



COVID-19 support packages

For all NSW COVID support (Businesses & Individuals).

We hope this finds you well and we are aware this newsletter will not apply to everyone. Just like last year we will update you with as much information as we can, as and when we get it.

Stay safe and please see below as to what is available.



**What lockdown support is available
to businesses?**

If your business has been adversely impacted by the recent lockdown in NSW, support is coming.

The NSW and Federal Governments have announced a series of new measures to support business during extended lockdowns of four weeks or more:

- Up to \$15,000 through the expanded [2021 COVID-19 business grants program](#)
- Up to [\\$10,000 cashflow support](#) per week
- [Micro business grants](#)
- [Payroll tax](#) deferrals and a 25% payroll tax waiver
- [Rent protections and grants](#)
- [Sector support](#) for the arts and accommodation sector

You can streamline the process of applying for business support by ensuring:

- Your business and contact details are up to date on the [Australian Business Register](#)
- Your personal and business details are up to date and you have a [MyServiceNSW](#) account with a [business profile](#)

2021 COVID-19 Business Grant of up to \$15,000

The previously announced small business grants have been increased to up to \$15,000 and expanded to eligible businesses (including not-for-profits and sole traders) with annual wages of up to \$10 million.

The value of the grant is determined by the impact of the lockdown on your turnover. Your business will need to prove a decline in turnover across a minimum 2 week period after the commencement of the major restrictions.

Decline in turnover	Grant
70%+	\$15,000
50% or more	\$10,500
30% or more	\$7,500

Eligibility

The full eligibility criteria, including how the decline of turnover test will be applied, have not been released as yet. In general, your business will need to have a NSW registered ABN or be able to demonstrate it is physically located and primarily operating in NSW with turnover of more than \$75,000 per annum (for businesses under this threshold see *\$1,500 Micro Business Grants*).

We will work with you once the details have been released to help you assess your eligibility and apply for the grant.

How to apply

Applications open on 19 July 2021 through [ServiceNSW](#).

Cashflow Support of up to \$10,000

A cashflow payment between a minimum of \$1,500 and maximum of \$10,000 per week based on 40% of the NSW payroll payments of your business (including not-for-profits).

Businesses without employees that meet the eligibility criteria such as sole traders, will be able to access a payment of \$1,000 per week.

The cashflow support will cease when lockdown restrictions are eased or when the Commonwealth hotspot declaration is removed.

Eligibility

- Annual turnover between \$75,000 and \$50 million
- Demonstrate a 30% decline in turnover
- Maintain your full time, part time and long term casual staffing level as of 13 July 2021
- Impacted by the current Greater Sydney COVID-19 restrictions

The full eligibility details, including how the decline in turnover test and how the headcount will work have not been released as yet.

How to apply

Applications for the cashflow support have not yet opened but you can register your interest from 14 July 2021 through [ServiceNSW](#).

\$1,500 Micro Business Grants

A new grant for micro businesses (including sole traders) providing \$1,500 per fortnight while lockdown restrictions apply. The grants are available from week one of the lockdown until restrictions are eased.

Eligibility

- Annual turnover of more than \$30,000 and less than \$75,000
- Demonstrate a 30% decline in turnover
- Impacted by the current Greater Sydney COVID-19 restrictions

How to apply

Applications for the cashflow support have not yet opened but you can register your interest from 14 July 2021 through [ServiceNSW](#).

Payroll tax relief

Payroll tax and lodgement deadline deferred

NSW payroll tax has been deferred for July and August 2021 until 7 October 2021 for all businesses.

The due date for the 2020-21 annual reconciliation has also been deferred until 7 October 2021.

Previous payroll tax deferrals and payment arrangements for 2020-21 due in July 2021 have not been deferred.

25% payroll tax waiver for businesses between \$1.2m and \$10m

Businesses with Australian wages of between \$1.2 million and \$10 million that have experienced a 30% decline in turnover, will be provided with a 25% payroll tax waiver in 2021-22. Further details of the reduction will be available by the end of August from [RevenueNSW](#).

Rent protections and grants

Commercial and retail rent protections will be reinstated.

Eviction moratorium

Legislative amendments will be introduced shortly providing a short-term eviction moratorium for rental arrears where a residential tenant suffers loss of income of 25% due to COVID-19 and meets certain other criteria.

Commercial and retail landlords will need to attempt mediation before recovering a security bond, or locking-out or evicting a tenant impacted by Public Health Orders.

Land tax relief

Land tax relief equal to the value of rent reductions provided by commercial, retail and residential landlords to financially distressed tenants will be available for up to 100% of the 2021 land tax liability.

Specific sector based support

Arts community

A \$75 million support package will be provided to the performing arts sector to be administered by [Create NSW](#).

The package will be delivered in two stages:

- Immediate support to provide relief to eligible organisations who were staging performances during the period covered by the Public Health Orders.

- Funding available to support eligible organisations to reschedule performances once it is safe for restrictions to ease.

