

Carona Virus Update to assist Individuals and Businesses Release Date 24 March 2020

# **COVID-19 - Available Business Support**

# Click on Name to be directed to further details and how to apply:

Name	Details		
Six month Small Business Loan Deferrals	If your business is affected by COVID-19 speak directly to your bank to receive a six month business loan payment deferral		
Jobs Support Loan	Loan that is Interest free for 12 months, then low interest. Up to \$250,000 to help businesses retain employees and maintain their operations		
Payroll Tax Deferral	Payroll tax can be deferred until 31 July if business affected by COVID-19		
Boosting cash flow for Employers	Provide up to \$25,000 back to businesses, payment will be delivered as a credit in the BAS system from 28 April 2020		
Support for Tourism Operators & Hospitality Providers	Various fees and charges relief is available for businesses that have been impacted by COVID-19. Click here for details on what fees and charges can be waived		
Apprentice and Trainee wage subsidy	Eligible employers can apply for a wage subsidy of 50% of the apprentice's or trainee's wage for up to 9 months from 1 Jan to 30 Sept 2020. Businesses can register from 02 April 2020		
Instant Asset Write-Off up to \$150,000	changed from \$30,000 to \$150,000 until 30 Jun 2020 for new or 2nd hand assets first used from 12 Mar 2020		
Backing Business Investments (BBI)	Accelerating depreciation deductions. Applies to assets acquired from 12 Mar and first used or installed by 30 Jun 2021. Businesses with turnover of less than \$500mil will be able to deduct 50% of the cost of asset on installation.		
Financial Hardship	Bank Financial hardship team contact details in case you are doing it tough		
Worker Transition Scheme	Help for your staff who may find themselves without work as a result of business closures		
Facebook Small Business Grants	Facebook are offering \$100M in cash grants and advertising credits to help during these challenging times.		
QLD Business Impact Survey	Please complete this online survey to help the government know what is happening in QLD businesses during this time.		
<u>Market Diversification and</u> <u>Resilience Grants</u>	Provide assistance to QLD based agriculture, food or fishing exporters and their supply chain for projects/equipment to build resilience by diversifying into new markets interstate or internationally. Closes 20 April 2020		
Free TAFE Business Planning/Strategies in response to COVID-19 workshop	Workshop will provide templates to help participants to take stock of their situation and then strategies to best cope given their circumstances. Workshop coming to Caboolture soon. Register your interest		

Carona Virus Impact Update– Business and Personal 230320

<u>www.carmalkconsulting.com.au</u>

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Free policies & templates, including working from home	
and business continuity	
Your staff may be able to get a centrelink payment if they	
are isolated at home	
Mentors to provide tailored support and Financial	
workshops	
COVID-19 (Coronavirus) resources for business	
Check your local Council - Business Support and Update for	
fee and rent assistance if you have lease with Council, State	
or Federal	
Example Brisbane City Council have waived fees to assist	
small business to 30 June 2020	
COVID-19: The financial support available to small business,	
state-by-state as at 24 March	
This is the New Zealand government's central resource for	
COVID-19 business information.	
Detailed Assistance on cashflow and deductions Low Value	
assets in 2020/21 tax year	
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#### Bankers CBA

https://www.commbank.com.au/latest/coronavirus.html

## Company

If you are business you can defer your payments, assistance with lease

Recognising the important role small and medium businesses, along with community groups play across the economy, we are:

- Offering an unsecured loan of up to \$250,000 (lending criteria applies) with no establishment or account fees, and no repayments required for six months for business with less than \$50m turnover. After 6 months, interest would accumulate at a low 4.5%, with principle and interest repayments required.
- Automatically deferring BetterBusiness Loan and Asset Finance repayments for eligible small business and community group customers with total lending limits with CommBank up to \$3 million in April, May and June 2020. From July, customers will be able to opt-in to receive a further three month deferral if needed in line with the ABA loan deferral arrangements. We'll communicate with our customers about how they can make repayments if they do not wish to be covered by the auto-enrolment and continue to explore other options to assist
- Reducing rates on BetterBusiness Loans, Business Overdrafts and other products by 25 basis points, effective as at 24 March 2020
- Providing additional resourcing and extended hours for commercial lending teams to ensure faster decision times

