

VICTORIA

Small Business COVID Hardship Fund
 As of 4 September the grant amount will increase from \$14,400 to \$20,000. Those who have already received a Small Business COVID Hardship Fund grant, will receive an automatic top-up payment of \$6,000.
 Providing \$14,000 grants for eligible small and medium businesses that have experienced a reduction in turnover of at least 70%.
 COVID Hardship Fund will assist eligible small and medium businesses: - whose operations have been severely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions that have been in place since 27 May 2021, - that have experienced at least a 70% reduction in turnover as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions, - that are ineligible for other key COVID-19 Victorian Government business grant programs that have been announced since 27 May 2021.
 Eligible businesses will receive a grant of \$20,000.

Business Costs Assistance Program grants and top-up payments
 An overview of grants and top-up payments delivered as part of the Business Costs Assistance Program
Overview
 The Victorian Government's Business Costs Assistance Program provides grants to small and medium business impacted by public health restrictions.
 The first round of the Business Costs Assistance Program provided targeted support of \$2,000 to businesses that were most likely to have incurred direct costs as a result of the Circuit Breaker action during February and March 2021, and is no longer available.
 The Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two was launched in June 2021 with an expanded list of eligible sectors compared to the initial program, offering payments of \$2500. In July 2021, the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension was launched to give businesses that had not previously applied for the program, or had since become eligible, the opportunity to apply for an initial payment of \$4800.
 Both the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension are now closed, but recipients are eligible for a series of automatic top-up payments.

Top-up payment of \$2500 announced on 2 June 2021:
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne affected by the extension of the circuit-breaker restrictions from 4 June 2021 to 9 June 2021, including restaurants and cafes, event suppliers, accommodation providers and non-essential retailers.
 For businesses in regional Victoria unable to open due to ongoing restrictions, such as nightclubs and amusement parks.
 Metropolitan and regional businesses who had restrictions eased from Friday 4 June 2021 are not eligible.
 Available to recipients of Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two only.

Top-up payment of \$2000 announced on 9 June 2021:
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne that were not permitted to open due to extended restrictions announced on 9 June 2021, including gyms, dance schools and yoga studios.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two only.

Top-up payment of \$2000 announced on 16 July 2021:
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria impacted by restrictions from 16 July to 20 July 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two only.

Top-up payment of \$2800 announced on 21 July 2021:
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria impacted by restrictions from 21 July to 28 July 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two only.

Business Continuity Fund announced on 28 July 2021:
 A payment of \$5000 for businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria in 24 sectors that were affected by additional capacity limits when reopening in late July 2021.
HANDESK Class 9511 Hairdressing and Beauty Services is eligible for this payment.
 An additional payment of \$2000 for businesses in Melbourne's CBD (with these businesses receiving \$7000 in total).
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension that were registered in one of the 24 eligible sectors.

Top-up payment of \$2800 announced on 6 August 2021 (Business Costs Assistance Program Round Three):
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria impacted by restrictions from 5 August to 12 August 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension.
Top-up payment of \$2,800 announced on 12 August 2021 (Business Costs Assistance Program Round Three 12 August Top-Up for metropolitan Melbourne):
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne impacted by restrictions from 13 August to 19 August 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension.

Top-up payment of \$5400 announced on 19 August 2021 (Business Costs Assistance Program Round Three 19 August Top-Up for metropolitan Melbourne):
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne impacted by restrictions from 20 August to 2 September 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension.

Top-up payment of \$5400 announced on 22 August 2021 (Business Costs Assistance Program Round Three Top-Up for regional Victoria):
 For businesses in regional Victoria impacted by restrictions from 21 August to 2 September 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension.

Top-up payments of \$2800, \$5600 or \$8400 per week announced on 4 September 2021 (Business Costs Assistance Program Round Four):
 For businesses in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria impacted by restrictions from 4 September to 30 September 2021.
 Available to recipients of the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two and the Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension.
 Payments will be tiered based upon annual payroll size:
 \$2800 per week for businesses with no payroll or an annual payroll below \$450,000.
 \$5600 per week for businesses with an annual payroll between \$450,000 and less than \$3 million.
 \$8400 per week for businesses with an annual payroll between \$3 and \$10 million.
 Eligible recipients will be paid on a fortnightly basis.
 Businesses will remain eligible while they are unable to operate due to public health restrictions.

