

COVID-19
GOVERNMENT
STIMULUS SUPPORT
FOR SOUTH
AUSTRALIA

CLUBS AND
ASSOCIATIONS



FOOTBALL
SOUTH
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW OF SUPPORT

All levels of government have recently released information on a variety of stimulus packages to support businesses and community organisations affected by COVID-19.

All clubs and associations are encouraged to research the stimulus packages announced by all levels of government to determine eligibility for financial support under each stimulus program.

The details within this document are based on available information in a fast-moving environment.



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

JobKeeper payment

Under the JobKeeper Payment, businesses and Not For Profit Organisations significantly impacted by the Coronavirus outbreak will be able to access a subsidy from the Government to continue paying their employees. This assistance will help businesses to keep people in their jobs and re-start when the crisis is over.

These businesses will be able to claim a fortnightly payment of \$1,500 per eligible employee from 30 March 2020.

[JobKeeper Payment: Supporting Businesses to retain jobs - Fact Sheet](#)

[JobKeeper Payment - Information for employers - Fact Sheet](#)



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Cash flow support for small and medium businesses

The Government is providing temporary cash flow support of up to \$100,000 for eligible small and medium-sized businesses, and not-for-profits (NFPs) that employ staff to help with their cash flow so they can keep operating, pay their rent, electricity and other bills and retain staff. This will be done through two sets of cash flow boosts, with the first delivered from 28 April 2020, through credits in the activity statement system. Eligible businesses do not need to apply with a separate form.

Eligible businesses and NFPs, must have held an Australian Business Number on 12 March 2020 and lodge their activity statement to receive the credit. Charities registered with the Australian Charities and Not for profits Commission are eligible, regardless of when they were registered, if they meet the other eligibility requirements.

[Boosting cash flow for employers - Fact Sheet](#)

Temporary relief for financially distressed businesses

The economic impacts of the Coronavirus and health measures to prevent its spread could see many otherwise profitable and viable businesses temporarily face financial distress. It is important that these businesses have a safety net to make sure that when the crisis has passed, they can resume normal business operations. One element of that safety net is to lessen the threat of actions that could unnecessarily push them into insolvency and force the winding up of the business.

The Government is temporarily increasing the threshold at which creditors can issue a statutory demand on a company and the time companies have to respond to statutory demands they receive. The package also includes temporary relief for directors from any personal liability for trading while insolvent and providing temporary flexibility in the Corporations Act 2001 to provide temporary and targeted relief from provisions of the Act to deal with unforeseen events that arise as a result of the Coronavirus health crisis.

The ATO will tailor solutions for owners or directors of business that are currently struggling due to the Coronavirus, including temporary reduction of payments or deferrals, or withholding enforcement actions including Director Penalty Notices and wind-ups.

[Temporary relief for financially distressed businesses - Fact Sheet](#)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Increasing the instant asset write-off

The Government is increasing the instant asset write-off threshold from \$30,000 to \$150,000 and expanding access to include businesses with aggregated annual turnover of less than \$500 million (up from \$50 million) until 30 June 2020. In 2017-18 there were more than 360,000 businesses that benefited from the current instant asset write-off, claiming deductions to the value of over \$4 billion. This measure will support over 3.5 million businesses (over 99 per cent of businesses) employing more than 9.7 million employees.

[Delivering support for business investments – Face sheet](#)

Backing business investment

The Government is providing a time limited 15-month investment incentive (through to 30 June 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. This measure will support business investment and is estimated to lower taxes paid by Australian businesses by \$6.7 billion

over the next two years. This measure will support over 3.5 million businesses (over 99 per cent of businesses) employing more than 9.7 million employees.

[Delivering support for business investment – Fact Sheet](#)

Coronavirus Business Liaison Unit

A [Coronavirus Business Liaison Unit](#) has been established within The Treasury to engage with business on a regular basis and provide updates to government on crucial issues.

Further information

Business.gov.au

For more information on financial assistance, eligibility and timing for the new government support for Australian businesses, visit business.gov.au

Australian Taxation Office

For more information and to apply for the JobKeeper payment visit ato.gov.au.



STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its significant impact on local businesses, industry sectors and jobs, the South Australian Government has announced a second economic stimulus package - the Jobs Rescue Package, worth \$650 million - that will provide immediate financial support and relief to those most affected.

