



A message from the CEO

Coronavirus (COVID-19) update 4/5

JobKeeper payments start to flow this week

The Australian Tax Office (ATO) has confirmed that payments for JobKeeper should start to flow to businesses this week.

From today, employers should be checking that they are successfully enrolled through the Government's Business Portal, and ensuring they have identified the eligible employees and/or the business participants for who they are claiming the wage subsidy for. While you have until 31 May to complete this process, the ATO will not make payments until this process is completed.

If you have successfully completed the enrolment and identified eligible employees but do not receive payments by the end of this week, contact us by [clicking here](#) and we will provide the details to a Federal organisation for action.

Please also note that some of the rules around eligibility for both employers and employees were updated and clarified last week. We know some members have struggled with understanding portions of the eligibility rules, so please contact the WR team on 8291 2000 or by [clicking here](#) if you need assistance. The JobKeeper FAQ on our COVID-19 Portal can assist you as well. You can access this FAQ by [clicking here](#).

The one key change for you is that while any permanent or long term casual employee is eligible from the age of 16, an employee who is 16 or 17 years old and a full time student will not be eligible for JobKeeper unless they are financially independent.

Easing restrictions in SA

A top-level group of State Government executives have been brought together by the Premier, Steven Marshall, in an effort to steer South Australia out of the COVID-19 situation. This Transition Committee will include high ranking public sector bureaucrats and health officials who will analyse the risks and ways the State Government can 'reboot' the economy.

It is pleasing to see positive news that our economy may be on the path to recovery following 11 days without a single confirmed new case of COVID. However, the work isn't over and keeping up the social distancing and good hygiene practices will remain a key part in seeing a low level of cases while restrictions are eased in stages over the next few months.

Eligible small businesses that have applied for the State Government's \$10,000 cash grants should start to see this money flow through from today. If you haven't yet applied for this grant, you can get more information from Revenue SA by [clicking here](#) and apply by [clicking here](#).

Supporting our Group Training apprentices

Apprentices who have been returned by their hosts to Group Training Organisations (GTO) as a result of the current economic and COVID situation have been in the news today. It is concerning to see that across the country, many apprentices are in this situation.

Our GTO has worked hard to secure the JobKeeper payments for the vast majority of MTA apprentices who are hosted in automotive businesses across the state. It is vital that we keep our Group Training apprentices working with their hosts to ensure that these automotive businesses can return to normality after this crisis is over.

We are also working with eligible host employers to ensure that they can receive the Federal Government's 50 per cent wage subsidy payments. A reminder though that a business **cannot** claim JobKeeper and the wage subsidy measure at the same time.

A communication was sent to hosts of all MTA apprentices last Friday and if you do have a MTA Group Training apprentice, I encourage you to read this as it outlines how the JobKeeper and wage subsidy payments will assist.

If you need further information about JobKeeper or the wage subsidy in regards to MTA Group Training apprentices, [click here](#) to contact, Jason Polgreen, General Manager Apprentice Employment Services.

Stay safe.

Paul Unerkov
MTA CEO
