

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.

Regards

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