We'll also support our small and medium business, and community group customers who may be facing financial difficulty by providing financial assistance, including:

- Deferring repayments on overdraft products, for 90 days
- Waiving merchant terminal fees for impacted customers with CommBank merchant terminals, for 90 days
- Waiving early redraw fees on business term deposit accounts (including Farm Management Deposit accounts)
- Waiving establishment fees and excess interest on Temporary Excess products
- Deferring repayments on vehicle and equipment finance loans, and providing tailored restructuring options that meet individual customer needs

If you have a Relationship Manager, they will be able to assist you at this time. Otherwise, you can contact our dedicated Business Financial Assistance team on 13 26 07. They are open 24 hours 7 days a week.

www.carmalkconsulting.com.au



# Individual

If you are a home loan customer you can defer repayments for up to 6 months

https://www.commbank.com.au/latest/support-for-home-loan-customers.html

Home loan customers requesting financial assistance during this time will be able to defer their repayments, with interest capitalised, for up to six months. For the duration of the support period no repayments are required. However, during this time, interest and charges will add to the loan balance. At the end of the support period, your required repayment amount will increase so you repay the total balance over the remaining loan term (including interest and charges added to the balance during the support period).

https://www.nab.com.au/personal/customer-support/covid19-help

## Suncorp

https://www.suncorp.com.au/banking/covid19-information.html

# **Bendigo Bank**

https://www.bendigobank.com.au/help/coronavirus-assistance-package/#Business

The following financial assistance package is available for all affected small business, agribusiness and non-forprofit customers nationwide, and includes:

- The waiver of fees for the restructuring or consolidation of loans
- The waiver of interest rate reductions for early withdrawals on term deposits prior to maturity
- The waiver or deferral of a range of fees and charges; and/or
- The deferral of interest payments or term extensions.

## ANZ

https://www.anz.com.au/promo/covid-19/

## Home owners

For existing ANZ Standard Variable Home Loan customers We're decreasing the standard variable home loan rate by 0.15% p.a. effective Friday 27 March 2020.

If you are currently paying more than the minimum repayment amount, you have the option to reduce your repayments to the minimum repayment amount. If you'd like to change your repayment amount, you can do so after 27 March 2020 on ANZ Internet Banking (instructions available here) or by contacting ANZ.

## New Fixed Rate Home Loan option

We've introduced a 2.19% p.a. 2 year fixed rateSuperscript:1 (4.12% p.a. comparison rate)Superscript:2 for owner occupiers paying principal and interest with the ANZ Breakfree PackageSuperscript:3 (annual fee \$395). You can apply for this rate from Monday 23 March 2020.

## Pause your repayments

If you're experiencing financial difficulty due to COVID-19, ANZ may be able to support you by putting your home loan repayments on hold for six months, with interest capitalisedSuperscript:4. If you pause your repayments, ANZ will check in with you after three months.

## Banks to defer small-business loan repayments for 6 months

Small businesses will be allowed to defer loan repayments for six months under new emergency measures announced by the Australian Banking Association.

# Latest as at 23 March 2020

## From Announcement 22 March 2020



# **Executive Summary**

A 100% Cashback on PAYG Withholding, up to \$100,000 in total

- The previously announced \$25k cash back on PAYG is increased to \$50k, with the minimum increased from \$2k to \$10k
- This is calculated on 100% of the PAYG (previously 50%)
- There's another payment for this exact amount available for July October 2020 period, (yes, another • \$50k)

🔴 The Government will provide a guarantee of 50% of new loans written by banks and SME lenders to support new short-term unsecured loans to SMEs.

