

COVID-19 information and support for business

Find financial assistance, eligibility and timing for the new government support for Australian businesses. We'll be updating this page as new information is available.

<https://www.business.gov.au/>

Support available for employers

If you employ staff, you may be eligible for:

Temporary cash flow support

Employers will receive a payment equal to 100 per cent of their salary and wages withheld (up from 50 per cent), with the maximum payment being increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and the minimum payment increased from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

An additional payment is also being introduced equal to the total of all of the Boosting Cash Flow for Employers payments received. This means that eligible businesses will receive at least \$20,000 up to a total of \$100,000 under both payments.

Not-for-profit entities will also be eligible.

Learn more about [boosting cash flow for employers](#).

Assistance to help pay the wages of apprentices or trainees

Eligible employers can apply for a wage subsidy of 50 per cent of the apprentice's or trainee's wage paid during the 9 months from 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020. Where a small business is not able to retain an apprentice, the subsidy will be available to a new employer.

Employers will be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$21,000 per eligible apprentice or trainee (\$7,000 per quarter).

Read more about the assistance to help pay for the wages of your [apprentices and trainees](#)

Casual employees

If you employ a casual employee and they can't work because they become sick or need to self-isolate, or their income has been otherwise impacted by the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus, they may be eligible for income support payments.

The Government is making these payments quicker to access by waiving the usual waiting period in certain circumstances. Information on income support is available on the [Services Australia website](#).

Specific initiatives:

Increasing the Instant Asset Write-Off

The instant asset write-off threshold has been increased from \$30,000 to \$150,000 and expanded access to include businesses with aggregated annual turnover of less than \$500 million (up from \$50 million). This applies from 12 March 2020 until 30 June 2020, for new or second hand assets first used or installed ready for use in this timeframe. Link to more information [here](#)

Backing Business Investment (BBI)

A time limited 15 month investment incentive to support business investment and economic growth over the short term, by accelerating depreciation deductions. This applies to eligible assets acquired from 12 March 2020 and first used or installed by 30 June 2021. Businesses with a turnover of less than \$500 million will be able to deduct 50 per cent of the cost of an eligible asset on installation, with existing depreciation rules applying to the balance of the asset cost. Link to more information [here](#).

Boosting cash flow for employers

Provides \$25,000 back to small and medium-sized businesses, with a minimum payment of \$2,000 for eligible businesses. The payment will provide cash flow support to businesses with a turnover of less than \$50 million that employ staff. The payment will be tax free. Link to more information [here](#).

Supporting Apprentices and trainees

If you employ an apprentice or trainee you may be eligible for a wage subsidy of 50 per cent of their wage paid from 1 January 2020 to 30 September 2020. You can register for the subsidy from early April 2020. Link to more information [here](#).

Employer and business obligations

Find out how to meet your employer and business obligations and isolation requirements if you're affected by the coronavirus. Link to more information [employer obligations here](#).

SME Guarantee Scheme

This will provide businesses with funding to meet immediate cash flow needs, by further enhancing lenders' willingness and ability to provide credit. Businesses with a turnover of up to \$50 million will be eligible to receive these loans.

Learn more about the [Coronavirus SME Guarantee Scheme](#)