

SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES STATE GOVERNMENT



On Tuesday March 24 the State Government announced an increase to the support measures for Queensland businesses impacted by COVID-19. We have summarised a number of these programs below, but operators should review the information to see if it applies to them and their individual circumstances.

Queensland COVID-19 jobs support loans

Queensland businesses may be eligible for a loan to retain employees and maintain their operations.

The \$500 million concessional loan facility will include low interest loans of up to \$250,000 for carry on finance with an initial 12-month interest free period for businesses to retain staff.

The Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) is responsible for the administration of these concessional loans and is currently taking expressions of interest in the lead up to rolling these loans out as soon as possible.

To register your interest in these loans email contact_us@qrda.qld.gov.au or call **1800 623 946**

Payroll tax relief package

The Queensland government have increased its payroll tax relief package for businesses that have been affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic:

- A refund of your payroll tax for two months
- A payroll tax "holiday" (i.e. no payroll tax to be paid) for three months
- A deferral of payroll tax for the 2020 calendar year (extended from the end of the financial year). Businesses will still have to lodge payroll returns as normal and will have to pay any deferred payroll tax following the deferral period.

You must apply to access these measures. Click [here](#) to find out more about these measures and to apply.

Small and medium business power bill relief

Small and medium businesses may be eligible for a \$500 rebate off energy bills. Businesses who consume less than 100,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) will receive the rebate. This will be automatically applied on your business electricity bills.

Mentoring sessions

The Mentoring for Growth program currently has more than 50 mentors ready to connect with impacted small businesses.

Mentors are available to provide tailored support including financial mentoring and business planning and you can register your interest in a Mentoring for Growth session [here](#).

For more information about this program call **1300 654 687** or m4g@desbt.qld.gov.au

Financial workshops

Small businesses can access a series of workshops to learn about financial management and business planning.

Delivered by TAFE Queensland, workshops will provide you with practical tools and skills to build business resilience. You will also have an opportunity to connect and network with other small businesses facing similar issues. Workshops will be delivered in several locations to support a place-based approach for the local small business community. [Register for workshops](#) in a location near you.

Details of other workshop times and locations will be posted on this website soon. For other locations, register your interest by contacting **1300 654 687** or info@desbt.qld.gov.au

Further support

The health and safety of our operators and customers remains our top priority. Please ensure that you and your staff are maintaining a high level of hygiene, including regular and thorough hand washing, particularly after touching containers or handling cash, and avoiding touching your face.

Please also wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) in your work handling containers including gloves and eye protection. Please contact your Contract Manager if you are having trouble sourcing PPE for your site. Consider implementing measures that encourage social distancing at your site such as bag drops and queue management.

For the latest advice, information and resources, go to www.health.gov.au

Call the National Coronavirus Health Information Line on **1800 020 080**. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you require translating or interpreting services, call **131 450**.

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