

NECA MEMBER COVID-19 UPDATE

LATEST FEDERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. NATIONAL STIMULUS PACKAGE UPDATE

Supporting Apprentices and Trainees and the JobKeeper Payment

The Federal Government has provided further information to assist businesses determine how the JobKeeper Payment interacts with Supporting Apprentices and Trainees Payment, and how a business determines which payment applies to their business.

For more information:

Visit <https://www.employment.gov.au/questions-and-answers-1> or download the [Q&A](#).

2. NEW ENTERPRISE INCENTIVE SCHEME PARTICIPANTS

The Federal Government has announced the Coronavirus Supplement as part of its economic plan to support Australian households and businesses. The Coronavirus Supplement is available to existing and new recipients of eligible income support payments from 27 April 2020.

New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS) participants can now choose to access the Coronavirus Supplement if they are in receipt of an eligible income support payment. This option will be available to both existing and new NEIS participants. NEIS supports people to create their own job by starting a small business.

For more information:

- Further information about eligibility for the Supplement can be found on the Services Australia website <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/news/more-financial-support-people-affected-coronavirus>

3. ADVOCACY UPDATE

Measures to help protect businesses from 'Liquidated Damages'

- NECA has called on the Federal Government to urgently introduce a moratorium on 'Liquidated Damages' provisions within construction contracts in an open letter

to The Hon. Christian Porter, MP to help prevent a potentially catastrophic impact to Australia's building and construction sector as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

NECA has proposed that a moratorium apply for at least the term of the Government's Staged Restrictions being imposed on communities and business and be equally applied to government and non-government funded projects, in a similar way as recent commercial tenancy principals and penalties.

[Link to media release and letter](#)

LATEST STATE AND TERRITORY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contact your local NECA Chapter website for regular updates.