

# NECA MEMBER COVID-19 UPDATE

## LATEST FEDERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 1. NATIONAL STIMULUS PACKAGE UPDATE

#### **\$130 billion JobKeeper Payment available from May 2020**

The Australian Parliament has passed the Morrison Government's \$130 billion JobKeeper Payment.

The \$1,500 per fortnight JobKeeper payment will be available from May 2020 and is the equivalent of about 70 per cent of the median wage and represents about 100 per cent of the median wage in some of the most heavily affected sectors, such as retail, hospitality and tourism.

JobKeeper will be available to full-time and part-time workers, sole traders and casuals who have been with their employer for 12 months or more.

The ATO is yet to publish guidance on many aspects of the JobKeeper payment, such as the eligibility criteria, how to apply, how it is paid (instalments or as a lump sum), the payment timetable and applicable conditions.

Eligible businesses can apply for the payment online and are able to register their interest at <https://www.ato.gov.au/Job-keeper-payment/>

### 2. ADVOCACY UPDATE

#### **COVID-19 crisis calls for the abolition of payroll tax**

The National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA) again calls on all state governments to abolish payroll tax for all businesses to help combat the continued economic turmoil caused by COVID-19.

NECA CEO Suresh Manickam has written to each State and Territory Treasurer on behalf of NECA members again highlighting the that if the intent of Government is to rebuild and boost the economy in the backdrop of COVID-19, then payroll tax will only serve to impede growth and must be removed.

[Link to media release and letters](#)

A full copy of each letter can be downloaded here:

[The Hon. Andrew Bar, MLA](#) - Treasurer of the Australian Capital Territory

[The Hon. Jackie Trad, MP](#) - Treasurer of Queensland

[The Hon. Dominic Perrottet, MP](#) - Treasurer of New South Wales

[The Hon. Rob Lucas, MP](#) - Treasurer of South Australia

The Hon. Peter Gutwein, MP - Treasurer of Tasmania  
The Hon. Mr Tim Pallas, MP - Treasurer of Victoria  
The Hon. Ben Wyatt, MP - Treasurer of Western Australia

**LATEST STATE AND TERRITORY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Contact your local NECA Chapter website for regular updates.