

## **Employment and Work Readiness Assistance (No 2) Amendment 2020**

This instrument is made under section 101(1) of the Social Security Act 2018 by the Minister for Social Development and Employment.

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### **Instrument**

#### **1 Title**

This instrument is the Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Amendment (No 2) 2020.

#### **2 Commencement**

This programme comes into force on the day after the date on which it is established and approved.

#### **3 Programme amended**

This instrument amends the Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Programme<sup>1</sup> (as established and approved on 6 March 2014).

#### **4 Clause 4 amended (Interpretation)**

In clause 4(1), insert the following definition in its appropriate alphabetical order:

**6 continuous weeks** means periods of 6 continuous weeks or more where MSD is satisfied that any breaks in employment are insignificant; and can include:

- a. periods of time on leave without pay; and
- b. may include jobs across more than one employer

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<sup>1</sup> New Zealand Gazette, 13 March 2014, page 837

**additional accommodation cost** means any temporary accommodation costs a person has that have arisen from their seasonal work, in addition to that person's ongoing accommodation costs in the usual place they live

**New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme** means a programme of that name operated by MSD

**offer of seasonal work** means an offer of seasonal work for 6 continuous weeks

**seasonal work** means work that is provided under the New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme

## 5 Schedule amended

In Schedule, insert the following new clauses in the appropriate order:

### New clause 5B

After clause 5A in the Schedule, insert:

**"5B Additional accommodation assistance associated with the New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme**

Financial assistance to support an eligible person with additional accommodation costs, who has been accepted in the New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme, if that person is required to temporarily relocate their place of residence to enable them to take up an offer of seasonal work.

The actual and reasonable costs for that purpose (as determined by MSD) up to \$200 per week, but not exceeding \$2,600 over 13 weeks in total in a 52-week period.

### Clause 6A amended:

Before clause 6A(a) in the Schedule, insert:

- (aa) MSD may only grant a person an incentive payment under clause 6A(a) or (b) of the Schedule of this programme for any given period if that person is not receiving a payment under clause 5B or clause 6A(c) of the Schedule for the same period.

**New clause 6A(c)**

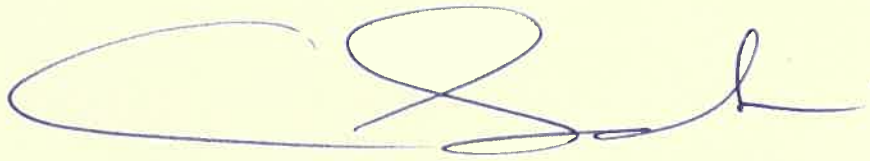
After clause 6A(b) in the Schedule, insert:

**“6A Incentive payments for New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme**

*“(c) Incentive payments for New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme*

A payment to an eligible person under the New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme as an incentive for that person to undertake seasonal work, if that person is required to temporarily relocate their place of residence to enable them to take up an offer of seasonal work.

One or two lump sum payments of \$500 (and no more than \$1,000 in total) over a 52-week period, paid at milestones as set by MSD in promulgated guidelines, to a person who is current undertaking seasonal work.



Minister for Social Development and Employment

At Wellington this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020

**Explanatory Note**

*This note is not part of the instrument, but is intended to indicate its general effect.*

This instrument, which comes into force on the day after it is established and approved, amends the Employment and Work Readiness Assistance Programme.

This instrument inserts new definitions related to the New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme. It also amends the Schedule by inserting new kinds of assistance available for people offered employment under the New Zealand Seasonal Work Scheme by providing assistance with accommodation costs and incentive payments for eligible people, in order to encourage them to undertake seasonal work in New Zealand.