

BULLETIN: 93/2021

VICTORIA BACKS THE STATE'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The [Victorian Government has announced a \\$196.6 million support package](#) of cash grants for thousands of construction operators most affected by lockdown restrictions as the industry prepares to reopen next week.

The package will enable support for more than 70,000 construction businesses with work sites in Melbourne, the City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast Shire and Mitchell Shire.

This new funding will provide a one-off payment to eligible businesses, including sole traders, covering the restrictions period from Tuesday 21 September to Monday 4 October.

Business Costs Assistance Program Round Four – Construction grants

Eligible non-employing sole trader businesses will receive a one-off payment of:

- \$2000 for eligible non-employing sole trader businesses
- \$2800 for businesses with an annual payroll of up to \$650,000
- \$5,600 for an annual payroll of \$650,000 to \$3 million
- \$8,400 for an annual payroll of \$3 million to \$10 million.

Applications for Business Costs Assistance Program Round Four – Construction support will open in mid-October 2021.

To be eligible, businesses must:

- have a worksite located in metropolitan Melbourne, the City of Greater Geelong, Mitchell Shire or Surf Coast Shire
- be registered under a relevant construction-sector ANZSIC codes
- have a Victorian payroll of less than \$10 million a year
- have incurred direct costs due to restrictions
- be registered for GST, and
- have not previously received support under the Business Cost Assistance Program or the Small Business Covid Hardship Fund.

Guidelines will be published at business.vic.gov.au next week.

Over the course of the pandemic, the Victorian Government has allocated more than \$11 billion in direct economic support to business, including \$4.7 billion in cash grants to more than 170,000 businesses since June this year.

Victoria's business support grants for the construction sector sit alongside the [Business Costs Assistance Program](#), which is supporting more than 120,000 businesses most affected by lockdown in sectors ranging from retail to beauty services, tourism and events.

Commonwealth's COVID-19 Disaster Payments

Until Victoria reaches 80 per cent full vaccination, construction workers who lose hours of work due to restrictions can also access payments under the [Commonwealth's COVID-19 Disaster Payments scheme](#), as can sole traders not registered for GST, who lose work and do not qualify for state support.

This payment is currently set at \$450 for people who have lost from eight to 20 hours work or a full day of work – over seven days – and \$750 for 20 hours or more of work lost.

More information

Read more about the announcement on the [Business Victoria website](#).

Subscribe to the [Business Victoria newsletter](#) for updates on these and other business support programs.

For more information on the Roadmap, industry restrictions or to book a vaccination, visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

Regards,

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Authorised by Emily Phillips, Deputy Secretary
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