# Carer Payments and JobKeeper

## Answers to questions you might have

### Easy Read version

Australian Government

## How to use this document

The Australian Government wrote this document. When you see the word ‘we’, it means the Australian Government.

We have written this information in an easy to read way.

You can ask for help to read this document. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

## Some acronyms we use

In this document, we have shortened some names to just the letters at the start of each word. This is called an acronym.

Here is a list of the acronyms we use.

**ATO –** Australian Taxation Office

**CP –** Carer Payment

**CRA –** Commonwealth Rent Assistance

**FTB –** Family Tax Benefit

**PCC –** Pensioner Concession Card

## What is the JobKeeper payment?

Coronavirus is affecting many people around Australia.

People around Australia need to stay at home.

Many of us need to work from home.

Many businesses have lost their income.

We are helping these businesses keep paying the people who work   
for them.

The payment is called a JobKeeper Payment.

It helps people keep their jobs.

It is a payment of $1,500 every 2 weeks.

The payments will stop on 27 September 2020.

We wrote this document to answer questions you might have.

You can find more information about the [JobKeeper Payment online](file:///\\TIAGN01\TIAG\IAG\3538%20-%20DSS%20-%20DSP%20fact%20sheet%20-%20ER\3538-B%20-%20DSS%20-%20CP%20fact%20sheet%20-%20ER\2_Working%20Files\treasury.gov.au\coronavirus\jobkeeper).

## Who will get the JobKeeper payment?

The JobKeeper payment is for people who work in businesses that have lost income.

If you work in one of these businesses, you may get the   
JobKeeper payment.

This includes people who work in Australian Disability   
Enterprises (ADEs).

ADEs are businesses that employ and support people with disability.

The JobKeeper Payment will affect your Carer Payment (CP).

We explain how this will happen on the following pages.

Please visit the [Australian Taxation Office (ATO) website](http://www.ato.gov.au/) to find out how to apply for the JobKeeper Payment.

## Will the JobKeeper Payment affect your Carer Payment?

Yes, the JobKeeper Payment will affect your CP.

You might get less money in your CP.

But you will get more money in total each fortnight.

Your CP might stop while you get the JobKeeper Payment.

If your CP stops, you can keep using your Pensioner Concession   
Card (PCC).

You can do this for 12 weeks.

After 12 weeks:

* your CP will stop
* you won’t be able to use your PCC.

When the JobKeeper Payment stops, you must apply for your CP again from the start.

You might be able to use the medical report you used when you applied before if it’s not too old.

But some people won’t need to keep getting the JobKeeper Payment for 12 weeks or more.

It depends on your circumstances.

For example, some businesses might open again within 12 weeks, and you could go back to work.

This means that some people will get the JobKeeper Payment and, when it stops, their CP will go back to the way it was before.

If you have questions about the CP, please visit Services Australia’s [Carer Payment](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/carer-payment) web page.

You might like to check the limits on what you can earn and still keep getting the CP.

Will the JobKeeper Payment affect your rent?

If your CP stops, Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA) stops too.

When your CP starts again, your CRA should start again too.

At that time, the amount you get in your CRA won’t change unless something about your life or your rent has changed.

If you have questions about CRA, you can visit Services Australia’s [Rent Assistance](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/rent-assistance/how-much-you-can-get) web page for more information.

## What are the Economic Support Payments?

Economic Support Payments are payments of $750.

We make the payment to you if you already get:

* a Disability Support Pension
* the Age Pension
* a CP.

The first payment will be made between 31 March and 17 April 2020.

The second payment will be made after 13 July 2020.

But the second payment will not be made to people who have stopped getting the CP.

You do not need to apply for this payment.

We will pay it to you automatically.

You can find more information about the Economic Support Payment on the [Services Australia website](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/news/).

## What if you have children?

If you have 1 or more children, you may receive money from   
the government.

This is called the Family Tax Benefit, or FTB.

If you start getting the JobKeeper Payment, you may be able to receive more FTB.

It’s important to tell Services Australia about any changes to   
your income.

If you start getting the JobKeeper Payment, this is a change to   
your income.

## Will you have to pay tax if you get the JobKeeper Payment?

If you get the JobKeeper Payment, you may have to pay tax.

If you need more information about paying tax, you can talk to your:

* employer
* family
* carer or support person
* accountant.

You can also get more information about paying tax from the [Australian Taxation Office’s (ATO) website](http://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Lodging-your-tax-return).

## More information

You can contact Carer Gateway on **1800 422 737**.

Or you can visit the [Carer Gateway website.](http://www.carergateway.gov.au/)

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