- this does not mean the Federal Government is issuing loans to SMEs •
- It means that the Government is providing a guarantee to banks and SME lenders to reduce their risk to • provide unsecured loans to SMEs
- basically, this means all SMEs will get easier and faster access to loans reducing the red tape and 'risk' that banks ordinarily reject loans for.

Here's what you'll get, broken down for casuals, sole traders and employees, welfare recipients, business owners and retirees.

#### Casuals, sole traders and employees:

## Excellent fact sheets and information https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/households

Some further information on applying for Govt benefits as a sole trader

To commence from 27 April 2020

For the period of the Coronavirus supplement, there will be expanded access to the income support payments listed above.

#### Expanded access:

Jobseeker Payment and Youth Allowance Jobseeker criteria will provide payment access for permanent employees who are stood down or lose their employment.

The expanded eligibility applies to:

- sole traders •
- the self-employed
- casual workers
- contract workers who meet the income tests as a result of the economic downturn due to the Coronavirus.

This could also include a person required to care for someone who is affected by the Coronavirus.

#### **Reduced means testing:**

Asset testing for JobSeeker Payment, Youth Allowance Jobseeker and Parenting Payment will be waived for the period of the Coronavirus supplement. Income testing will still apply to the person's other payments, consistent with current arrangements.

The Coronavirus Supplement and expanded access for payments will commence from 27 April 2020.

# **Business**

# Small and medium business owners:

- Under a boosted measure from Stimulus 1, businesses with turnover less than \$50m with at least one employee will receive a minimum payment of \$20,000 and maximum of \$50,000. This will be based on the PAYG the business has withheld in this six months and will be automatically paid in two instalments starting April and July.
- The Government will guarantee 50 per cent of new loans. Already, virus-affected small businesses with ANY lender - will also not have to make existing loan repayments for the next six months. For real.

# Asset Write Off from 12 March



- This adds to a "supercharged" instant asset write-off, from \$30,000 to \$150,000 per item, for businesses with turnover of up to \$500 million (previously \$50 million) until June 30. There are also accelerated depreciation deductions.
- The bankruptcy credit threshold is raised from \$2,000 to \$20,000, and business owners have six months to respond (from 21 days).
- The government said already it would pay 50 per cent of apprentice and trainee salaries for eligible employers, until September this year. The employee had to be on the books on March 1, and the payments will be backdated to January 1.

# Backing business investment by accelerating depreciation deductions

The Government is introducing a time limited 15 month investment incentive (through to 30 June 2021) to support business investment and economic growth over the short term, by accelerating depreciation deductions. Businesses with a turnover of less than \$500 million will be able to deduct 50 per cent of the cost of an eligible asset on installation, with existing depreciation rules applying to the balance of the asset's cost.

# \$100,000 grants

The government's first stimulus package, released on March 12, introduced grants of up to \$25,000 for eligible small and medium businesses that have employees.

The latest stimulus package 22 March has increased the upper limit of those grants to \$50,000. Businesses will now also receive the grants twice, meaning businesses could be eligible to receive up to \$100,000.

This booster will be available to businesses with an aggregated annual turnover of less than \$50 million, and that have employees. It is also available to not-for-profits and charities.

The size of the grant is based on tax withheld on employees' wages (**PAYG**) and calculated automatically from businesses' business accounts statements.

Previously, businesses would have been able to reclaim 50% of tax withheld. That has now been increased to 100%, to a maximum of \$50,000 per payment.

The minimum payment has also increased from \$2,000 to \$10,000 per payment.

So, for example, if a business pays \$2,000 in PAYG tax on employee wages, it will receive a grant of \$10,000 twice, for a total of \$20,000.

If the business pays \$50,000 or more in PAYG, it will receive the maximum grant of \$50,000 for the current period, and again in October, for a total of \$100,000 tied to the PAYG.

## No new forms required to be lodged for this.

The measure is intended to allow them to keep staff, and also continue to pay rent and bills.

