

The State Government has released further details about its second tranche of stimulus measures for Tasmania.

The \$1 billion support package includes payroll tax relief, incentives to invest and rebates on electricity.

Small business grants

- ▶ \$2,500 emergency support grants available to small business with up to 20 employees
- ▶ Businesses must have been operating from January 2019 or earlier and be operating in one of the following industries:
 - Seafood
 - Tourism and accommodation
 - Hospitality
 - Retail
 - Arts and entertainment
 - Fitness
- ▶ Apply here: [Emergency Support Grant application](#)
- ▶ Businesses applying for the emergency support grant will also be able to later apply for a \$15,000 hardship grant
- ▶ [More information here](#)

Interest-free business loans

- ▶ Available to majority Tasmanian-owned businesses with turnover of up to \$10 million
- ▶ Loans from \$20,000 to \$250,000
- ▶ Interest free for three years
- ▶ Maximum term five years
- ▶ Among other things, the loans can be used to purchase equipment, improve distribution and ensure business continuity
- ▶ More information here: [Business Support Loan Scheme factsheet](#)

Electricity and water

- ▶ Electricity and water bill will be waived for small businesses for the first quarterly bill received after 1 April 2020
- ▶ Applies to Tariffs 22, 94, 82 or 75
- ▶ From 1 July 2020 electricity bills will be capped and water bills will be frozen

Payroll tax relief

- ▶ Available for businesses in the hospitality, tourism and seafood industries, as well as other businesses with a payroll of less than \$5 million
- ▶ The Government will extend the already announced relief to ensure that these industries pay no payroll tax for the entire 2019-20 financial year
- ▶ Waiver of payroll tax related to employees under 24 years
- ▶ Details are limited at this stage but will include refunds and waivers to provide cash where it is required now

Vehicle registration freeze or extension

- ▶ If you aren't using your business vehicle you can apply to freeze the registration
- ▶ When reactivated, registration will be extended by the number of days it was frozen
- ▶ You can't drive the vehicle whilst the registration is frozen
- ▶ You should consider the implications to your vehicle insurance as the result of freezing the registration
- ▶ For heavy vehicles over 4.5 tonnes, registration fees and the road component of motor tax will be waived for 12 months
- ▶ More information can be found here: [Business Vehicle Registration Relief factsheet](#)
- ▶ Applications here: https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/registration/registration_business_support_package

Business continuity grant

- ▶ One-off grant of \$750
- ▶ Used to obtain professional advice to assist small business to prepare for a rapid recovery when the COVID-19 crisis is over
- ▶ Advice must be from a suitably qualified consultant, e.g. your accountant
- ▶ More information can be found here: [Business Continuity Grant factsheet](#)

Please contact your BDO Advisor if you have any concerns about any of these measures.