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility Scheme (DGR item 9.1.1) or for developed country relief (DGR item 9.1.2), either as a public fund or for a public fund you operated.
- you satisfied the fall in turnover test for the relevant period (you will generally meet this test if your turnover for a period covering a JobKeeper fortnight is at least 15% less than your turnover for that same period in 2019) – see Applying-the-turnover-test.

Enrol for the JobKeeper payment

When you have worked out that you are an eligible registered religious institution and your individual non-employee is an eligible religious practitioner, you need to

enrol and then identify and maintain your eligible religious practitioners:

- Before you enrol
- Step 1: Enrol and nominate for the JobKeeper payment
- Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees (including your nonemployee eligible religious practitioners)
- Step 3: Make a monthly declaration.

Before you enrol

Check you meet the eligibility requirements, including the turnover test – see <u>Eligible registered religious institution</u>. The turnover calculation is based on GST turnover. This applies even if you are not registered for GST.

Check your religious practitioners meet the eligibility requirements and for which JobKeeper fortnights – see <u>Eligible religious practitioner</u>. You must remunerate your eligible religious practitioners in each JobKeeper pay period to claim the JobKeeper payment for that period.

If you have employees, check they meet the employee eligibility requirements and continue to pay your eligible employees at least \$1,500 per JobKeeper fortnight. See <u>Your eligible employees</u>.

Send the:

- <u>JobKeeper employee nomination notice</u> to your eligible employees
- Jobkeeper religious practitioner nomination notice to your non-employee eligible religious practitioners.

Make sure they complete and return them to you as soon as possible if you plan to claim JobKeeper payments for April 2020.

Keep them on file and provide a copy to your registered tax or BAS agent if you are using one.

Seek advice from your registered tax or BAS agent if you need help. Your registered tax or BAS agent can enrol, identify and declare for JobKeeper on your behalf using Online service for agents.

If you find it difficult to interact with us online and don't use a registered tax or BAS agent, you can call us for assistance.

Step 1: Enrol and nominate for the JobKeeper payment

You or your registered tax or BAS agent can enrol for the JobKeeper payment.

Log in to the Business Portal using myGovID.

Select Manage employees then the link for the JobKeeper payment.

Fill in the JobKeeper enrolment form and provide your:

- eligibility information
- expected number of eligible employees include your non-employee eligible religious practitioners in this number
- contact and bank details.

Notify your eligible religious practitioners and eligible employees you have nominated them.

To ensure you receive your JobKeeper payments as early possible, enrol as soon as possible. However, enrolments are open till the end of May for claims for the JobKeeper fortnights ending in April and May 2020.

Step 2: Identify and maintain your eligible employees (including your nonemployee eligible religious practitioners)

You, or your registered tax or BAS agent, need to identify each eligible employee (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioner) that you will claim JobKeeper payment for and maintain their details each month.

You can identify your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) in one of the following ways:

- STP enabled payroll software updated with JobKeeper functionality
- STP enabled payroll software that is not updated with JobKeeper functionality
- No STP enabled payroll software

STP enabled payroll software updated with JobKeeper functionality

You can identify your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) directly into your STP enabled payroll software if it is updated with JobKeeper functionality.

Submit the confirmation of your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) online and wait for the confirmation screen.

STP enabled payroll software that is not updated with JobKeeper functionality

You can identify your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) in the Business Portal if your STP payroll software is not updated with JobKeeper functionality.

If you have 200 employees or less, (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) log in to the Business Portal and select employee details that are prefilled from your STP pay reports.

If you have more than 200 employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners), you can either

- manually create a pay report
- ask us for a prefilled JobKeeper report
- use the JobKeeper Payment Guide sample payload files Blank file (CSV,

28KB) and Example file (CSV, 71KB) – to produce your own JobKeeper report.

You then provide your report back to us by uploading through the Business Portal Transfer file function.

Submit the confirmation of your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) online and wait for the confirmation screen.

No STP enabled payroll software

If you don't have STP enabled payroll software, you can use the Business Portal. If you have:

- 40 employees or less (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners), manually enter your eligible religious practitioners' or eligible employees' details
- more than 40 employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners), you can either
 - create your own JobKeeper employee report using the JobKeeper Payment Guide sample payload files – <u>Blank file (CSV, 28KB)</u> and <u>Example file (CSV, 71KB)</u> – and provide it back to us by uploading through the Business Portal Transfer file function
 - o consider moving to an STP enabled payroll solution.

Submit the confirmation of your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) online and wait for the confirmation screen.

