

# SUPPORT FOR SOLE TRADERS DOING IT TOUGH

# COVID-19 FACT SHEET

## Federal support is available for sole traders hit by the COVID-19 coronavirus.

If you're a sole trader and do not employ any staff you are eligible for:

### THE INCREASED INSTANT ASSET WRITE-OFF

Under normal circumstances, individual assets less than \$30,000 are eligible for the instant asset write off. The Government has lifted this threshold to \$150,000 for assets that are either installed or ready for first use by June 30, 2020.

### BACKING BUSINESS INVESTMENT (BBI)

A time limited 15-month investment incentive (through to June 30, 2021) to support business investment and economic growth over the short term, by accelerating depreciation deductions. Businesses with a turnover of less than \$500 million will be able to deduct 50 per cent of the cost of an eligible asset on installation, with existing depreciation rules applying to the balance of the asset's cost.

### INCREASED AND ACCELERATED INCOME SUPPORT

The Government is temporarily expanding eligibility to income support payments and establishing a new, time-limited Coronavirus supplement to be paid at a rate of \$550 per fortnight. This supplement will be paid to both

existing and new recipients of the eligible payment categories. These changes will apply for the next six months.

### ASSISTANCE FOR AFFECTED REGIONS, COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRIES

The Government has created an initial \$1 billion support fund to provide assistance to industries and regions severely affected by the economic impacts of Coronavirus.

### SME GUARANTEE SCHEME

This will provide businesses with funding to meet immediate cash flow needs, by further enhancing lenders' willingness and ability to provide credit. Businesses with a turnover of up to \$50 million will be eligible to receive these loans.

### EARLY ACCESS TO SUPERANNUATION

You can access up to \$10,000 of your superannuation in 2019-20 and a further \$10,000 in 2020-21. You will be able to apply for early release of your superannuation from mid-April 2020.

### TAX SUPPORT

The Australian Tax Office (ATO) is providing relief for some tax obligations for businesses affected by the outbreak, on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Emergency Support Infoline for businesses on 1800 806 218 for more information.

## Fast facts...

- The Australian Government's economic response to the COVID-19 coronavirus totals \$189 billion across the forward estimates.
- Businesses can visit [business.gov.au](https://business.gov.au) to find out more about how the Economic Response complements the range of support available to small and medium businesses.
- For more information on the Australian Government's Economic Response to the Coronavirus visit [treasury.gov.au/coronavirus](https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus).
- The Australian Banking Association has announced that Australian banks will defer loan repayments for small businesses affected by COVID-19 for six months.