Support for businesses in Regional Victoria
 Automatic cash grants will provide regional Victorian businesses with the support they need following the extension of the current lockdown to the whole state.
 The Victorian Government has announced a package of automatic cash grants that will provide regional Victorian businesses with the support they need following the extension of the current lockdown to the whole state.
 Lockdown directions commenced at 1:00pm on Saturday, 21 August in regional Victoria and will continue until 11:59pm on Friday, 2 September, aligning with restrictions in metropolitan Melbourne.
 Grants to be paid through the new \$144.6 million initiative, jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments, will be made automatically without the need for regional businesses to make an application.

Business Support and Grants

NEW SOUTH WALES

COVID-19 business grant
 One-off tax-free grant of \$7,500 to \$15,000 (depending on your decline in turnover) to help impacted businesses and not-for-profits across NSW. If you are eligible for this grant, you may also be eligible for the JobSaver payment. Only applies for the period 26 June to 17 July.
 You're eligible if you have:
 - an annual turnover between \$75,000 and \$50 million
 - an active ABN (only one application can be submitted per ABN)
 - proof you were operating in June 2021
 - experienced a revenue decline of 30% or more
 - payroll up to \$10 million at July 2020
 - employing businesses - maintained your employee headcount from 13 July 2021
 - non-employing businesses - proof that your business is your primary income source.
 Eligible businesses will receive one-off grants of \$7500, \$10,500 or \$15,000.

COVID-19 micro-business grant
 A fortnightly tax-free grant of \$1,500 to help impacted micro-businesses and not-for-profits across NSW that have a turnover between \$30,000 and \$75,000.
 Applies from 26 June or from the fortnight that businesses first experienced a decline in turnover after 26 June.
 You're eligible if you have:
 - an annual turnover between \$30,000 and \$75,000
 - an active ABN (only one application can be submitted per ABN), or proof you were operating in June 2021
 - experienced a revenue decline of 30% or more
 - employing businesses - maintained your employee headcount from 13 July 2021 if you received payments from the commencement of the micro-business grant, or from the day immediately prior to the fortnight you first experienced the required decline in turnover
 - non-employing businesses - show that your business is your primary income source
 Eligible businesses will receive fortnightly payments of \$1,500.

JobSaver Payment
 Fortnightly tax-free payments of 40% of pre-COVID weekly payroll (from \$1,500 to \$100,000 per week for employing businesses) to help maintain employee headcount and provide cash flow support to impacted businesses and not-for-profits across NSW; \$1,000 weekly for non-employing businesses and not-for-profits.
 Applies from 18 July or from the fortnight that businesses first experienced a decline in turnover after 18 July.
 You're eligible if you have:
 - an annual turnover between \$75,000 and \$250 million (larger businesses in the hospitality, tourism and recreation industries with a turnover more than \$250 million and up to \$1 billion may also be eligible)
 - an active ABN (only one application can be submitted per ABN) proof you were operating in June 2021
 - proof that you experienced a revenue decline of 30% or more due to the COVID-19 restrictions
 - employing businesses - maintained your employee headcount from 13 July 2021 if you received payments from the start of JobSaver, or otherwise from the day before the fortnight that you first experienced the required decline in turnover
 - non-employing businesses - show that your business is your primary income source, if you're a non-employing business such as a sole trader.
 Eligible businesses will receive min \$1,500 per week - max \$100,000 per week
 Payment will be equivalent to 40% of the weekly payroll for work performed.
 Eligible non-employing businesses, such as a sole-trader will receive \$1,000 per week

