

BULLETIN

Industrial Relations



Reference No: JobKeeper Update/dh-8-20

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Urgent JobKeeper Update – action required by 21 August 2020

Following our previous [Bulletin](#) regarding the Australian Government's announced changes to employee eligibility under JobKeeper – including the extension of the employment reference date to 1 July 2020 – we now have confirmation that the [Rules](#) giving effect to these changes have been formally registered.

As previously noted, the change in reference date **from 1 March to 1 July 2020, effective from 3 August 2020** means that employees employed during this period (and who meet the other [eligibility requirements](#)) are now **newly eligible employees** for qualifying employers under the JobKeeper Scheme – with **retrospective application** for the JobKeeper fortnights commencing 3 August 2020.

Importantly, the newly released [explanatory statement](#) also makes clear that the **'one-in-all-in' principle applies** to the updated Rules, meaning that employers currently enrolled in JobKeeper do not have a choice as to whether or not they extend the JobKeeper Payment to newly eligible employees.

JobKeeper employers must therefore identify newly eligible employees, provide them with a [nomination notice](#) by 21 August 2020 and make any necessary 'top up' payments by 31 August 2020. A failure to do so would constitute a breach of the JobKeeper Rules – and could expose the employer to penalties.

Due to the **imminent** nature of these changes and its potential complexity from an administrative perspective, VACC and ACCI have put together an **Information Sheet** summarising the changes to assist members – including suggested actions to be taken by businesses to ensure they meet upcoming deadlines and do not inadvertently find themselves exposed to penalties.

In addition, VACC and ACCI have updated our **JobKeeper Employer Guide** for members, to reflect these latest changes.

Members needing further advice and support on JobKeeper Payments are encouraged to contact VACC's Workplace Relations team on 03 9829 1123 or ir@vacc.com.au.

For specific payroll related advice relating to JobKeeper, members are encouraged to contact Andrea Chwalko: E: achwalko@vacc.com.au.

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