



Extended operation of COVID-19 schedule in health awards: Unpaid pandemic leave and annual leave flexibility

SUMMARY

In Member Advice [NAT 033/20](#), Members were informed of a decision of the Fair Work Commission (FWC) in April 2020 to vary most awards to insert a new schedule providing an entitlement to up to 14 days unpaid pandemic leave. The schedule also enabled employees to reach agreement with their employer to take twice as much annual leave at half the pay.

In Member Advice [NAT 052/20](#), [NAT 064/20](#), [NAT 066/20](#), [NAT 071/20](#) and [NAT 087/20](#) Members were informed of decisions of the FWC to extend the operation of the Schedule in various awards and to include the Schedule in others.

On 29 October 2020, the FWC determined to extend the operation of the Schedule to 29 March 2021 in awards applicable to the health sector.

Which modern awards have been varied to extend the operation of the schedule?

The schedule has been extended until **29 March 2021** in the following modern awards:

- *Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services Award 2020*
- *Aged Care Award 2010*
- *Ambulance and Patient Transport Industry Award 2020*
- *Health Professionals and Support Services Award 2020*
- *Medical Practitioners Award 2020*
- *Nurses Award 2010*
- *Pharmacy Industry Award 2020*
- *Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010*
- *Supported Employment Services Award 2020*

What are the terms of the unpaid pandemic leave and annual leave flexibility entitlements?

These entitlements were set out in Member Advice [NAT 033/20](#).

Do you require further advice?

For further information or assistance, please contact Ai Group. Ai Group has set up a [special section on our website](#) to provide access to Ai Group advice and assistance relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Stephen Smith
HEAD OF NATIONAL WORKPLACE RELATIONS POLICY

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