<p>Rental Support</p>	<p>Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme The Victorian Government has introduced the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme to help ease the financial hardship faced by some tenants and landlords following the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Under the Scheme, the Victorian Small Business Commission is providing commercial tenants and landlords with access to free mediation to support fair tenancy negotiations. The Scheme will support small to medium commercial tenants with an annual turnover under \$50 million and a demonstrated decline in turnover of at least 30% due to the impact of COVID-19. Businesses that have been indirectly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, for example by lower demand or fewer customers, are also eligible, even if their operations were not closed due to restrictions. You will receive support to reach an agreement on rent relief.</p> <p>Rent Relief Grant The Victorian Government has established a rental assistance fund to provide Rent Relief Grants of up to \$1,500 to Victorians experiencing rental hardship as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The one-off grant is specifically for renters living in their primary residence to help them maintain safe, secure and stable accommodation. It is paid directly to the renter's agent, lessor or landlord to contribute to their rental payments, under their new rental agreement. To be eligible for the grant you will need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have lost income as a result of the pandemic on or after 27 May 2021; - Have less than \$2,000 in savings (excluding superannuation); - Have a single income of less than \$1,208.85 per week, or \$1,813.46 as a couple, aligning to an annual income limit of \$62,860 for singles, and \$94,300 for couples; - Provide proof of a rent reduction agreement for a period after 27 May 2021; and - Be paying more than 30% of your income in rent. </p> <p>Commercial Landlord Hardship Fund 3 The Commercial Landlord Hardship Fund 3 program offers grants to small landlords who are waiving rent for their tenants as part of the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme. Eligible commercial landlords with total taxable landholdings under \$3m that waive rent for their tenants between 28 July 2021 and 15 January 2022 can apply for grants of up to \$6,000 per tenancy. In cases of acute hardship, small landlords may be eligible for grants of up to \$10,000 per tenancy. To be eligible for a grant, landlords must provide a rent waiver of at least 50 per cent to their tenants through the Commercial Tenancy Relief Scheme, and use the grant to offset the waiver.</p>	<p>Land Tax Relief - Commercial and Residential Landlords Land tax relief is available for eligible commercial and/or residential landowners who have reduced their tenants' rent due to COVID-19, between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021. The relief will be a reduction in the 2021 tax payable on the parcel of land where a rent reduction has been given to the tenant who occupies that land. The reduction in land tax payable will be the lesser of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the amount of rent reduction provided to an eligible tenant for any period between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021, or - 100 per cent of the land tax attributable to the parcel of land leased to that tenant. Commercial landowners can still apply for this period of land tax relief, even if they applied for any of the previous relief periods, provided they meet all the eligibility requirements. If eligible land tax will be paid as a refund if you have already paid your land tax or be used to offset the balance of the amount of land tax payable if you have not yet completed payment.</p> <p>Residential Tenancy Support Payment The residential tenancy support payment is available to eligible residential landlords who have provided a reduction in the rent of their COVID-19 impacted tenants. The amount per tenancy agreement will be capped at whichever is lower: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the amount of rent reduction provided to an eligible tenant during the 60 day eviction moratorium period, beginning 14 July 2021, or - \$1,500. If you're a residential landlord, you can apply for either the residential tenancy support payment or the land tax relief. You cannot apply for both, so you'll need to decide which is more appropriate for you, before applying. If eligible can make a claim for up to \$3,000.</p> <p>Commercial Landlord Hardship Fund The Commercial Landlord Hardship Fund will provide additional support to smaller landlords whose main source of income is impacted because they have provided rent relief to their tenant and have not claimed land tax relief. Small commercial or retail landlords may be eligible for a grant of up to \$3,000 per month if they have provided rental waivers for their tenant(s). If eligible will receive grant of up to \$3,000 per month if you've provided rental waivers for your tenant(s).</p>
<p>Support for Employees</p>	<p>COVID-19 Disaster Payment Support if you couldn't work due to a Victoria COVID-19 public health order. This is a lump sum payment to help workers unable to earn income due to a COVID-19 lockdown, hotspot or period of restricted movement. Solo-traders who do not qualify for Victorian Government Support Programs are also eligible for this payment. Payment of \$450 for individuals who have lost from 8 - 20 hours work or a full day of work (over 7 days). Payment of \$750 for individuals who have lost 20 hours or more of work. Payment of \$200 for individuals on income support who have lost 8 hours or more of work.</p>	<p>COVID-19 Disaster Payment This is a lump sum payment to help workers unable to earn income due to a COVID-19 lockdown, hotspot or period of restricted movement. Payment of \$450 for individuals who have lost from 8 - 20 hours work or a full day of work (over 7 days). Payment of \$750 for individuals who have lost 20 hours or more of work. Payment of \$200 for individuals on income support who have lost 8 hours or more of work.</p>