Within the Jobs Rescue Package, there are a range of measures that will provide support for workers, individual businesses and industry sectors, community organisations, sporting clubs, arts, cultural, community and recreational bodies as well as non-government organisations experiencing financial hardship and other impacts caused by restrictions enforced to limit the spread of the disease.

Two new funds have been established to support business, jobs and community organisations:

A \$300 million Business and Jobs Support Fund; and

A \$250 million Community and Jobs Support Fund.

The top priority for the Funds is the ongoing survival of entities and minimising job losses. At this time, it is not proposed that the Funds would be available to assist expansion opportunities or new activities or events.

STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

\$10,000 Emergency Cash Grants for Small Businesses

Small businesses and not-for-profit entities that employ South Australians who have been highly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible to receive a \$10,000 grant to support the operation of their business.

The grant is being funded from the State Government's \$650 million Jobs Rescue Package.

To be eligible, businesses and not-for-profits including eligible sporting and community organisations will need to:

- Employ people in South Australia.
- Have annual turnover of more than \$75,000 (GST exclusive).
- Have an annual payroll of less than \$1.5 million, and not be entitled to a payroll tax waiver under COVID-19 support measures introduced by the South Australian Government.
- Have an ABN and were carrying on the operation of the business in South Australia on 1 March 2020.
- Have been subject to closure or highly impacted by COVID-19 related restrictions[^].

- Apply by 1 June 2020.
- Use the funds to support activities related to the operation of the business.

If:

- The business has received any South Australian Government grants provided to address COVID-19 related business impacts, the value of these payment(s) will be deducted from the \$10,000 grant.
- The business is part of a group of companies that is registered for payroll tax and will receive the payroll tax waiver, the business is ineligible for this grant.

Applications for the grant will open shortly and be available until 1 June 2020.

If you would like to [register your interest](#) for the grant please provide your contact details below. You will receive an email when the application process opens.

The Government has also recently announced increased funding for the Economic and Business Growth Fund. Further information on the Economic and Business Growth Fund is available at <https://www.treasury.sa.gov.au/Growing-South-Australia/economic-and-business-growth-fund>

STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Any queries in relation to the Business and Jobs Support Fund or Community and Jobs Support Fund or submissions seeking Government assistance from these Funds can be lodged at:

[Business and Jobs Support Fund](#)

[Community and Jobs Support Fund](#)

Submissions should seek to highlight the impacts of COVID-19 through loss of income and other impacts.

Individual businesses and community organisations are encouraged to work through their representative bodies, where possible, to make submissions to Government so that the broad impacts across each sector can be fully understood.

Through the Community and Jobs Support Fund the Government will also consider submissions that highlight additional community services which are required to respond to demands directly resulting from COVID-19.

The Government is also working on arrangements to support displaced workers finding alternative employment - further details will be announced soon.

As part of the Jobs Rescue Package, the Government is also providing the following support:

Payroll Tax Relief

Business groups with annual Australian wages of up to \$4 million will receive a six-month payroll tax waiver. Eligible business groups will not be required to pay any payroll tax in the months of April to September 2020.

The payroll tax waiver is expected to provide maximum assistance of \$84,150 over the six months to an estimated 2,400 business groups.

Business groups with annual Australian wages above \$4 million that can demonstrate they have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 will, upon application, be able to defer payroll tax payments for the six months from April to September 2020. For these eligible business groups, payroll tax payments that were due to be paid from April to September will now be due from October 2020.

Further information is available at <https://www.revenuesa.sa.gov.au/grants-and-concessions/covid19-relief>

STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Land Tax Package

From July, the South Australian Government's significant land tax reforms will begin, delivering \$189 million in savings to investors and landlords over the next three years.

Under the new measures, businesses and individuals paying land tax quarterly in 2019-20 will be able to defer payment of their remaining 2019-20 land tax payments for six months.

In addition, the Government will increase the existing land tax transition fund relief.

It was previously announced that transitional relief equivalent to 50% of the increase in a 2020-21 land tax assessment would be available to eligible taxpayers whose land tax bill had increased as a result of the changes in aggregation of land commencing from 1 July 2020.

This relief will be increased to 100% of the increase in an eligible taxpayer's 2020-21 land tax assessment, subject to the existing criteria - saving some investors up to an additional \$50,000.

