

JobKeeper Payment – Eligibility Update

Ai Group Apprentice and Trainee Centre would like to bring to the attention of all our host organisations an update to the *JobKeeper Payment*, which was announced last week.

The Government had heard concerns that apprentices and trainees had been suspended or returned to Group Training Organisations (GTO) as they could no longer be supported in their employment and training.

To address this, the Government will increase the value of the *Supporting Apprentices and Trainees* wage subsidy to \$1,500 per fortnight, where the host employer of any size is receiving the *JobKeeper Payment* for their direct staff and retains their Group Training apprentice.

The Government believes this will be a welcome measure for those host employers and apprentices to ensure the same level of wage assistance as other employees, and to help keep apprentices where they need to be – in work and training.

This change will apply retrospectively to wages paid from 1 April 2020 and will be rolled out in line with existing processes for the *Supporting Apprentice and Trainees* measure, with payments made quarterly in arrears.

To finalise the arrangements required to implement this additional support, the Government will now consult with the Group Training Sector – through the National Apprentice Employment Network – to update the guidelines for the *Supporting Apprentices and Trainees*.

Ai Group Apprentice and Trainee Centre is yet to receive the application process guidelines however please be assured we will forward this information to you once received. You can read the update from the Treasurer's website [here](#). The Government has extended the time to enrol for the initial JobKeeper periods, from 30 April 2020 until 31 May 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact your Field Officer / ETC or Ai Group ATC State Manager.

Kind regards



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Ai Group Apprentice & Trainee Centre