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**Australian Government**

**Australian Taxation Office**

# Tax professionals newsletter



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## JobKeeper Payment

### News highlights this week

#### JobKeeper Payment changes

The government has introduced changes to the JobKeeper Payment, making it easier for you and your business clients to qualify. The new rules have now been registered and are effective from 3 August 2020.

The changes to these rules include:

- employees' eligibility for the JobKeeper Payment can now be assessed from 1 July 2020, rather than 1 March 2020
- employees can now be nominated by new employers if their employment has changed since the JobKeeper Payment began. However, they can still only be nominated by one employer at any given time

- employers have until 31 August 2020 to meet the wage condition for new eligible employees under the 1 July eligibility test for:
  - Fortnight 10 – commencing on 3 August, and
  - Fortnight 11 – commencing 17 August 2020.

Businesses can claim reimbursement for their new eligible employees between 1 and 14 September 2020, when they lodge their August monthly declaration.

Your eligible business and not-for-profit clients can still enrol at any time until the program closes.

Further announcements and guidance on the extension to JobKeeper are subject to the passage of legislation by the Australian Government.

Visit [ato.gov.au/jobkeeper](https://ato.gov.au/jobkeeper) for the latest information.

## FKC for JobKeeper enquiries

We have updated our [tax agent phone services guide](#) to provide a Fast Key Code (FKC) you can use for JobKeeper enquiries. Before you phone the Registered agent phone line, check the latest JobKeeper information at [ato.gov.au/jobkeeper](https://ato.gov.au/jobkeeper).

## Stop scammers in their tracks

Personal and financial information are frequently targeted at tax time. Warn your clients and [protect your practice](#) from scammers.

**Visit the  
newsroom**

## ato.gov.au updates

### System maintenance

Over the coming weeks we may need to schedule maintenance at very short notice to support new government measures and to make updates as any issues with new processes are identified.

We recommend you regularly check our [system maintenance](#) page,

[troubleshooting](#) page and the [Online services for agents dashboard](#) for details and updates and [subscribe](#) to our *Tax professionals alerts*.

## Your tax practice

### [Tax Time update](#) – 4 August 2020

During tax time we meet regularly with the Tax Practitioner Stewardship Group (TPSG) to share information around progress, emerging issues and ideas.

### [COVID-19 business changes and TPAR](#)

Remind your clients they may need to lodge a *Taxable payments annual report* (TPAR) by 28 August if their business makes payments to contractors or subcontractors. Our website has resources to help you and your clients understand their TPAR obligations.

## Law, rulings & policy

### [Legal database](#)

The Legal database is a collection of legal and policy information.

Updates include

[PCG 2017/4DC2](#) *ATO compliance approach to taxation issues associated with cross-border related party financing arrangements and related transactions*

Currently you may experience intermittent errors when trying to access Legal database content. We are aware of this problem and are working to fix the issue.

## Tax topics

### [Queensland restaurant owner convicted](#)

A Queensland man who authorised his accountant to lodge false business activity statements has been convicted and fined \$40,000.

## Visit What's new

If you want to get involved in our consultations, see [About consultation](#).

Check out [Tax professionals: the big picture](#).

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