



Australian Government



# Disability Support Pension and JobKeeper

Answers to questions you might have

Easy Read version



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.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



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

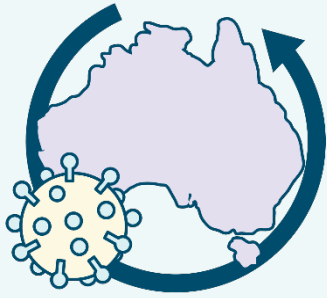
## Some acronyms we use

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.

<b>ADE</b>	Australian Disability Enterprises
<b>ATO</b>	Australian Taxation Office
<b>CRA</b>	Commonwealth Rent Assistance
<b>DSP</b>	Disability Support Pension
<b>FTB</b>	Family Tax Benefit
<b>PCC</b>	Pensioner Concession Card
<b>SDA</b>	Specialist Disability Accommodation
<b>SIL</b>	Supported Independent Living

## 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.



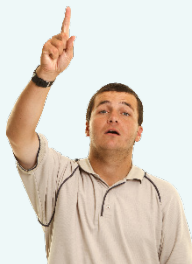
It helps people keep their jobs.



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



The JobKeeper Payment 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](#).

## 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 Disability Support Pension (DSP).



We explain how this will happen on the following pages.



Please visit the [Australian Taxation Office \(ATO\) website](#) to find out how to apply for the JobKeeper Payment.

## Will the JobKeeper Payment affect your Disability Support Pension?



Yes, the JobKeeper Payment will affect your DSP.



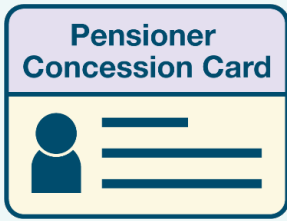
You might get less money in your DSP.



But you might get more money in total each fortnight.



Your DSP might stop while you get the JobKeeper Payment.



You can keep using your Pensioner Concession Card (PCC).

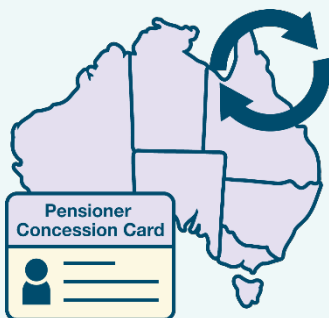


Your PCC will work in the same way the whole time you get the JobKeeper Payment.



You will still get support when you need:

- health care
- medicine.



Your PCC will only change if the rules change in your state or territory.





If you get the JobKeeper Payment, you or your nominee need to tell Services Australia.



A nominee is a person who supports you.  
They might help you to make decisions,  
including decisions about money.



You or your nominee need to tell Services Australia when the JobKeeper Payment stops.



Your DSP is likely to go back to what it was before  
unless your circumstances have changed.

## Sally's example



Sally is a worker in an ADE.



**\$ 258**

Every 2 weeks, she:

- works 15 hours
- gets paid \$258 from her job.



Sally also gets the DSP.



**\$ 902**

She gets \$902 every 2 weeks for her DSP.



**\$ 1,160**

In total, Sally usually gets paid \$1,160 every 2 weeks.



Where Sally works, she can get the JobKeeper Payment.

**\$1,500**

Sally will get paid \$1,500 every 2 weeks.



Because Sally is getting paid more, her DSP will go down.

Her DSP will go down to \$281 every 2 weeks.



However, this means she will get \$621 more than she usually would.



This will happen every 2 weeks until 27 September 2020.

## Will the JobKeeper Payment affect your rent?

### Commonwealth Rent Assistance



Some people live in private rental homes.



They might get Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA).



This is money from the government to help you pay your rent.



If your DSP stops, CRA stops too.



When your DSP starts again, your CRA will 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](#) web page for more information.

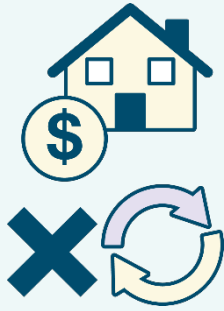
## Specialist Disability Accommodation



Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) is accessible housing for people with disability.



You might live in an SDA home.



If you get JobKeeper, your rent won't change unless your DSP stops.



You might also receive Supported Independent Living (SIL) services.



This is when you get support with daily tasks to help you live independently.



Your SIL support won't change if:

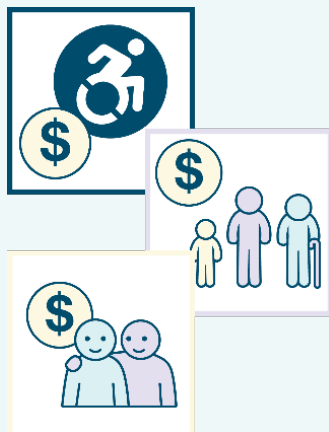
- you get JobKeeper
- your DSP stops.

## What are the Economic Support Payments?



Economic Support Payments are payments of \$750.

We make the payment to you if you already get:



- a DSP
- the Age Pension
- a Carer Payment.



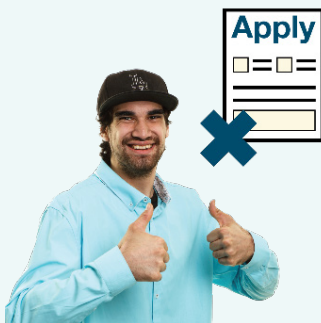
The first payment will be made between 31 March and 17 April 2020.



The second payment will be made after 13 July 2020.



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



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](#).



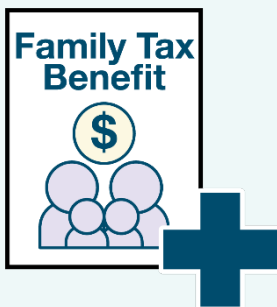
## What if you have children?



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.



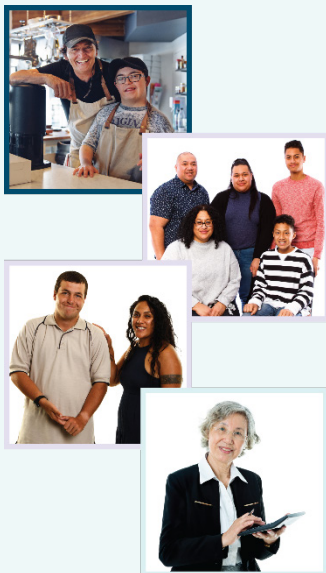
If you start getting the JobKeeper Payment, this is a change to your income.

## 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](https://www.ato.gov.au).

## More information



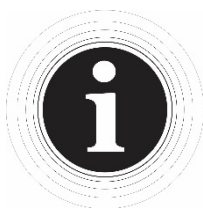
You can call the Disability Information Helpline on  
**1800 643 787.**



[www.dss.gov.au/disabilityhelp](http://www.dss.gov.au/disabilityhelp)



You can also visit Services Australia's  
[Disability Support Pension](http://www.dss.gov.au/disabilityhelp) web page.



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