



**uniting
church**
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

GUIDANCE NOTE 5

COVID-19

GUIDANCE NOTE

31 March 2020

Guidance Note – Jobkeeper Payments (Wage Subsidy)

What is it?

A Federal Government wage subsidy support package designed to keep Australians in work.

What do Church Entities need to do?

1. If you have individuals on your payroll (lay and ministerial), regardless of your circumstances, please register your interest for the JobKeeper payments, with the ATO (please note that this is necessary, at the local level, regardless of who currently manages your payroll) <https://www.ato.gov.au/Job-keeper-payment/>
2. Notify your Presbytery:
 - a. that you have registered; and/or
 - b. if you have/intend to stand-down an employee.
3. Inform employees that you will be registering for this assistance
4. Further support/information will be forthcoming as and when details concerning the process for implementing the subsidy are announced.
5. Please direct any specific queries to the Synod Covid-19 Hotline via; Phone: 02 8267 4300 or Covid19@nswact.uca.org.au

PRESBYTERIES

CANBERRA REGION

FAR NORTH COAST

GEORGES RIVER

ILLAWARRA

KOREAN

MACQUARIE DARLING

MID NORTH COAST

NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST

PARRAMATTA NEPEAN

RIVERINA

SYDNEY CENTRAL COAST

SYDNEY

THE HUNTER

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Who is eligible for the JobKeeper payment?

In order to receive a payment, both the employer and employee must meet eligibility criteria.

Eligible employers: are businesses (including companies, partnerships, trusts and sole traders), not-for-profits and charities:

- ▶ With a turnover of less than \$1bn that have lost 30% or more of their revenue compared to a comparable period a year ago.
- ▶ With a turnover of \$1bn or more and with at least a 50% reduction in revenue compared to a comparable period a year ago.

Eligible employees:

- ▶ Were employed by an eligible employer at 1 March 2020
- ▶ Can be sole traders, full-time, part-time, or long-term casuals employed on a regular basis for longer than 12 months as at 1 March 2020
- ▶ Are at least 16 years of age
- ▶ Are an Australian citizen, the holder of a permanent visa, a protected special category visa, a non-protected special category visa who has been residing continually in Australia for 10 years or more, or a New Zealander on a special category (subclass 444) visa.

Supporting Information

The best ATO source for most enquiries on COVID-19:

https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/COVID-19/?=redirected_covid19_call_centre

- ▶ Fact Sheet – Supporting businesses
- ▶ Fact Sheet – Information for employers
- ▶ Fact Sheet – Information for employees

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