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Victorian Government's Business Costs Assistance Program Round Two

Dear Member

The Victorian Government has announced a new round of grants for eligible small to medium sized businesses that includes assisting employers and sole traders impacted by the recent circuit breaker restrictions.

The program offers grants between \$2,500 – \$5,000 to businesses with an annual payroll of up to \$10 million. Applications are open until 11:59pm Thursday 24 June 2021.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the grant, a business must:

- Be located in Victoria, (ABN registered as business primary operating address in Victoria and registered with WorkSafe Victoria).
- Be registered as operating in an eligible industry sector identified in the List of Eligible ANZSIC classes.
- Have incurred direct costs because of the circuit breaker action and the business cannot predominantly operate remotely.
- Have an annual Victorian payroll of up to \$10 million in 2019-20 on an ungrouped basis.
- Be registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST) on 27 May 2021.
- Hold an Australian Business Number (ABN) and have held that ABN at 27 May 2021.
- Be registered with the relevant responsible Federal or State regulator (ASIC, ACNC or CAV).

For the employing business, you must:

- Be registered with WorkSafe Victoria.
- Attest that the business is supporting its workers to access any paid leave entitlements, or that if a person can work from home, to work from home during the circuit breaker action, and supporting their casual workers, where possible.

The following automotive categories have been added and are now eligible for the grant:

Retailing

- Car retailing new and used.
- Motorcycle retailing, new and used.
- Motor Vehicle Parts Retailing.
- Tyre Retailing.
- And new and used trailer, caravan, horse float, mobile home and general trailers including boat trailers.
- Marine equipment retailing, new and used boats, engines, and accessories.
- Passenger Car Rental and Hiring.

Other business in maintenance and repairs of the following may also be eligible to apply for the grant:

- Agricultural farm machinery.
- Outdoor Power Equipment
- Construction machinery.
- Mining machinery.
- Heavy machinery and equipment repair and maintenance.
- Outboard motor repairs.
- Bicycle repairs.
- Automotive welding services may also be eligible to receive a grant under the scheme.

At this stage, it does not include car and truck maintenance and repair, or body repairers; however, we are continuing to engage with government on this issue.

Other eligibility conditions

- Businesses that have received assistance through the Business Support Fund, payroll tax rebate/waiver, or other COVID-19 programs may apply for assistance under this Program.

Funding Use

Any grant received must be used towards the running of the business, for example:

- Meeting business costs, including gas and electricity, wages or rent.
- Seeking financial, legal, or other advice to support business continuity planning.
- Developing the business through marketing and communications activities.
- Any other supporting activities related to the operation of the business.

Click [here](#) to apply or for more information.

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