



JobKeeper Payment information for employees

The government has introduced the JobKeeper Payment scheme to support businesses significantly affected by the coronavirus to help keep more Australians in jobs. To be eligible for the JobKeeper payment, employers and their employees must meet a range of criteria.

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

This information is to help you understand how the JobKeeper Payment scheme works, and what to expect if your employer is participating.

How do I sign up for JobKeeper?

If your employer is eligible and chooses to participate in the JobKeeper scheme they will ask you to fill in an *Employee nomination notice* (in English), which you need to sign and return to your employer so they claim the JobKeeper payment for you.

My employer has asked me to nominate with them for JobKeeper. Do I have to do it? What happens if I don't?

You don't have to nominate your employer for JobKeeper if you don't want to. If you don't nominate them, they cannot receive the JobKeeper payment for you. If you usually earn less than \$1,500 a fortnight, this means that your employer will probably not increase your pay to at least \$1,500 per fortnight (before tax), unlike for other employees who choose to nominate.

I am an employee of more than one employer. Can I change the employer who receives the payment for me?

No. Once you have agreed to be nominated by one of your eligible employers and completed the *Employee nomination notice*, you cannot change the employer who is claiming

JobKeeper payments for you. If you have a permanent job and a casual job, you cannot nominate your casual employer.

I am a casual employee. Can my employer claim JobKeeper for me?

It depends on how long you have worked for them and your pattern of work. Your employer may be entitled to receive JobKeeper payments for you if you are a long-term casual employee. That means you have been employed on a regular and systematic basis by your employer since 1 March 2019.

Your employer should make an assessment of whether you are a long-term casual who can qualify for JobKeeper.

I have two casual jobs and one employer is claiming JobKeeper payments for me. Do I have to quit my other job?

No. You can have two jobs. However, you can only complete an *Employee nomination notice* for one employer.

What happens if I change jobs during the JobKeeper payment period?

If you change jobs after 1 March 2020, your new employer will not be eligible to claim JobKeeper payments for you. However there are some limited exceptions that may apply when you remain employed within the same corporate group.

I have been stood down and my employer is claiming JobKeeper payments for me. Can I earn income from another job while my employer gets JobKeeper payments for me and continues to pay me?

You can earn additional income without your eligibility being affected as long as you maintain your employment (including while being stood down) with your JobKeeper-eligible employer.

Who pays JobKeeper to me and how much do I receive?

If your employer is eligible to get a JobKeeper payment for you, then in most cases you will receive a minimum amount of \$1500 (before tax) per fortnight. This is paid by your employer in your normal pay. It is not paid directly by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and you cannot apply to the ATO to get it.

Why have I received less than \$1,500 from my employer?

The payment you receive from your employer is generally treated the same as salary or wages for tax purposes, so your employer must withhold income tax and any other amounts that are ordinarily withheld from your wage or salary.

My employer said she will pay me less than \$1,500 a fortnight and she will pay me more later after they have received JobKeeper payments. Is that right?

No. JobKeeper payments reimburse your employer after they pay your wages or salary. Your employer is only eligible if they pay you at least \$1,500 (before taxes and other amounts ordinarily withheld) each fortnight.

My employer told me that he will pay me \$600 a fortnight, claim JobKeeper, and keep the difference to help keep his business running. Is this okay?

No, it is not okay. Employers are not eligible for payments if they don't pay the full amount to employees. Your employer must pay at least \$1,500 (before tax) a fortnight to his eligible employees. The JobKeeper payment reimburses your employer for this payment.

I am a sole trader – can I receive JobKeeper?

As a sole trader, you may be able to receive JobKeeper as an eligible business participant. You can check your eligibility online at ato.gov.au/jobkeeper

Where can I get more information?

Visit ato.gov.au/jobkeeper

If you need help with other types of income support visit servicessaustralia.gov.au

If you need help with employer disputes visit fairwork.gov.au