Further information is available at <https://www.revenuesa.sa.gov.au/grants-and-concessions/covid19-relief>

Liquor licensing fees

The Government will provide a waiver of annual liquor licencing fees for 2020-21 for the following liquor licence categories:

- On Premises
- Residential
- Restaurant & Catering
- Club
- Liquor Production & Sales
- Small Venue

Holders of a General and Hotel licence who have a bottle shop will receive reduced fees, or a full waiver if they do not have a bottle shop.

Packaged Liquor Sales licence fee will not be reduced or waived. Licensees who believe that they should receive a discount may still apply for a fee reduction through the CBS website from 1 June.

For further information please visit <https://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/liquor-licence-holders-and-covid-19#>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

A number of local councils are offering financial support options in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, that may be of assistance to your club.

Clubs and Associations are encouraged to contact their local council to see what assistance may be available.

A reminder also of the existing grant programs that are on offer across South Australia. We encourage all clubs to explore and apply for the grants on offer from their local council.





STAYING CONNECTED

Football Federation Australia (FFA) and Football South Australia have developed several at-home programs to keep participants active and engaged in football from home.

FFA Football Skills Hub

The FFA Football Skills Hub has been launched by FFA and Member Federations as part of the #PlayAtHomeChallenge.

To access the Skills Hub, please visit www.playfootball.com.au/skills-hub



FAQ's

Why has football been Suspended?

The decision to suspend all football activities has been made on the advice of experts and is to protect our participants and the broader community from the threat of COVID-19. Continuing with the usual football related activities risks spreading the infection further to those in the community who are vulnerable. As the State's largest participation sport, we have a social responsibility to be part of the community response to help slow the virus down and help our health systems to cope by flattening the curve.

How long is the Suspension?

Football SA Competitions and Affiliated Association football have been suspended until at least 31 May 2020. This remains a temporary measure and Football SA remain committed to resuming football in 2020. We are conscious that everyone wants to play again but we will only do so when we have received information that by doing so, it is not placing anyone's health at risk. This is an ever-changing situation and we will continue to provide information as it comes to hand.

Does this mean football is cancelled for 2020?

No, this is a temporary suspension for the time being. Football South Australia will do everything possible to maximise the amount of football that is played in 2020, notwithstanding the uncertainty around the impact of the COVID-19 and at all times adhering to the advice of experts in relation to this. This will obviously require some flexibility and adaptability from all of us, including from our local councils, where longer than usual access to grounds may be necessary. We will work closely with all clubs and associations in this regard. Competitions may look a bit different in terms of when and where they are staged, but we will endeavour to make sure that football is played this season, provided it is safe to do so.

FAQ's

What happens if the situation hasn't improved by 31 May?

This is an ever-changing landscape and we will continue to rely on the advice of the State and Federal Governments, World Health Organisation, Department of Health and FFA as to when play can resume. Football South Australia will continue to put the health and safety of our participants and the broader community at the forefront of all our decision-making. We will provide constant updates throughout the suspension period.

Can my club continue training?

No. All formalised team/club training has also been suspended. In order to help protect the community, this suspension applies to all sanctioned matches and competitions, as well as training and all other associated football related activities. Furthermore, everyone should be aware of and comply with the strict measures announced by the Federal and State Governments in terms of isolation and social distancing, and the provisions for police and other authorities to issue fines.

If as a group we decide to train or play a game with teammates, am I covered by insurance?

No. As these activities are not sanctioned by Football SA and there has been a suspension on all football activities, will not be insured. However, given the unique circumstances we find ourselves in, some clubs are conducting training/skill sessions via electronic means. If a player is participating in a club approved virtual training/skill session conducted by a club coach, and is injured, accident personal insurance would be provided.

What happens to my registration fees?

Football is currently suspended, not cancelled. The suspension of football activities is for a period of time and as the situation is ever changing, at this stage, there is no need to cancel the season. Football SA is working on ways to get as much football played as possible in 2020, as such players that are currently registered will be eligible to play as soon as the season recommences. It is important that clubs and Football SA remain financially viable through this difficult time so that football can continue when it is safe to do so.

Is Football SA still open for business?

Yes. There is currently skeleton staff working from home. Most of the staff are working part-time so we ask that you be patient in relation to response time.

The information in this document is general in nature and is not intended to be financial, legal or tax advice, and should not be relied upon as such. FSA is not liable for any loss arising from reliance on it. Please note that Stimulus measures are ever evolving, and we encourage you to conduct your own research before making any decisions.

This document is current as at 15 April 2020.



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