

More child care providers to receive the JobKeeper Payment

The [Australian Tax Office](#) (ATO) has confirmed a new ruling that clarifies eligibility for the JobKeeper Payment for most early childhood education and care (ECEC) services receiving the ECEC Relief Package.

As part of the [eligibility requirements](#) for JobKeeper a decline in turnover test requires providers to demonstrate a fall in "GST turnover" even if an entity was not registered for GST.

The ATO ruling means that any ECEC Relief Package or Exceptional Circumstances Supplementary Payments made to a provider will not be considered as taxable supply, which means the payments have been made exempt from GST.

This means ECEC providers will not have to count Relief Package and Exceptional Circumstances payments for the purposes of applying for JobKeeper.

As a result JobKeeper should now be more easily accessible for those providers receiving the ECEC Relief Package payments or Exceptional Circumstances Supplementary Payment provided they do not have access to other income streams (such as being part of a larger entity like a non-government school or a not-for-profit organisation).

For those ECEC providers which do have access to other income, and therefore are not eligible for JobKeeper, the section below details extra support we can provide.

Detailed guidance will be provided on the [ATO JobKeeper website](#).

Expansion of the Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment eligibility criteria

The ECEC Relief Package payment is complementary to other government assistance, particularly the JobKeeper Payment. Eligible providers should have applied for the JobKeeper Payment and other available state and Australian Government support to ensure they are maximising all available assistance.

Providers who are part of non-government schools and large charities/not-for-profit organisations will be contacted directly by the department and receive an increase to the base payment under the relief package if they confirm that they are ineligible for the JobKeeper Payment, whether or not they have submitted an application for Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment.

For those providers who could receive JobKeeper Payment but their employees are not eligible, this would not be an acceptable reason to apply for Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payments.

Providers who are part of non-government schools, you do not need to do anything. Non-government schools will have their payments automatically increased. If you are part of a larger not-for-profit organisation, we will write to you and ask you to confirm that you are not eligible for JobKeeper, and then your payments will be increased each week. Both of these groups will also receive a separate payment to cover the period from 6 April

State and local government services can continue to apply for support through the exceptional circumstances process where they have more children attending and/or a significant increase in the hours of attendance compared to the reference period.

However, these services cannot get extra support on the basis of JobKeeper ineligibility.

The New South Wales Government is meeting the extra costs for local council and state government providers unable to access JobKeeper. Other state governments are being encouraged to do the same.

Family Day Care (FDC) or In Home Care (IHC) services with current (sole trader/contractor) educators who are not eligible for the JobKeeper Payment can also now apply for the Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment using the current application form, as long as their educators apply for an Australian Business Number (ABN) by 1 June 2020.

If an FDC/IHC service has already made an application through the exceptional circumstance process, the department will be in will contact with them shortly to request further information about those educators (sole trader contractors) who are not eligible for JobKeeper Payment. Confirmation and evidence will be sought that all relevant educators have applied for an ABN before any additional payment can be assessed.

Remember – whether or not all your FDC or IHC educators are covered by an ABN – you can still apply for extra support through the exceptional circumstances process if you are delivering more care now than you did in the reference period.

New services

The rules in relation to new services have not changed.

Providers can still apply for relief package payments for services which commenced after the reference period, however these payments will only be made at the base payment rate. This is because these providers can still apply for assistance with JobKeeper payments.

We will work with new services to advise you of your reference period, which is generally the first full two weeks of operation. You will need to provide supporting evidence for this.

If your demand increases after your reference period, you can apply for extra support.

If a provider is not eligible for JobKeeper for a new service – for one of the reasons outlined above – the provider should follow the processes outlined above, depending which category the provider falls into.

Other service types

If you are a provider who is not in one of these groups, but you believe you are not eligible for the JobKeeper Payments, you can still apply for an Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment.

Summary – providers not eligible for JobKeeper

- Non-government schools will be contacted directly by the department and receive a top-up payment if they are ineligible for JobKeeper, whether or not they have submitted an application for Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment
- Services which are part of a larger not-for-profit organisation will be contacted directly by the department and receive a top-up payment if they are ineligible for JobKeeper, whether or not they have submitted an application for Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment
- Local council services which have applied for an Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment on the basis of more children in their care now than they did in the reference period can get a top-up payment for this extra demand, but NOT to compensate for not being eligible for JobKeeper (they should contact their state government in this latter regard)
- Family Day Care or In Home Care services where not all educators were covered by an ABN on 12 March 2020 and are therefore those educators are not eligible for JobKeeper can apply for help through Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment process to cover the costs for those ineligible educators.
 - To get this extra help, those educators will need to apply for an ABN before 1 June 2020.

Updated COVID-19 information

We have updated the COVID-19 information on our [website](#) to reflect the changes to the Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payments.

The updated information includes:

- Updated [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) information for early childhood education and care providers and services](#) information sheet
- Updated [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package Conditions](#) information sheet
- Updated [Exceptional Circumstance Supplementary Payment](#) information sheet
- Updated [Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package - Information for Family Day Care and In Home Care Providers](#) information sheet
- Updated [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Please regularly check the website to help ensure that you are using the latest information.

You can also contact the Child Care Subsidy Helpdesk at CCShelpdesk@dese.gov.au, via an [online form](#) or on **1300 667 276** between 9:00 am – 7:00 pm (AEST), Monday – Friday.

Reminder: Early Childhood Education and Care Relief Package Survey

Thank you to the many services that have already had their say in the Relief Package survey.

Have your say on the Relief Package through the ORIMA survey by **12:00 pm (AEST) Friday 1 May 2020**.

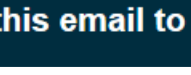
The ORIMA survey for the Relief Package was sent to the email address of all services as recorded in Child Care Subsidy System on Friday 24 April, 2020.

If your service has not received the survey email, please check that your email hasn't gone into your junk/spam folder. If you still can't find your email, please contact ORIMA at surveys@orima.com and ensure that you provide details of the provider, service (or services) and the email address/es you would like the survey to be sent to.

For up to date information on COVID-19 for providers and services visit the [Department of Education, Skills and Employment](#).

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Our mailing address is:
ECCCStakeholderEngagement@desec.gov.au