



## Tax and Business Relief in Response to COVID-19

### Individuals

#### *Cashflow Assistance for Individuals*

A new six-month 'Coronavirus supplement' of **\$550 per fortnight** will be paid to individuals who are currently eligible for certain income support payments.

The Government will also be providing **two separate \$750 tax-free payments** (referred to as 'economic support payments') to social security, veteran and other income support recipients and to eligible concession card holders.

#### Eligibility

It appears that this new (additional) **\$550 supplement** will be paid to eligible individuals as part of their existing income support payments (e.g., Jobseeker Payment and Youth Allowance).

The **first \$750 payment** will be available to individuals who are residing in Australia and are receiving an eligible Government payment, or are the holders of an eligible concession card, at any time from 12 March 2020 to 13 April 2020 (inclusive). This payment will be made automatically to eligible individuals from **31 March 2020**.

The **second \$750 payment** will be available to individuals who are residing in Australia and are receiving one of the eligible Government payments or are the holders of one of the eligible concession cards on **10 July 2020** (except for those receiving an income support payment that qualifies them to receive the \$550 fortnightly Coronavirus supplement). This payment will be made automatically to eligible individuals from **13 July 2020**.

Each of the \$750 payments will be **exempt from income tax** and will not count as income for the purposes of Social Security, the Farm Household Allowance and Veteran payments.

#### Entitlements

- Jobseeker Payment;
- Youth Allowance; and
- Parenting Payment (Partnered and Single).

#### For more information or to apply, visit:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/job-seekers>

Asset testing for the JobSeeker Payment, the Youth Allowance Jobseeker and the Parenting Payment **will be waived** for the period of the Coronavirus supplement. Income testing will still apply to the person's other payments, consistent with current arrangements.

#### Example

Permanent employees who are stood down or lose their employment; sole traders; the self-employed; casual workers; and contract workers who meet the income tests, as a result of the economic downturn due to the Coronavirus.