Eligible organisations include performing arts organisations with heavy reliance on box office income, including not-for-profit performing arts companies who were staging, or scheduled to stage performances during the lockdown period, commercial producers and some live music venues.

Organisations will need to provide evidence of performances scheduled, venues and average ticket prices.

[CreateNSW](#) will open applications from 23 July 2021.

Accommodation sector

A \$26 million support package will be provided to the accommodation sector.

No further details are available at present.

What lockdown support is available (for Individuals)?



If you can't work because you or someone in your household is impacted by COVID-19, support is available.

There are two payments accessible to individuals: the [COVID-19 Disaster Payment](#); and, the [Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment](#).

How to apply for support

You can apply for the COVID-19 Disaster Payment and the Pandemic Leave Payment through your [MyGov](#) account if you have created and linked a Centrelink account (or phone 180 22 66).

COVID-19 Disaster Payments

The COVID-19 Disaster Payment is a weekly payment available to eligible workers who can't attend work or who have lost income because of a lockdown and don't have access to certain paid leave entitlements. If you are a couple, both people can separately claim the payment.

Timing of the payment

The disaster payment is accessible if the hotspot triggering the lockdown lasts more than 7 days as declared by the Chief Medical Officer (you can find the [listing here](#)).

However, from 18 July 2021, the disaster payment will be available to anyone in NSW who meets the eligibility criteria.

Area	Date of declaration	Disaster payment accessible from
City of Sydney, Waverley, Woollahra, Bayside, Canada Bay, Inner West and Randwick	23 June 2021	1 July 2021
Greater Sydney including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Wollongong	26 June 2021	4 July 2021
All of NSW		18 July 2021

How much is the payment?

The COVID-19 disaster payment amount available depends on:

- How many hours of work you have lost in the week; and
- If the payment is on or after the third period of the lockdown.

The higher payment rate applies if you have lost 20 or more hours of work per week.

Disaster payment amount	Lower rate	Higher rate
First and second period of lockdown	\$325	\$500
Third period and beyond	\$375*	\$600

The payment applies to each week of lockdown you are eligible for and is taxable (you will need to declare it in your income tax return).

** This payment rate applies if you have lost at least 8 hours of work per week or a full day of your usual hours of work per week.*

Eligibility

The COVID-19 disaster payment is emergency relief. It is available if you:

- Are an Australian citizen, permanent resident or temporary visa holder who has the right to work in Australia; and
- Are aged 17 years or over; and
- Can't attend work and lost income on or after day 8 of a COVID-19 lockdown; and
- Don't have paid leave available through your employer (other than annual leave); and
- Are not receiving income support payments, a state or territory pandemic payment, Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment or state small business payment for the same period.

A liquid assets test of \$10,000 previously applied to the disaster payment but was removed from Thursday, 8 July 2021.

Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment

The Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment is for those who have been advised by their relevant health authority to self-isolate or quarantine because:

- They have coronavirus (COVID-19);
- They have been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19;
- They care for a child, 16 years or under, who has COVID-19; or
- They care for a child, 16 years or under, who has been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19.

The payment might also be accessible if you are a carer for someone impacted.

How much is the payment?

The payment is \$1,500 for each 14 day period you are advised to self-isolate or quarantine. If you are a couple, you both can claim this payment if you meet the eligibility criteria.

Eligibility

The Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment is emergency relief. It is available if you:

- Are an Australian citizen, permanent resident or temporary visa holder who has the right to work in Australia; and
- Are aged 17 years or over; and
- Are unable to go to work and earn an income; and
- Do not have appropriate leave entitlements, including pandemic sick leave, personal leave or carers leave; and
- Are not getting any income support payment, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, Paid parental leave or Dad and Partner Pay.

The payment is taxable and you will need to declare it in your income tax return.

If you are uncertain of your eligibility, talk to [Services Australia](#).

If you are concerned about the impact of disaster relief payments on you, talk to us!

Eviction moratorium

A targeted eviction moratorium will be introduced to protect residential tenants who have lost 25% of their income due to COVID-19.

Residential landlords who decrease rent for impacted tenants can apply for a grant of up to \$1,500 or land tax reductions depending on their circumstances.

The material and contents provided in this publication are informative in nature only. It is not intended to be advice and you should not act specifically on the basis of this information. If expert assistance is required, professional advice should be obtained.

Updated 14 July 2021

How to contact us

We're available to assist you with the lockdown support for your business.

Many of the details required to apply for grants and funding, such as full eligibility and decline in turnover details, are not yet available. We will keep you up to date.

In the interim, you can contact us:

Indigo Financial Pty Ltd

Phone - 08 8212 8585 or 08 80 886041

E-mail – inquiries@indigofinancial.com.au

For all of our other newsletters please go to our website at <https://www.indigofinancial.com.au/news/>

The material and contents provided in this publication are informative in nature only. It is not intended to be advice and you should not act specifically on the basis of this information alone. If expert assistance is required, professional advice should be obtained.