

# COVID-19 STIMULUS PACKAGE GUIDE 23 MARCH 2020

#### **EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS - SMALL & MEDIUM BUSINESSES**

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim
Up to \$50,000 against employee's withholding tax	Businesses and Charities with turnover under \$50m who withhold tax for employees (PAYG)	Delivered automatically against your March, April,May and June Business Activity Statement and Instalment Activity Statements. Applies to 100% of your withholding in these statements up to a max of \$50,000 for the whole period The minimum payment will be \$10,000
Additional \$50,000 against employee's withholding tax	Businesses and Charities with turnover under \$50m who withhold tax for employees Must continue to be active	A credit equal to your previous stimulus and will be delivered as a credit in four instalments in June, July, August and September activity statements  Minimum payment will be another \$10,000
Up to \$21,000 for apprentices and trainees	Small businesses employing fewer than 20 full- time employees who retain an apprentice or trainee	Employers can register for the subsidy from early-April 2020 through an Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) provider
Payroll Tax	NSW: Businesses up to \$10m in annual payroll VIC: Businesses with up to \$3m in annual payroll ACT: Businesses up to \$10m in annual payroll TAS: Hospitality, tourism and seafood industries. Other businesses in hardship up to \$5m in payroll	NSW: Next three months exemption from payroll tax. Payroll tax cuts for following year to kick in early VIC: Payroll tax paid for the current year to be refunded automatically and waived for the remainder of the 2020 year. Can defer 2021 year payments until January 2021 ACT: Deferrals on payroll tax for 12 months. Effected businesses may apply for a six month waiver of payroll tax TAS: Hospitality, tourism and seafood industries for the last four months. Other businesses up to \$5m in payroll will need to apply to show hardship

## **TAX DEDUCTIONS**

Who is eligible?	How to Claim	
Businesses with turnover under \$500m	Immediate write off of eligible assets purchased up to	
	\$150,000 through your income tax return. This is increased from \$30,000	
Businesses with turnover under \$500m	Write off half the value of an asset plus the normal balance depreciated as per normal	
	depreciation rules. Also claimed through your income tax return	
	Businesses with turnover under \$500m	

#### **RENT**

City of Melbourne Council Buildings 50% rent reduction	Eligible Businesses leasing council property	Contact the landlord / agent for your property.
Deferral of Rent - General	Tenants	We recommend tenants to contact their landlord / agent for your property to look to defer the upcoming April rent

## ATO

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim
Suspension of payment plans, deferral of payment time and start date for new payment plans	Most businesses	Not an official announcement, we have seen numerous payment plans be put on hold with a view to re-arrange in July 2020. Please ensure all compliance is lodged on time as not lodging may hurt your chances at re-negotiating
Claiming back previous company tax instalments	All businesses	If company has paid tax for the year through instalments and requires to reverse these due to losses this will be done via your BAS

## **BANK**

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim
Suspension of business loan repayments for up to six months	Effected customers with a focus on small	Speak with your bank or broker to discuss your options
	businesses	
SME Guarantee Scheme for 50% of unsecured loans	Businesses with turnover under \$50m	The Scheme will commence by early April 2020 and be available for new loans made by
	Max loan size of \$250k - six months of which	participating lenders until 30 September 2020
	do have a repayment holiday. Loans up to	
	three years	
Lower Interest Rates	Effected customers with a focus on small	Speak with your bank or broker to discuss your options
	businesses	
Access to more funds	Effected customers with a focus on small	Speak with your bank or broker to discuss your options
	businesses	

## **OTHER EXPENSES - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY**

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim	
Liquor Licence Fees	Victorian Businesses	Victorian Liquor Licence Fees due this month look to be waived for eligible businesses	
Taxi and Ride Share Fees	ACT Customers	This will be waived	
Cafe and Restaurant Food Registration Fees	City of Melbourne ACT	City of Melbourne will delay these for three months ACT are waiving these fees.	
Land Tax	VIC: Eligible Businesses	VIC: 2020 land tax payments will be deferred for eligible small businesses	

## **CASH PAYMENTS - INDIVIDUALS**

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim
\$750 one off payment	Social security, veteran and other income	Will be paid directly if you were eligible on 12 March 2020 to 13 April 2020
	support recipients and eligible concession card	
	holders	

\$750 second payment	Social security, veteran and other income	Will be paid directly from 13 July if you were eligible for the previous mentioned payment
	support recipients and eligible concession card	but not eligible for the increased welfare amounts listed next
	holders	
Increase in welfare packages by \$550 per fortnight for next six	Various people on government income	Online and over the phone from mid April
months	payments including Jobseeker Payment, Youth	
	Allowance Jobseeker, Parenting Payment,	
	Farm Household Allowance, Special Benefits	
	people	

## **SUPERANNUATION ACCESS**

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim
\$20,000 in tax free from superannuation \$10,000 per year	You are unemployed or you are eligible to receive a job seeker payment, youth allowance for jobseekers, parenting payment, special benefit or farm household allowance or you were made redundant or your working hours were reduced by 20 per cent or more.  Sole trader — your business was suspended or there was a reduction in your turnover of 20 per cent or more	
Pension minimum drawdown reductions	Those in account-based pensions will not need to withdraw as much as previously mandated to ensure assets do not need to be sold in current market	Applies for 2020 and 2021 financial year (see last Page for minimum drawdown)

#### **REGULATION CHANGES**

What is Available	Who is eligible?	How to Claim	
Personal Liability reduced	All businesses	No personal liability for directors trading whilst insolvent for the next six months	
AGMs and other requirements under the corporations act	All businesses	Temporary relief granted under special powers	
Responding to Statutory Demands from creditors	All businesses	Increase in the threshold required to issue a statutory demand and the time taken to respond be increased from 21 days to 6 months	

(This information is Guide only and may or may not be applicable depending on your individual circumstances)

#### MINIMUM PENSION DRAWDOWN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020 AND 30 JUNE 2021

AGE	Minimum Pension Payments		
	Current	New	
Less than 65	4%	2%	
65-74	5%	2.5%	
75-79	6%	3%	
80-84	7%	3.5%	
85-89	9%	4.5%	
90-94	11%	5.5%	
95+	14%	7%	