The first wave of payments are expected to start from April 28 when March BAS due, and the second wave from June 21.

Business Encouraging investment



#### Instant asset write-off

As part of the first stimulus package, the government expanded the instant asset write-off scheme. This included increasing the threshold from \$30,000 to \$150,000, and including businesses with an aggregated annual turnover of less than \$500 million (previously, this was limited to \$50 million).

The expanded instant asset write-off scheme is valid now, until June 30, 2020, to be included in tax returns for the 2019-20 financial year.

## Encouraging investment

The government is also accelerating depreciation deductions for new assets purchased, effective immediately.

For the next 15 months, until June 30, 2021, businesses will be able to deduct 50% of the cost of an eligible asset on installation. Existing depreciation rules will apply to the full cost of the asset.

Businesses with annual turnover of less than \$500 million will be eligible for this measure, intended to encourage businesses to invest.

#### Access to credit Loans

#### **RBA** and federal bank funding

Last week, the RBA announced a \$90 billion term funding facility for banks, with the directive that banks should use it to lend to SMEs.

The amount banks are eligible to borrow will depend on how much they lend out to businesses. For every \$1 they lend to small business customers, they will be eligible for an additional \$5 in funding themselves.

At the same time, the federal government announced its own \$15 billion funding facility for non-bank lenders, also intended to encourage lending to small businesses.

## Loans Access to Working Capital

Banks are encouraged to lend to businesses. Loans up to \$250K for up to 3 years with a business with turnover less than \$50M. No repayments required for the first 6 months. These are unsecured loans to the business. The Government will back 50% of the loans to the banks.

If you apply for example \$100K and only drawdown \$50K you will only be charged interest on the \$50K

#### SME guarantee scheme

Under a new SME coronavirus guarantee scheme, the government has pledged to guarantee 50% of new short-term, unsecured loans to small and medium businesses.

The government will guarantee up to \$40 billion in new lending, in a bid to further encourage new credit to SMEs.

In addition, for lenders providing credit to SMEs, the government is providing a temporary exemption from responsible lending obligations, meaning small business owners could access cash more quickly and efficiently.

## Pause on small business loan repayments

There is also relief for small businesses already repaying loans. On Friday, the Australian Banking Association announced Aussie banks are pressing pause on repayments for small business loans.

This is expected to apply to more than \$100 billion in existing loans, and could return up to \$8 billion to Australian businesses.



# Bankruptcy protection

The federal government has temporarily raised the threshold for creditors to issue a statutory demand on a company from \$2,000 to \$20,000, for six months.

It has also increased the time allowed for a company to respond to statutory demands from 21 days to six months. This also applies for six months.

For individuals, the threshold for initiating bankruptcy proceedings has increased from \$5,000 to \$20,000, and the time allowed for an individual to respond has increased from 21 days to six months. Again, this applies for six months.

The government is also offering temporary relief for directors from personal liability for trading while insolvent, for six months.

It is also working on temporary changes to the *Corporations Act 2001*, allowing for more flexibility for businesses dealing with unforeseen events that may have arisen as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

## Tax relief through ATO

The ATO has said it will offer tax relief to small businesses affected by the outbreak.

Businesses to contact the ATO, in order to access a tailored support plan. 1800 806 218 <a href="https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/COVID-19/">https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Dealing-with-disasters/In-detail/Specific-disasters/COVID-19/</a>

Options include deferrals of payments, income tax assessments, temporary reduction of payments, and withholding of enforcement actions such as director penalty notices and wind-ups.

Click Link FAQ's ATO

#### **Businesses**

#### Payment deferrals

If you or your business has been affected by COVID-19, ATO can work with you to defer some payments and vary instalments you have due. These include your income tax, activity statement, pay as you go (PAYG) instalments, FBT and excise payments by up to six months.

