

## BULLETIN: 60/2021

### ADDITIONAL BUSINESS SUPPORT IN METRO MELBOURNE

The [Victorian Government has announced](#) additional support for businesses most affected by the extension of the public health lockdown in Melbourne.

Grants from the \$367 million joint Commonwealth-Victorian package will flow to more than 100,000 businesses across Melbourne.

The new package includes:

#### **Small Business COVID Hardship Fund**

The [Small Business COVID Hardship Fund](#) provides \$10,000 grants for eligible small and medium businesses that have experienced a reduction in turnover of at least 70 per cent.

The Fund will assist eligible small and medium businesses:

- whose operations have been severely impacted by COVID-19 restrictions that have been in place between 27 May 2021 and August 2021
- that have experienced at least a 70% reduction in turnover as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions
- that are not eligible for other key COVID-19 Victorian Government business grant programs that have been announced since 27 May 2021.

The program offers grants of \$10,000 to eligible small and medium businesses, including employing and non-employing businesses. This program will allow more businesses who have previously not received support, to receive financial relief now.

#### **Business Costs Assistance Program**

More than 95,000 businesses in metropolitan Melbourne will automatically receive payments of \$2,800, with grants scheduled to be paid within seven business days.

This applies to businesses and sole traders who have received or been approved for a *Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two* or the *Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two July Extension* grant.

#### **Licensed Hospitality Venue Fund 2021**

Automatic payments of \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$20,000 will be made in coming weeks to more than 7,000 licensed hospitality venues in metropolitan Melbourne that have previously received or been approved grants under the *Licensed Hospitality Venue Fund* program. Payment amounts will be tiered according to venue capacity: \$5,000 for a capacity of up to 99 patrons, \$10,000 for 100-499 patrons and \$20,000 for a capacity of 500-plus.

## COVID-19 Disaster Payments

Eligible workers who lose hours due to the lockdown will be able to access the Commonwealth's *COVID-19 Disaster Payment*, as will sole-trader businesses who lose work and do not qualify for Victorian Government support programs.

The payment is set at \$450 for people who have lost 8-20 hours work over seven days and \$750 for people who have lost 20 hours or more. People who receive certain Commonwealth income support are eligible to receive a \$200 payment.

More information about the business programs is available at [business.vic.gov.au](https://business.vic.gov.au).

Regards

**Julie Reid**  
**Executive Director**  
**Local Government Victoria**

Authorised by Emily Phillips, Deputy Secretary  
Local Government and Suburban Development  
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions



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