

TED O'BRIEN MP Federal Member for Fairfax

Q&A on Support for Businesses

The Prime Minister and Treasurer announced an extension to the JobKeeper and JobSeeker schemes today.

1. JobKeeper

- Fortnightly Payments will be extended by six months to 28 March 2021 and tapered:

Dates	Higher Tier Rate	Lower Tier Rate*
Until 27 Sept 2020	\$1,500	N/A
28 Sept 2020 to 3 Jan 2021	\$1,200	\$750
4 Jan 2021 to 28 Mar 2021	\$1,000	\$650

*Lower tier rate applies to less than 20 hrs/week based on average hours worked in Feb 2020

- Businesses and not-for-profits will still need to demonstrate a decline in GST turnover:
 - 50% decline for those with aggregated turnover of more than \$1 billion;
 - 30% decline for those with aggregated turnover of \$1 billion or less; or
 - 15% decline for NFP organisations (excluding schools and universities).
- A decline in GST turnover to be demonstrated by businesses' quarterly results:
 - Both the June and Sept quarters will be considered for payments for 28 Sept to 3 Jan;
 - Each of the June, Sept and Dec quarters will be considered for payments for 4 Jan to 28 March.
- See <u>here</u> for more information.

2. JobSeeker

- The Coronavirus supplement will be extended to 31 December 2020 and adjusted from \$550 to \$250 per fortnight from 25 September to 31 December.
- Mutual obligation requirements for job seekers is being re-introduced:
 - A gradual reintroduction commenced on 9 June 2020;
 - From 4 August, job seekers are expected to apply for jobs with penalties for not accepting work.
- From 25 September there will be changes to JobSeeker and Youth Allowance income tests.
 - An employee can earn up to \$300 per fortnight and still receive the max rate of income support.
 - Other eligibility criteria such as means testing and partner income testing will also be reinstated.
- See <u>here</u> for more information.

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