



Tuesday, 21 April 2020
Issue 19.0

Yesterday members were advised that the JobKeeper package is now officially open for enrolments, allowing employers to actively apply for the support payment. Additional information is included in the segments below, please read this carefully and remember you can always contact VACC's dedicated resource, Ms Andrea Chwalko achwalko@vacc.com.au or VACC's Industrial Relations team to assist.

Members may also be interested to know I participate in a weekly radio program "The Denis Walter Show" each Monday night at 9.45pm on 3AW. This week I discussed the JobKeeper program and reinforced the key message that auto is open! A recording of the program can be accessed [HERE](#).

1. INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

JobKeeper Update

Enrolments for the JobKeeper Payment opened yesterday, 20 April 2020 via the [Business Portal](#) (using your [myGovID](#)).

From 4 May 2020 you will need to apply to claim the JobKeeper payment by logging into [ATO online services](#) via [ATO online services](#) or the [Business Portal](#) using [myGovID](#). Your registered tax professional can also enrol on your behalf using Online services for agents.

Each month, you will need to complete your monthly JobKeeper declaration report where you need to confirm that your reported eligible employees have not changed. You do not need to retest your reported fall in turnover, but you will need to provide some information as to your current and projected turnover.

Key dates

- **From 20 April:** enrol for JobKeeper payment
- **By 30 April:** enrol and pay your employees to claim JobKeeper payments for April
- **4 May onwards:** identify your employees
- **Each month:** reconfirm eligibility
- If you need more time, you have until the end of May to enrol and identify your employees.

A full member bulletin was released yesterday to members, which provides additional information. You can access this bulletin [HERE](#)

JobKeeper

APPLICATIONS
NOW OPEN

Enrol now. Registration opened 20 April 2020.
If you wish to make a claim in respect of the two first payment fortnights (30 March to 26 April), you must register and have made payments to eligible employees by the end of April.



- 1**
Login to the ATO Business Portal and authenticate with your myGovID. Fill in the JobKeeper enrolment form.
- 2**
Check and identify your eligible employees through your payroll or via the ATO Business Portal
- 3**
Notify your eligible employees that you intend to participate in the scheme & ask them if they agree to be nominated & receive payments from you as part of the scheme
- 4**
If eligible employees agree, both you & the nominated employee need to complete the JobKeeper employee nomination notice (either the ATO form or your own meeting the requirements)
- 5**
You must keep a record that your employee has agreed that you claim the JobKeeper Payment for them. Each month you must also reconfirm your reported eligible employees through the Business Portal.

FOR MORE INFO CLICK HERE

JobKeeper Payment Guide – Edition 5

The fifth edition of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry's (ACCI) JobKeeper Payment – Employer Guide is now available.

This Edition includes the following:

- Updated in line with new guidance issued by the ATO, including clarification around turnover the turnover test, the nomination and payment process, and information and examples about eligibility of businesses in the form of a company, trust or partnership.
- It is appreciated there are still a number of outstanding issues in relation to the JobKeeper scheme, such as cash flow and the 'one in all in' rule. ACCI is continuing to engage with government on these and other issues and will update the Guide and provide updates as and when further clarity is provided.
- For those members and businesses that may be interested in the exact changes contained in this edition of the JobKeeper guide, a marked-up version with the changes highlighted in red has also been attached.

JobKeeper Guide is available [HERE](#).

Marked-up JobKeeper Guide is available [HERE](#).

2. MEMBER SERVICES

Coronavirus: Leverage chamber alliances

Members are reminded they have access to many deals and offers through the [Chamber alliance program](#).

Alliances have been developed over many years to help benefit members, reducing their costs and accessing products and services not available to the general public. During the Coronavirus pandemic, these partnerships remain key member benefits. Below are just some of the ways Chamber alliance partners are supporting members during these uncertain times.

Find out more [HERE](#).

3. OHSE

WorkSafe dedicated COVID-19 website page

WorkSafe Australia has published a dedicated website page for information relating to COVID-19.

It includes information such as:

- Exposure to coronavirus in the workplace
- Preparing for a pandemic
- Minimising the spread of coronavirus

You can access the page [HERE](#).

4. HEAVY AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

COVID-19 Support map for drivers to find services centres and roadhouses

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) has developed an application to assist drivers find service stations and roadhouses open during the COVID-19 pandemic trading restrictions.

To access this information click [HERE](#)



Visual inspections continue as RBT calibration relaxed

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) has granted a temporary relaxation of calibration requirements for roller-brake testing (RBT) equipment.

NHVR Vehicle Safety and Performance Manager Peter Austin said the NHVR's National Roller Brake Test Procedure required that machines used to conduct tests are calibrated in accordance with the manufacturers' standards every 12 or 24 months.

"We have had manufacturers come to us reporting difficulty in achieving some of the calibration requirements because of the current travel restrictions," Mr Austin said.

"Not having a machine calibrated can have minor impacts on the machine and accuracy of tests, so we have provided some practice guidance, including using additional visual inspections that can be conducted to validate the test results."

Read more [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) for the updated National Roller Brake Testing Procedure.

PBS third party assessor roles made clear

Performance Based Standards (PBS) certifiers provide an important service and recent restriction of movements may impact their ability to physically inspect a vehicle.

The NHVR has provided advice to allow the certification process to continue to ensure that vehicles have been built to the PBS Design Approval.

A Factsheet is available [HERE](#)

5. NEWS

VACC maintains: Auto is open!

While we support of all government measures put in place to protect Australians, it has proved necessary for VACC to take action in a bid to protect member businesses and their right to operate.

The Chamber released a bulletin to all members, relaying advice received from the Office of the Minister for Police, the Hon Lisa Neville MP. VACC had written to the Minister seeking clarity of messaging for staff and consumers travelling to automotive businesses.



Australia's \$55b car dealers teeter as sales plummet

The massive stimulus and relief packages to help businesses hibernate during the coronavirus shutdown are doing little to protect the \$55 billion car dealership industry, with many expected to collapse within months.

VACC and VADA member Nick Strauss from Berwick Motor Group is quoted extensively in this article along with VACC's data demonstrating a fall of 69% in ar sales between March 16 and April 15.

Read in full [HERE](#).

Kate Carnell calls for payments law

A surge in big businesses using the coronavirus outbreak to delay payments to smaller suppliers by up to six months has prompted Small Business Ombudsman Kate Carnell to formally recommend the Morrison government legislate 30-day payment times. Ms Carnell had been reluctant to recommend new laws, saying no business wanted more red tape, but said a spike in the number of companies "using the COVID-19 crisis as an excuse for poor payment times" gave her no choice.

Read the full article published in The Australian [HERE](#).

6. PREVIOUS UPDATE ISSUES

You can read previous Updates of COVID-19 [HERE](#).

Geoff Gwilym
Chief Executive Officer

Disclaimer: *The information gathered has been drawn from a number of sources and VACC strongly recommends that members revert to the primary source of information for any clarification.*