

# New Participation changes

## *What you need to know*

### Volunteering Illawarra





# Disclaimer

**The following information is taken from the Australian Government Department of Human Services Website dated 29 August 2018**

**This is a summarised version of the changes, in all instances please consult with Centrelink and or you Job Provider to clarify your situation**

# New Mutual Obligation requirements

**From 20 September 2018 if you are a Job Seeker your Mutual Obligation Requirements will change**

- If you are a job seeker between 30 years and age pension age**
- Getting Newstart or Special Benefit with Mutual Obligation Requirements**



# What's Changing?

- Between 30 & 49 years, your Annual Activity Requirements hours increase to 50 hours per fortnight
- Between 55 and 59 years, you **cannot** use voluntary work alone to meet your mutual obligation requirements until you have been on a payment for 12 months
- If you are 60 years and older, your annual activity requirement can be 10 hours per fortnight



## 55 – 59 year olds

- Mutual Obligation is still 30 hours per fortnight
- To fully meet your requirement if you choose to volunteer you must spend at least 15 hours of your 30 hours in paid work
- After 20 September 2018, approval in most instances will not be granted to do 30 hours per fortnight volunteering, combination of volunteering and paid work will be required



# 55 – 59 year olds

## Summary

**You can choose to meet your obligations by:**

- Suitable paid work**
- Self-employment**
- Approved voluntary work**

**You can do a mix of these options for your 30 hours**



## **55 – 59 years old**

**If you elect to do voluntary work you will need to discuss this with Centrelink and or your Job Provider**

**From 20 September 2018 if you have not been on a payment for 12 months or more your options will change to the new requirements**

**If you are between 55 – 59 years and you have been on a payment for 12 months or more existing arrangements should continue, speak to Centrelink or your Job Provider to clarify**



# 60 years & over

- You may know have an Annual Activity requirement of 10 hours per fortnight





# Widow Allowance

**You could be exempt from mutual obligation requirements if on or after the 1 July 2018 you:**

- Meet eligibility criteria for Widow Allowance, and**
- Claim a Newstart Allowance**



# Principal Carers (child)

**You are a Principal carer if you are responsible for the**

- Day to day care**
- Welfare, and**
- Development of a child under 16 years of age**



# Principal Carers (Child)

**Mutual Obligation requirements will apply if you receive:**

- Newstart Allowance**
- Youth Allowance or Job Seeker**
- Special Benefit, or**
- Parenting Payment**



# Principal Carers (Child)

**Part- time requirements include:**

- Looking for suitable paid work at least 30 hours per fortnight**
- Other approved activities to improve your chances of getting work (e.g. study)**



# Principal Carers (Child)

**If you are Principal Carer 55yrs or over, voluntary work may count towards your obligations:**

- You will need to do at least 30 hours per fortnight approved voluntary work, or**
- Combination of voluntary and paid work totalling 30 hours per fortnight**
- Under 55yrs, voluntary work may still be an option speak to your provider about this option**