## Monthly GST credits

Turnover more than \$ 20 million

If your GST turnover is more than \$ 20 million you must pay and report monthly.

Turnover less than \$ 20 million

It is worth considering if you should temporarily change your reporting cycle.

If you report quarterly and you are due for a GST refund, moving to monthly reporting means you can get quicker access to GST refunds you are entitled to. However, you need to be aware that:

- you can only change from the start of a quarter, so a change now will take effect from 1 April 2020
- changing your GST reporting cycle doesn't mean you have to change your PAYG withholding reporting cycle – you can manage this by specifying the roles you are changing
- once you choose to report and pay GST monthly, you must keep reporting monthly for 12 months before you can elect to revert to quarterly reporting

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if you're registered for fuel tax credits, and change your GST reporting from quarterly to monthly, you will also need to claim your fuel tax credits monthly.

#### **PAYG** instalments

If you are a quarterly pay as you go (PAYG) instalments payer you can vary your PAYG instalments on your activity statement for the March 2020 quarter. You can do this by lodging a revised activity statement before your instalment is due and before you lodge your tax return for the year. Taxpayers that vary their PAYG instalment rate or amount can also claim a refund for any instalments made for the September 2019 and December 2019 quarters.

Where you choose to vary your PAYG instalments we won't apply penalties or charge interest to varied instalments for the 2019–20 financial year.

If you are a monthly payer and have a base assessment instalment income of \$ 500 million or less, and want to vary your instalment rate and claim a refund on previous instalments paid, you will need to phone us on 13 72 26 to discuss.

#### **Remitting interest and penalties**

If your business is affected by COVID-19, ATO will consider remitting interest and penalties incurred after 23 January 2020. Need to apply to the ATO

#### Low interest payment plans

If your business has been affected by COVID-19 and you need help to pay your existing and ongoing tax liabilities, contact ATO to discuss entering a low interest payment plan.

#### Super guarantee payments

If you are an employer, you need to meet super guarantee obligations for your employees.

By law, the ATO can't vary the contribution due date or waive the super guarantee charge.

## Apprentices and trainees

The government has pledged to help small businesses retain apprentices and trainees, offering a wage subsidy of 50% of their wages for the nine months from January 1 to September 30, 2020.

Eligible businesses will be able to claim up to a maximum of \$21,000 per apprentice, or \$7,000 per quarter.

This measure was announced in the first stimulus package, and has not been updated.

It is currently not clear which businesses will be eligible for this funding, but the government will be accepting applications for this funding from early-April.

## Support for affected regions

The federal government has also set aside \$1 billion to support businesses in regions that have been worst affected by the coronavirus crisis.

Funding will be available during the outbreak, and in the recovery period. However, it is unclear which businesses will be eligible for funding, or how they can apply for it.

According to a government release, assistance for this measure will be available "as soon as practicable".

#### Income support



#### Individual cash payments

Finally, the government has implemented a number of income support measures in a bid to get money into people's pockets and encourage consumers to keep spending.

Notably, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg suggested these measures will apply to sole traders and casual workers who earn under a certain amount, fortnightly. However, it is currently unclear what the eligibility threshold is.

For six months from April 27, the government will expand eligibility for income support payments.

It is also issuing a new temporary coronavirus supplement to existing and new recipients of various jobseeker payments and other allowances. This will be paid at \$550 per fortnight, for the next six months.

Recipients of social security, veteran support and income support, and various other concession card holders, will also receive a one-off cash payment of \$750 each. Payments will start being made from March 31.

A second payment will also be made to these recipients, starting from July 13. However, the second payment will not be available to those eligible for the \$550 coronavirus supplement.

#### Superannuation

Individuals affected by the coronavirus will be able to access up to \$10,000 of their superannuation before the end of the financial year, and another \$10,000 in the coming financial year.

Money withdrawn will not be taxed, and can be in addition to Centrelink or Veterans' Affairs payments.

Applications for early withdrawals are expected to open in mid-April.

