



News Flash

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Additional Business Support PLUS Job Keeper 2 Changes

Victorian Government Business Support Fund-Expansion program additional Grant

The Victorian Government has announced that the one-off support grants that it had earlier established are to be expanded. Eligible businesses located in the 31 metropolitan Melbourne LGAs or Mitchell Shire that have been impacted by extended restrictions since early July 2020 will be eligible to receive an additional \$5,000 grant, bringing the total Business Support Fund - Expansion grant amount to \$10,000, reflecting the sustained period of Stage 3 and Stage 4 'Stay at Home' restrictions.

Businesses from metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire that have applied for or have received an initial \$5,000 grant will be eligible for an additional \$5,000 grant without submitting a new application.

Applications for the program will be extended until 14 September 2020.

Businesses can apply where they meet all the criteria listed below. They must:

- operate a business located within Victoria; and
- be a participant in the Commonwealth Government's JobKeeper Payment scheme; and
- employ people; and
- be registered with WorkSafe on 30 June 2020; and
- have an annual payroll of less than \$3 million in 2019-20 on an ungrouped basis; and
- be registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST) as at 30 June 2020; and
- hold an Australian Business Number (ABN) and have held that ABN at 30 June 2020; and
- be registered with the responsible Federal or State regulator.

Business owners that do not employ people (non-employing businesses) are not eligible for funding.

JobKeeper 2 Turnover Change

The Federal Government has announced that from 28 September, eligibility for JobKeeper 2.0 will now be based on single quarters, so that businesses will only need to show the requisite actual decline in turnover for the September quarter alone, rather than for both the June and September quarters as previously announced.

Similarly, from 4 January 2021, businesses will only need to demonstrate a decline in turnover for the December 2020 quarter, rather than each of the June, September and December quarters.

Also, there will be a change for the start date for employees, with those hired as of 1 July to be eligible for JobKeeper 2.0 from 3 August.

The drop from the current rate of \$1,500 per fortnight to two tiers of payments of \$1,200 for full-time workers, and \$750 for those working less than 20 hours per week, will not change.

Also a reminder that applications for the JobKeeper 1 subsidy are still open. For example, if a client projects a downturn in turnover of greater than 30% for the months of August or September 2020 or for the quarter ending 30 September 2020, the JobKeeper subsidy can still be claimed.

For further information, please contact your Kaias Phillips Teammember on (03) 9489 5888.

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