Step 3: Make a monthly declaration

Each month, you must reconfirm your reported eligible employees (including your reported non-employee eligible religious practitioners) through the Business Portal or your registered tax or BAS agent.

If your eligible employees (including your non-employee eligible religious practitioners) change or leave, you will need to notify us through this monthly declaration.

You must also provide information as to your current and projected GST turnover. This is not a retest of your eligibility, but rather an indication of how you are progressing under the JobKeeper Payment scheme.

If you've enrolled for the JobKeeper Payment and identified your eligible employees, you need to make a business monthly declaration to the ATO. You will be able to do this from the 1st to the 14th day of each month, to receive reimbursements for the payments you have made to your employees in the previous month.

For example, the business monthly declaration for reimbursement of JobKeeper payments for the month of May needs to be completed by 14 June.

Keeping JobKeeper payment fair

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/Keeping-JobKeeper-payment-fair/
- Last modified: 19 Jun 2020
- QC 62937

We're working hard to maintain the integrity of the JobKeeper stimulus measure through our compliance approach. We are able to identify fraudulent behaviour and claims relating to ineligible employees and businesses. Some behaviours that are attracting our attention include:

- payments to people who do not meet the eligibility requirements or are not employees,
- falsifying records or revising activity statements to meet the fall in turnover test,
- applying for JobKeeper where there is no evidence of carrying on a business or there is no assessable income from carrying on a business,
- employers failing to pass on the full \$1500 JobKeeper payment to eligible employees,
- multiple eligible business participant claims,
- employees being incorrectly excluded under the one-in-all-in rule
- There are penalties for making false claims and not complying with your obligations
- We will also focus our attention on the application of the decline in turnover test. This will include examining situations where actual and projected turnover have significantly diverged.
- We encourage all JobKeeper applicants to review their applications and contact us if they have made any errors or an honest mistake. We have a limited discretion in relation to overpayments which we can exercise in certain circumstances.

If you have questions about workplace entitlements and obligations in relation to the JobKeeper Payment scheme (for example if you feel that your hours or terms and conditions have been inappropriately changed), the Fair Work Commission has released guidance on how it can assist with <u>JobKeeper disputes</u> ...

If you are concerned that someone is doing the wrong thing in relation to JobKeeper payment, you can tell us about it. We will be examining JobKeeper Tip-Offs and contacting employers where we have concerns and need to verify issues. To report illegal or behaviour of concern, see <u>Making a tip off</u>.

Where you are concerned that you have been incorrectly excluded from JobKeeper in breach of the one-in-all-in rule, we encourage you first to discuss with your employer. If you continue to have concerns, please contact us on the JobKeeper tip- off line.

JobKeeper guides

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/JobKeeper-guides/
- Last modified: 17 Jun 2020
- QC 62219

Sole traders

The following guide shows you step-by-step how to enrol for the JobKeeper payment.

JobKeeper guide – sole traders

Employers

The following guides help you identify your employees and make a business monthly declaration each month.

- JobKeeper guide employers reporting through STP
- JobKeeper guide employers not reporting through STP

JobKeeper Payment – information in other languages

- https://www.ato.gov.au/General/JobKeeper-Payment/JobKeeper-Payment--information-in-other-languages/
- Last modified: 27 Apr 2020
- QC 62291

We have provided summary information about the JobKeeper Payment in a number of languages other than English.

اللغة العربية	<u>শুনুর্থসূদ্</u>	<u>简体中文</u>	繁體中文
Arabic	Assyrian	Chinese simplified	Chinese traditional
<u>دری</u>	<u>Ελληνικα</u>	<u>هزاره گی</u>	<u>Italiano</u>
Dari	Greek	Hazaragi	Italian
កាសាខ្មែរ	한국어	<u>नेपाली</u>	<u>فارسي</u>
Khmer	Korean	Nepali	Persian (Farsi)
Español	<u>ภาษาไทย</u>	<u>Türkçe</u>	<u>Tiềng Việt</u>
Spanish	Thai	Turkish	Vietnamese

Our commitment to you

We are committed to providing you with accurate, consistent and clear information to help you understand your rights and entitlements and meet your obligations.

If you follow our information and it turns out to be incorrect, or it is misleading and you make a mistake as a result, we will take that into account when determining what action, if any, we should take.

Some of the information on this website applies to a specific financial year. This is clearly marked. Make sure you have the information for the right year before making decisions based on that information.

If you feel that our information does not fully cover your circumstances, or you are unsure how it applies to you, contact us or seek professional advice.

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