



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education,  
Skills and Employment**

**First Assistant Secretary  
Mr Ty Emerson (A/g)**

Dear Chief Executive Officer

**COVID-19 –Employment Fund Arrangements**

This letter is to update you on arrangements for the jobactive Employment Fund.

On 22 April 2020, Mr Nathan Smyth, Deputy Secretary–Employment wrote to you to advise of a temporary change to the Employment Fund, from 4 May until 30 June 2020. The temporary change brought forward Employment Fund credits for Stream A job seekers to occur when a person commences with a provider, rather than after 13 weeks in service. As you are aware, this measure is due to end on 30 June 2020.

This measure was in addition to a range of additional Employment Fund flexibilities announced by the department in relation to COVID-19 that remain in place, including allowing out-of-time reimbursements.

I urge your organisations to continue using the Employment Fund to provide job seekers with a broad range of comprehensive assistance. This will give job seekers the best chance of moving into new employment quickly. To support your ongoing efforts I would also like to remind you of the Employment Fund increase by approximately \$35 million from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, delivered through higher credit amounts for each stream:

- Stream A Credit: \$375
- Stream B Credit: \$1,100
- Stream C Credit: \$1,600

Many job seekers who are accessing your services for the first time will be work ready, but may need practical help to move into new roles or to retrain and upskill. This could include help to gain a license or qualification, access training, or to purchase equipment in order to a quickly take up a role. The increased credit amounts will ensure you can continue to provide a high level of support to job seekers and ensure they can move quickly back into the workforce.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ty Emerson', written over a white oval background.

Ty Emerson  
25 June 2020