

## RESTAURANT & CATERING AUSTRALIA

### EXTENSION AND VARIATION TO JOBKEEPER AND JOBSEEKER SCHEMES

21 JULY 2020

#### *Background:*

The Federal Government today announced extensions and variations to the JobKeeper and JobSeeker schemes. The changes will take effect from 28 September 2020 and will continue until 28 March 2021. The key changes to each of the schemes are summarised below – more detail on these schemes including eligibility requirements once they are made available from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

#### *New JobKeeper 2.0 Scheme*

- Removal of \$1,500.00 gross “flat rate” subsidy for all employees
- New, two-tiered system:
  - **Full time employees:** \$1,200 gross per fortnight (to become \$1,000.00 from end of December 2020)
  - **Part time and casual employees (20 hours or less):** \$750.00 gross per fortnight (to become \$650.00 from end of December 2020)
- The 30% “turnover test” will continue to operate, and businesses will need to demonstrate financial distress for each quarter
- For the March quarter, businesses will need to demonstrate that they meet the turnover test for June, September and December 2020.

#### *JobSeeker Scheme*

- The Coronavirus Supplement has been reduced to \$250.00 until end of December 2020
- Income threshold increased to \$300.00. This will allow JobSeeker recipients to seek part time and/or casual employment without impacting their allowance
- From 4 August 2020, JobSeeker recipients will be required to undertake at least 4 applications per month in order to remain eligible for the allowance
- Re-introduction of the asset test