

## GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES FOR COVID 19 GREATER SYDNEY LOCKDOWN

### ANNOUNCEMENT – 13 JULY 2021

The NSW and Federal Government will be offering financial support to businesses impacted by the recent COVID-19 restrictions and stay-at-home orders.

If your business or not-for-profit organisation has been impacted by the restrictions, you may be eligible to apply from 19 July 2021.

#### For business

- The new business support payment will be available to entities with an annual turnover between \$75,000 and \$50 million that have suffered a **turnover 30 per cent** lower than the equivalent two-week period in **2019**.
- Eligible entities, which includes not-for-profits will receive 40 per cent of their NSW payroll payments, at a minimum of \$1,500 and a maximum of \$10,000 per week based on the level of their payroll.
- To receive the payment, eligible entities will be required to maintain their full-time, part-time and long-term casual staffing level as of **13 July 2021**.
- For non-employing businesses, such as sole traders, the payment will be set at \$1,000 per week.
- Businesses can register their interest from 14 July 2021 at [www.service.nsw.gov.au](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au) as the business support payment will be implemented and administered by Service NSW. **If eligible, please enroll your business with Service NSW.**
- Payroll taxes will also be deferred for two months for businesses who pay less than \$10 million a year in payroll taxes.
- There will also be “completely waive” payroll tax for the first quarter of the year for businesses with payrolls between \$1.2 million and \$10 million, where they could demonstrate a reduction in turnover of at least 30 per cent.
- The NSW State Government has also announced a further expansion and extension to below small business grants where access to those will be expanded for businesses with payrolls of up to \$10 million.

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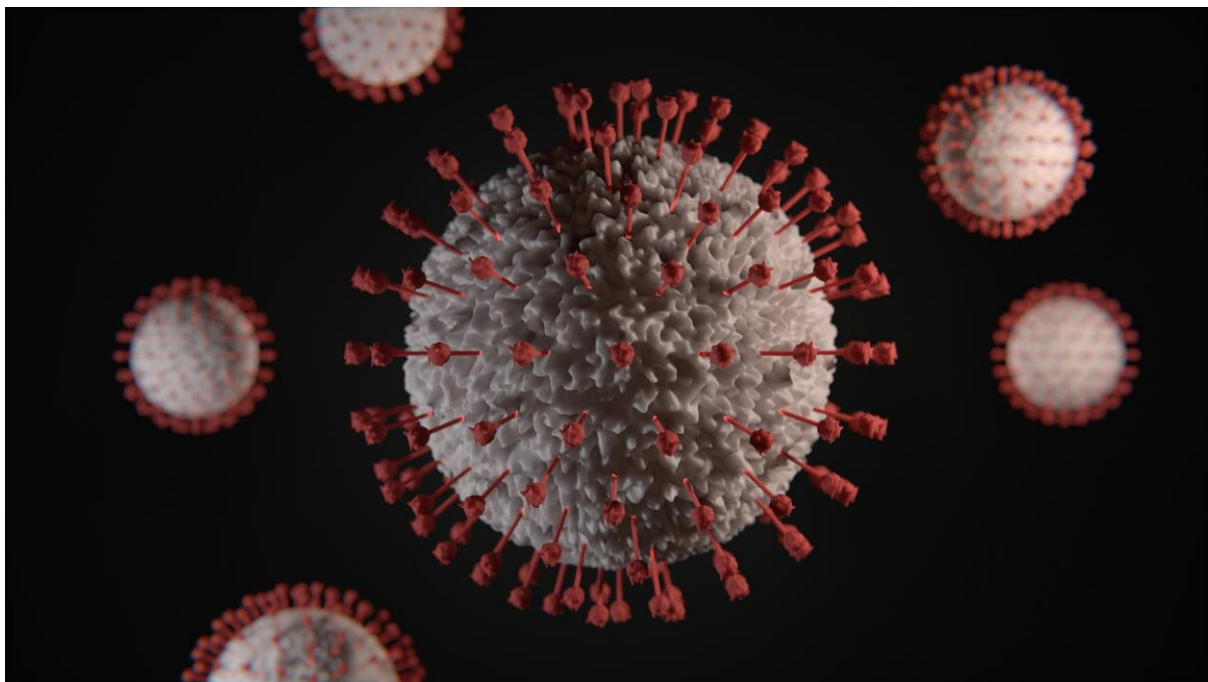
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- Businesses with a turnover of between \$30,000 and \$75,000 that experience a decline in turnover of 30 per cent will also be eligible for a \$1,500 payment per fortnight of restrictions.
- The Commonwealth will also provide additional support by:
  - Making NSW small business grants, including the new small business payments, **tax exempt**.
  - Providing administrative relief to **NSW taxpayers** facing hardship, including reduced payment plans, no interest charged on late payments and varying instalments on request.
- Employers will be expected to direct employees they're reducing the hours of to **Services Australia** to access relief payments.



