

IMPORTANT: COVID-19 Update – Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus

Date: 4 September 2020
To: All ACCS Employees
From: David Izzard, Head of People & Culture

On 31 August 2020, Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck the Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians announced additional funding for the aged care sector, including a third Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus.

You can read this announcement by clicking [here](#).

Is the third Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus different?

The eligibility criteria for the third payment will be the same as the first two rounds of the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus. See below for further detail.

Am I eligible for payment of an Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus?

As we have previously communicated to our employees, the way that the Government has designed the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus unfortunately means that not all employees of Aged and Community Care are eligible.

Calvary service	Eligible	Ineligible
Residential Aged Care	As at the time of Calvary’s application for the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employed by Calvary as a Registered Nurse, Enrolled Nurse, Personal Care Worker (including Assistants in Nursing) or Allied Health Worker; Delivered face to face resident services; and Worked more than 3 hours a week on average in the 4 weeks before Calvary’s application. 	As at the time of Calvary’s application for the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Had not yet commenced employment with Calvary; Employed by Calvary as a Pastoral Care Assistant, Maintenance Officer, Leisure and Lifestyle, Administration or Manager; Did not deliver face to face resident services; and Worked less than 3 hours a week on average in the 4 weeks before Calvary’s application.

Calvary service	Eligible	Ineligible
Home Care	As at the time of Calvary’s application for the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employed by Calvary; Work within a home care package or National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care; Provided clinical support, personal care, cleaning and support work household tasks, meal preparation, social support, shopping services, community access, transport, allied health and respite services; and Worked more than 3 hours a week on average in the 4 weeks before Calvary’s application. 	As at the time of Calvary’s application for the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Had not yet commenced employment with Calvary; Hours worked within a Commonwealth Home Support Packages, Department of Veterans Affairs, Short Term Restorative Care, Transition Care and Privately Funded Services (i.e. hours worked in these packages <u>do not count</u>); Provided clinical support, personal care, cleaning and support work household tasks, meal preparation, social support, shopping services, community access, transport, allied health and respite services; and Worked less than 3 hours a week on average in the 4 weeks before Calvary’s application.

PLEASE NOTE: Contract/agency employees are not eligible for payment by Calvary – their employer must make an application.

How much is the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus?

There is now a total of three (3) bonus payments of up to \$800 for Residential Aged Care Employees, and up to \$600 for Community Care Workers. The first payment, which we have already communicated with employees has been delayed. The second payment is being assessed, and the third we are waiting further details.

Payments are made in accordance with the number of hours worked by employees in the four weeks prior to Calvary applying for each bonus. For Home Care, please note the number of hours worked is only based on hours worked within eligible packages (as outlined above).

Calvary service	Between 3 and 7.5 hours per week	More than 7.5 and up to 15 hours per week	More than 15 and up to 22.5 hours per week	More than 22.5 and up to 30 hours per week	More than 30 hours per week
Residential Aged Care	\$160	\$320	\$480	\$640	\$800
Home Care	\$120	\$240	\$360	\$480	\$600

PLEASE NOTE: The payments are considered income and will be subject to income tax, so it is likely you will receive less than what is stated above. Please also note superannuation is not payable on these payments.



Is tax payable on the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus?

Yes, marginal tax is applied to the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus. This means it is likely you will receive less than what is stated for the average hours worked. If you have any questions about the tax payable, you can contact the Payroll Help Desk via Calvary Connect or by clicking [here](#).

Why have I not yet received payment for the first Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus?

The Commonwealth Department of Health have advised Calvary of further delays in the processing of the Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus payment to Calvary.

We have now been advised payment for the first bonus will be received by Calvary in the second week of September 2020. We had previously expected payment in late August 2020.

We maintain our commitment to pay employees their Aged Care Workforce Retention Bonus within five (5) business days of receiving payment from the Commonwealth Department of Health. This means employees should receive the payment by mid-September 2020.

Where can I find more information?

You can access the previous updates on Calvary Connect or by clicking [here](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Human Resources team at CalvaryHR@calvarycare.org.au if you require any further information.