## Coronavirus (COVID-19) update 20/4

I hope you had a relaxing weekend.

## JobKeeper steps updated

Enrolment steps for the JobKeeper payments have been simplified on the Government Assistance page located in our COVID-19 portal. You can access these steps directly by <u>clicking here</u>.

If you have any questions about enrolling for the JobKeeper payments or have any questions about your eligibility for other government assistance measures, the MTA team is here to help you - 8291 2000.

The team has also created a flow chart that will assist you in easily determining your eligibility for the JobKeeper payments. You can access this by <u>clicking here</u>.

## Now is the time to get involved in your apprentice training

Do you have an automotive apprentice, either employed directly or by hosting one through our own Group Training Organisation (GTO)? If you are finding that work has temporarily slowed down as a result of COVID-19, I encourage you to seize this opportunity and increase your involvement, or that of your senior technicians, in their on the job training.

By supporting your apprentice's on the job learning and keeping them at work in some capacity, you can help to retain them in our industry and ensure that the skills shortage will not have as big of an impact when this crisis is over.

If you host a MTA apprentice, please know that we are currently working on their JobKeeper eligibility and will be in contact with hosts and apprentices as soon as possible.

The automotive industry will have a few months of pain but if businesses let their apprentices go now, we do not believe they will return to their apprenticeships when life returns to normality. The consequences will be disastrous and it will take longer to recover the number of apprentices that may have been lost.

If you would like to discuss any options for keeping your apprentices at work, please contact our Training and Employment Centre on 8241 0522.

## **MTAA Super update**

Our business partner, MTAA Super, has shared a webinar which includes a market update and important considerations before potentially accessing your superannuation early.

While the government has allowed people to access their superannuation early, this should be one of the last options you should consider! Please ensure you have contacted your bank, your landlord and any other company that you have major accounts with to try and negotiate payment before dipping into your super. You can access the MTAA Super webinar by <u>clicking here</u>.

At least some good has come of Coronavirus, I can finally find Wally...



Regards,

Paul Unerkov MTA CEO