#### COVID-19 Supports for Small Business

The Department of Employment, Small Business and Training is continuing to provide information and support to small and medium businesses as well as apprentices, trainees and their employers who have been financially impacted by coronavirus. More information is available on the Business Queensland website (<u>www.business.qld.gov.au</u>) and the department's website (<u>www.desbt.qld.gov.au</u>) or by calling the Small Business Hotline on 1300 654 687.

The Queensland Government has developed an Industry Recovery Package aimed at businesses affected by COVID-19. For more information, visit the website <u>www.qld.gov.au/industryrecovery</u> or contact the **hotline 1300 654 687** to discuss your situation and options available.

The Australian Government has also announced a range of measures to support small businesses and employees, including apprentices and trainees, to manage the impacts of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak. For full details of the packages available on their website <a href="http://www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus">www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</a>) outbreak. For full details of the packages available on their website <a href="http://www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus">www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</a>) outbreak. For full details of the packages available on their website <a href="http://www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus">www.treasury.gov.au/coronavirus</a>) or by calling 02 6263 3030 (Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm AEST).

#### Federal Government

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ATO – PAYG tax relief up to \$25,000 relief credit from your PAYG from 1 March BAS up to 30 June 2020, may be extended

## QLD State Government - Loans (Lack of Detail at the moment)

http://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/current-programs/covid-19-business-support/queensland-covid19-jobs-support-scheme

Low interest loans of up to \$250,000 for carry on finance with an initial 12-month interest free period for businesses to retain staff.

The Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) is responsible for the administration of these concessional loans and is currently taking expressions of interest in the lead up to rolling these loans out as soon as possible.



## To register your interest:

Email us here with your full name, phone number and preferred email address or send your details to contact us@grida.gld.gov.au.

## Phase 1

#### Cashflow boost for small businesses via Stimulus package

The Boosting Cash Flow for Employers measure will provide up to \$25,000 back to small and medium-sized businesses, with a minimum payment of \$2,000 for eligible businesses. The payment will provide cash flow support to businesses with a turnover of less than \$50 million that employ staff.

The payment will be tax free.

The Government is supporting small business to retain their apprentices and trainees. Eligible employers can apply for a wage subsidy of 50 per cent of the apprentice's or trainee's wage for up to 9 months from 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020. Where a small business is not able to retain an apprentice, the subsidy will be available to a new employer that employs that apprentice.

From today, the Government is increasing the instant asset write-off threshold from \$30,000 to \$150,000 and expanding access to include businesses with aggregated annual turnover of less than \$500 million (up from \$50 million) until 30 June 2020.

#### Local Brisbane City Council fee relief

BCC has waived business fees to 30 June for all charges, rents, levies and permit fees as of 19 March 2020

#### Staffing

Info Attached, ideas on what you have to do

## Grants

No Major Qld cash grants at this stage

Qld Digital Grant up to \$10K for projects of \$20K split 50:50 opens in May 2020

## Facebook Grants (Not Open)

This is the link to the Facebook grants we could explore. No details at the moment but will send through.

#### https://www.facebook.com/business/grants

We don't have any Facebook ad spend at the moment but could. I am sure they will be like the Government and give you credits to use for Facebook ads not actual cash

## Queensland

# Update 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Deputy Premier and Treasurer Jackie Trad (pictured) says two months worth of payroll tax will be refunded to businesses impacted by Covid-19, while SMEs will have a three-month payroll tax holiday plus a six-month deferral.

The \$2.5 billion business package includes \$500 million for assisting workers who lose their jobs or incomes, and to help them find jobs in industries that are vital to getting the state through this crisis - health care, agriculture, food production, transport, cleaning and mining.

"We're waiving liquor licencing fees for venues that have had to close their doors, providing rent relief for businesses who rent premises from the state government and giving sole traders, small and medium businesses a \$500 rebate on their power bill for this year," she says.

