

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

JobKeeper payments

What is JobKeeper?

Why are you writing to me?

To make sure you have up-to-date information about the JobKeeper payment, from the government.

What is JobKeeper payment?

The government pays the JobKeeper payment to organisations affected by the coronavirus.

The government will pay Endeavour Foundation \$1,500 per fortnight for any eligible supported employees who decide to apply. We will then pay this to the supported employee, after tax.

What is the aim of JobKeeper?

The government wants people to keep their job even if they cannot go to work, or if their employer is struggling because of coronavirus.

Are all supported employees eligible for the payment?

There are some criteria set by the government, but most Supported Employees would be eligible.

How do I know if we are eligible?

Endeavour Foundation can participate in the JobKeeper program.

The criteria for supported employees include:

- Being employed by Endeavour Foundation full-time or part-time at 1 March 2020
- Being at least 16 years of age on 1 March 2020
- Being an Australian resident as at 1 March 2020 (reside in Australia, and are an Australian citizen, the holder of a permanent visa, or a Protected Special Category Visa Holder). You may also be an Australian tax resident who is a Special Category (Subclass 444) Visa Holder. \
- You did not receive any of these payments during the fortnight
 - government parental leave or Dad-and-partner pay
 - worker's compensation payment for total incapacity for work

You can read about the eligibility definitions on page 2 of the [Australian Government Factsheet](#).

I've been stood down, am I still eligible?

Yes, if you meet the other eligibility criteria for JobKeeper.

How much is the payment?

It is a fixed payment of \$1,500 per fortnight before tax.

I normally earn less than \$1,500, so how much I get?

People who usually receive less than \$1,500 per fortnight before tax, will still be paid \$1,500 per fortnight, before tax.

Some people may receive more money than their usual pay amount.

How long is the JobKeeper payment for?

The JobKeeper payment will stop on 27 September 2020.

JobKeeper, DSP and other entitlements

Does the JobKeeper payment impact my DSP?

Yes. The JobKeeper payment will probably reduce your Disability Support Pension (DSP).

Does the JobKeeper payment impact my DSP (Blind) entitlements?

The JobKeeper payment should not have any impact on DSP (Blind) entitlements.

Income and assets tests do not apply to people receiving DSP (Blind) entitlements.

If I get the JobKeeper payment, can I keep using my Pensioner Concession Card (PCC)?

Yes, your PCC will work in the same way for medical benefits and concessions on your medicines the whole time you get the JobKeeper Payment.

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

If I get the JobKeeper payment, do I need to tell Services Australia (formerly Centrelink)?

No, because we will do it for you.

As is the current practice, Endeavour Foundation will continue to report wages paid to Services Australia (Centrelink) so they can pay you the right DSP amount. This will also be done for JobKeeper money.

When the JobKeeper payment stops (27 September) will my DSP and wage go back to what it was before?

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

Will the JobKeeper payment impact my Commonwealth Rental Assistance (CRA)?

It will only be impacted if your DSP stops. If this happens your CRA will also stop. When your DSP starts again, your CRA will start again too.

Will the JobKeeper payment impact my Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)?

Endeavour Foundation charges your rent at a rate determined by the NDIA and this will not change. If you have another SDA provider, they can answer this question for you.

Supported employees who live in Endeavour Foundation Specialist Disability Accommodation, and their financial decision makers, will need to be aware that Rent and Board will continue to be charged in the usual way. If you have set up a direct debit, or you make a fortnightly telephone payment, or your invoice is sent to the Public Trustee for payment, that process will continue as normal while you are receiving JobKeeper. Please call 1800 112 112 and ask to speak to our Finance Team if you have concerns about this.

What financial support do people on the DSP get during the coronavirus?

An automatic Economic Support Payment of \$750 was paid once, to people on the DSP.

If you are still on the DSP after 13 July, you will also get a second Economic Support Payment of \$750.

JobKeeper and the NDIS

Does the JobKeeper payment impact my NDIS funding?

Your NDIS supports will not be impacted. NDIS is about employment supports, not income such as your wages and pension.

JobKeeper and work at Endeavour Foundation

When do I receive my first JobKeeper payment?

Usually you would be paid in the first fortnight after you tell us you want to be part of JobKeeper, as long as we have had time to put in the forms.

You should get paid at the same time as your normal pay cycle.

What happens if I apply for the JobKeeper payment and then change my mind?

If you change your mind and do not want the JobKeeper payment anymore, please tell us immediately, and we will stop the payment from that moment you request for it to stop.

If I return to work before 27 September, do I receive the JobKeeper payment or my normal wage?

You will receive the JobKeeper payment until it finishes 27 September.

If I take the JobKeeper payment, do I still need to take annual leave or long service leave?

No. You need to let us know if you are using leave entitlements and you want to cancel them when you start on JobKeeper.

What happens to the JobKeeper payment if I return to work before 27 September?

You will continue to receive the JobKeeper payment until the 27 September. After that time, your DSP and wages will return to normal.

What happens if I receive the JobKeeper payment but do not want to return to work?

If it is safe and reasonable for you to return to work, then you will be expected to do so. If there are reasons you cannot return, such as a genuine health problem, we will discuss this and make alternative arrangements.

JobKeeper and tax

Do I need to pay tax if I get the JobKeeper Payment?

If you get the JobKeeper Payment, you may have to pay tax. It is best to speak to someone your trust or contact the Australian Tax Office 13 2861.

My personal circumstances

I'm not sure what JobKeeper means for me personally, who can I talk to?

It is important to speak to someone you trust.

You could also make an appointment to speak with a Services Australia Financial Information Service Officer. They can provide information about your own situation.

Make an appointment by phoning Services Australia on 13 2300.

You can also speak to the Disability Information Helpline on 1800 643 787 for other Coronavirus questions.

I'm interested in JobKeeper, so what do I need to do?

Please call us on 1800 112 112 and they will take your details and get someone to call you back about applying for JobKeeper.

When can I go back to work?

We will reopen supported employment as soon as the public health authorities say it is safe to gather indoors and work near to each other again.

Where can I find more information?

Website: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) information and support](#)

1. [Fact Sheet: COVID-19 and JobKeeper](#)
2. [Fact sheet \(Easy Read\) JobKeeper and DSP](#)

Who can I contact if I have more questions?

If you have questions, please contact

- **Endeavour Foundation on 1800 112 112** or fundingschedules@endeavour.com.au
- **Disability Information Helpline on 1800 643 787** for general COVID-19 questions.
- For information about how the JobKeeper payment would impact on your personal situation, you can make an appointment to speak with a Services Australia Financial Information Service Officer. Call 13 2300 to do this.
- **Services Australia (formally Centrelink) on 132 717** for specific advice regarding the JobKeeper payments, Disability Support Pension (DSP), Carers Allowance and Commonwealth Rental Assistance (CRA).
- **Australian Tax Office 13 2861** for specific advice on the JobKeeper payments and its impact on tax and superannuation.