
CIRCULAR NO. GEN/34/CCV/2020
DATE: 14 September 2020
SUBJECT: "The Roadmap"
ATTENTION: Club Managers

Given the stringency and the foreshadowed significant impact on businesses across Victoria with the implementation of the 'roadmap' out of restrictions, the Victorian Government yesterday announced a \$3 billion dollar support package for business.

The purpose of this circular is to summarise the key aspects of the announced support package, including the existing JobKeeper arrangements.

Announced Business Support Package

Business Grants

- (a) The business support fund will provide up to \$20,000 for business with a payroll of up to \$10 million. An *eligible business* will receive:
- o \$10,000 if its annual payroll is less than \$650,000
 - o \$15,000 if its annual payroll is between \$650,000 and \$3 million
 - o \$20,000 if its payroll is between \$3 million and \$10 million.

To be eligible for a grant from this program, applicants must:

- o operate a business located within Victoria; and
- o participate in the Commonwealth Government's JobKeeper Payment scheme; and
- o employ people and be registered with WorkSafe; and
- o have had an annual payroll of less than \$10 million in 2019-20; and
- o be registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST); and
- o hold an Australian Business Number (ABN); and
- o be registered with the responsible Federal or State regulator.

A full list of the eligibility criteria for a grant will be published when applications open.

- (b) Grants of up to \$30,000 for licensed pubs, clubs, hotels, bars, restaurants and reception centres, based on their venue capacity and location;
- (c) A competitive grants program to support metropolitan and regional business chambers and trader groups; and
- (d) Grants of up to \$20,000 to help alpine businesses pay a service charge to Alpine Resort Management Boards.

Waivers and deferrals

- (a) payroll tax deferrals for the full 2020-21 financial year;
- (b) liquor license fee waivers for 2021;
- (c) bringing forward the 50 per cent stamp duty discount for commercial and industrial property for all of Regional Victoria;
- (d) to defer the planned increase in the landfill levy for six months;
- (e) to waive 25% of the Congestion Levy this year, with the outstanding balance deferred; and
- (f) waiving Vacant Residential Land Tax for vacancies in 2020.

Business Adaptation Funding

- (a) voucher program to assist sole traders and small businesses in building their digital capability;
- (b) **\$15.7 million** package to help Victorian exporters get their products to market and establish new trade channels; and

- (c) expansion to the 'Click for Vic' campaign to encourage more Victorians to support local businesses.

Important existing supports – JobKeeper arrangements

From **28 September 2020** to 3 January 2021, the JobKeeper Payment rates will be decreased from \$1,500 per fortnight to:

- **\$1,200** per fortnight for all eligible employees who were working in the business or not-for-profit for 20 hours or more a week on average in the four weeks of pay periods before either 1 March 2020 or 1 July 2020, and for eligible business participants who were actively engaged in the business for 20 hours or more per week on average; and
- **\$750** per fortnight for other eligible employees and business participants.

The reference period for employees regarding their hours worked to determine their tier of payment will be the two fortnightly pay periods prior to 1 March 2020 or 1 July 2020. The period with the higher number of hours is to be used for employees who were eligible at 1 March 2020.


From 28 September 2020, in order to qualify for the first JobKeeper payment extension (i.e. from 28 September 2020 to 3 January 2021) businesses and not-for-profits will be required to demonstrate that they have suffered a decline in their actual GST turnover for the September quarter of 2020 (being July, August and September). This is a change to the previous announcement which required demonstrating the decline in turnover for the June and September quarters.

The decline in turnover is compared to a comparable period (i.e. the corresponding 2019 quarter generally). For not-for-profit, the decline will need to be 15%. Businesses operating for profit must demonstrate a 30% drop in turnover (or 50% drop in turnover if the business's aggregated turnover is more than \$1 billion).

The Information provided in this e-mail is generic advice. For advice in respect of your specific situation, please contact the SIAG National Advisory Service on 03 9644 1400 or 1300 742 447.



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