Click Link Announcement Link by Deputy Premier Jackie Trad 24 March 2020

Payroll Tax Relief Qld Link

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Payroll tax is a self-assessed tax on the wages that employers pay to their Queensland employees when the total wages are more than a certain threshold.

As an employer, you must register for payroll tax within 7 days after the end of the month in which you:

- pay more than \$25,000 a week in Australian taxable wages
- become a member of a group that together pays more than \$25,000 a week in Australian taxable wages.

Businesses may be grouped and treated as one unit for payroll tax if they are related or connected.

If your business has been affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19), you may be able to apply for a relief package to defer paying payroll tax returns until 31 July 2020.

# You can apply at any time the relief package is available. If approved, your deferral will begin from the next return that is due.

#### What happens next

or

We will send an email to confirm if your application is approved.

You won't need to pay payroll tax returns before 31 July 2020.

Return period	Normal due date	Deferred due date
March	7 April 2020	3 August 2020
January-March quarter	7 April 2020	3 August 2020
April	7 May 2020	3 August 2020
Мау	8 June 2020	3 August 2020
2019-20 annual	21 July 2020	3 August 2020

You must continue to lodge returns in OSRconnect - without paying them - during this time.

You can resume paying returns at any time during the deferral period.

## **Diversification grants**

The state government is also launching a \$500,000 grants package for small businesses in the agriculture, food and fish exporting industries, as well as supply chain partners, to help them diversify their business and access new markets.

Priority will be given to businesses that can demonstrate they have been affected by the spread of the virus, or that they are likely to be affected.

Grants between \$2,500 and \$50,000 will be issued to help businesses conduct market evaluation studies, to visit potential new markets, or to purchase new equipment required for diversification.

The grant program is expected to be open for applications in April, and additional guidelines and criteria will be available then.

#### Fees waived

The government is also waiving various fees relating to small business in the state, including for some variations of liquor licences, registration for inbound tour operators, commercial activity permits, marina charges and tourism rental payments.

Rebates are also available for commercial operators and tenants in marinas.

#### Small business mentoring

Finally, the state government has announced a \$1.1 million 'market-ready' initiative, offering tailored advice for small businesses on leveraging opportunities in the Chinese online market.

It's also implementing a series of workshops and forums designed to help current and potential exporters to reach further afield, and to offer mentoring and support in things like financial management and business planning.

#### Victoria

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## 23 March 20

# **PAYROLL TAX**

Victorian government to refund payroll tax and establish business support fund in \$1.7 billion response to COVID-19

To be eligible for the refunds, businesses must have a payroll of less than \$3 million. The payments will begin this coming week and the government said businesses could save up to \$113,975 a year.

The government estimates the average saving to a business will be \$23,000 and specified that the payments are a refund, not a loan.

In Victoria, the annual payroll tax threshold is \$650,000, and the current rate is 4.85%, except for regional employers, which pay a reduced rate of 2.425%.

## COINVEST

https://www.coinvest.com.au/about-coinvest/coronavirus

Return and payment due 14<sup>th</sup> April for period Jan to March No Change as at 23 March, still to lodge and pay by due date

# **Councils Check your local Council**

Check for fee and rent relief, not are all like Brisbane City Council

# State Government and Federal Government Assets

Check for rent relief

# Victoria Chamber Commerce

https://www.victorianchamber.com.au/business-support/crisis-information/covid-19-coronavirusresources?fbclid=IwAR3GoDp1EF3RUz6ISJnCOd0XSTDBDdEZ-1Ab\_ZpgsQfHDnfu\_BMELjbv7X8

# **New South Wales**

Pay roll Tax – <u>https://www.smartcompany.com.au/finance/economy/nsw-stimulus-package-waive-payroll-tax/</u>

## State by State Comparison

# COVID-19: The financial support available to small business, state-by-state

https://www.smartcompany.com.au/coronavirus/covid-19-stimulus-state-guide/



# How we can help you