### For individuals

- The NSW government will pay assistance to people outside federal government-declared hotspot areas.
- The existing COVID-19 Disaster Payment will be further expanded and increased.
- From week four of a lockdown declared a hotspot by the federal government, the COVID-19 Disaster Payment will increase from \$500 to \$600 each week if a person

has lost 20 hours or more of work a week or \$325 to \$375 each week if a person has lost between eight and less than 20 hours of work a week.

- The COVID-19 Disaster Payment will be a recurring payment for approved recipients for as long as the Commonwealth declared hotspot and lockdown restrictions remain in place. This will remove the need to re-claim for each seven day period of a lockdown.
- From July 18, the payment will be available to those outside federal hotspots in NSW that meet the criteria for the payment.
- The NSW government will fund any payments outside a federal hotspot but within NSW.
- The same support will be offered to any other state or territory that experiences an extended lockdown.
- Individuals can also apply on the phone for a COVID disaster payment of up to \$600 if they've lost work hours due to lockdown.
- If you're an Australian resident, you need to make the claim online via your myGov account.
- If you're an eligible working visa holder, you'll need to call Services Australia on 180 22 66 between 8am-5pm on Monday to Friday.

## **INCENTIVES ANNOUNCED 29 JUNE 2021**

### **GRANT PACKAGES**

The package included grants of between \$5,000 and \$10,000 for small businesses, payroll tax deferrals for all employers, an extension of the Dine & Discover program to 31 August and the ability for people to use Dine & Discover vouchers for takeaway delivered directly to their home by the venue itself.

Three different grant amounts will be available for small businesses depending on the decline in turnover experienced during the restrictions - \$10,000 for a 70 per cent decline, \$7,000 for a 50 per cent decline and \$5,000 for a 30 per cent decline.

Businesses will be able to apply for the grants through Service NSW from later in July and will need to show a decline in turnover across a minimum two-week period after the commencement of major restrictions on June 26.

**The grants will be divided into two streams:**

**1. Small Business COVID-19 Support Grant.** Available to businesses and sole traders with a turnover of more than \$75,000 per annum but below the NSW Government 2020-21 payroll tax threshold of \$1,200,000 as at 1 July 2020.

These businesses must have fewer than 20 full time equivalent employees and an Australian Business Number (ABN) registered in New South Wales or be able to demonstrate they are physically located and primarily operating in New South Wales.

**2. Hospitality and Tourism COVID-19 Support Grant.** Available to tourism or hospitality businesses that have a turnover of more than \$75,000 and an annual Australian wages bill of below \$10 million, as at 1 July 2020.

These business must have an Australian Business Number (ABN) registered in New South Wales or be able to demonstrate they are physically located and primarily operating in New South Wales.

**Other key elements include:**

- More than \$11 million for increased support for people at risk of homelessness plus assistance to vulnerable temporary visa holders, asylum seekers and refugees.
- An optional deferral of payroll tax payments due in July 2021 and the deferral of hotel June quarter gaming machine tax, with the Chief Commissioner of State Revenue able to provide for appropriate repayment arrangements on a case by case basis.







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