

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

EMPLOYEE INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE



23 MARCH 2020

IF MY EMPLOYMENT HAS BEEN STOOD DOWN OR TERMINATED AS A RESULT OF THE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19, CAN I APPLY FOR INCOME SUPPORT FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?

Yes. The Government is temporarily expanding eligibility to income support payments and establishing a new, time-limited Coronavirus supplement to be paid at a rate of \$550 per fortnight. This supplement will be paid to both existing and new recipients of the eligible payment categories. These changes will apply for the next six months.

Jobseeker Payment and Youth Allowance Jobseeker criteria will provide payment access for **permanent employees who are stood down or lose their employment**; sole traders; the self-employed; **casual workers; and contract workers** who meet the income tests as a result of the economic downturn due to the Coronavirus. This could also include a person required to care for someone who is affected by the Coronavirus.

People will not be permitted, and will need to declare **that they are not, accessing employer entitlements (such as annual leave and/or sick leave)** or Income Protection Insurance, at the same time as receiving Jobseeker Payment and Youth Allowance Jobseeker under these arrangements. Income testing will still apply, but the asset testing and one week waiting period will be waived.

HOW DO I ACCESS INCOME SUPPORT?

Click on the link below and apply via your MyGov online account:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/news/more-financial-support-coronavirus-affected-job-seekers>

WHERE CAN I ACCESS OTHER INFORMATION AND SUPPORT?

- **Health.gov.au:**
<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/coronavirus-covid-19-resources>
- **National Coronavirus COVID-19 Helpline - 1800 020 080.**
- **Lifeline – 13 11 14;**
- **Beyond Blue – 1300 224 636;**
- **Kids/Young Adults (5-25 years) Helpline – 1800 55 1800.**