



COVID-19 UPDATE #22 – CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR NSW BUSINESSES; CONTACT RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE RELEASED

Small- and medium-sized businesses in NSW will continue to receive support from the federal and state governments until NSW is expected to reach 80% vaccination.

Consistent with the National Plan, [the federal government will continue to co-fund the JobSaver program](#), with funding to taper when NSW meets its vaccination targets.

When the state's vaccination rate reaches 70% of the eligible population, JobSaver payments will taper from the current payment rate equivalent to 40% of weekly payroll to 30% of weekly payroll. This is anticipated to occur by 10 October 2021.

From 10 October to 23 October 2021, the minimum and maximum weekly payments for employing businesses will be reduced by 25% and grants to be 30% of weekly payroll. The grant for sole traders will reduce to \$750.

Once NSW reaches a vaccination rate of 80%, the federal government's contribution to the JobSaver program will cease, in line with the National Plan for Reopening. This is anticipated to occur by 31 October 2021. However, the NSW government will continue to fund its 50% contribution to JobSaver payments with these ending on 30 November 2021 to coincide with the further relaxation of restrictions. Details of the JobSaver tapering can be found [here](#).

Meanwhile, NSW Health has released its latest operational guidance on contact risk assessment to manage situations where an infectious case has attended a community or workplace setting.

This guidance provides information on circumstances that may require specific assessment, stipulates the length of the infectious period, and details the risk categories for the different types of contacts. This guidance can be downloaded [here](#).