



# INDI GRANTS

EDITION APRIL 2020

This edition of **Indi Grants** focuses on support for individuals and businesses affected by COVID 19. I have also listed grants available to individuals, businesses and primary producers affected by bushfires.

This time of COVID 19 is one where we are all faced with challenges previously unseen in our lifetime. Combined with the impact of recent bushfires in our region, I know that the start to 2020 is proving to be enormously difficult for so many in Indi.

I hope this newsletter may help save you time searching for available support or grants.

This information will also be available on my website <https://www.helenhaines.org/>

## Need help?

I encourage you not to make a self-assessment about your eligibility for assistance or grants. More information is available by following the links and telephone support services are available.

While the doors to my offices are currently closed, my team and I are here to assist you and direct you to the best sources of information.

Currently, the best way to contact my office is by email E: [helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au) or you can phone the Wangaratta office T: 03 5721 7077 between 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

I'm keen to make sure this newsletter reaches all people, community groups and organisations in Indi that can benefit from grants. Please share this newsletter around.

Take care

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen'.

Helen Haines MP  
Independent Federal Member for Indi



## FUNDING SUPPORT AND GRANTS

### COVID 19

#### Individuals and Households

The Australian Government is providing financial assistance to Australians to support them through the Coronavirus. This assistance includes income support payments, payments to support households and temporary early releases of superannuation.

Click on the following links to find more information about eligibility for different payments to individuals and households;

- [JobKeeper payment for households](#)
- [Income support for individuals](#)
- [Payments to support households](#)
- [Temporary early release of superannuation](#)
- [Temporarily reducing superannuation minimum drawdown rates](#)
- [Reducing social security deeming rates](#)

#### COVID 19 - Businesses

The Australian Government is supporting Australian businesses to manage cash flow challenges and retain employees. Assistance includes cash flow support to businesses and temporary measures to provide relief for financially distressed businesses.



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Click on the following links to find more information about eligibility for different payments to businesses;

- [JobKeeper payment](#)
- [Cash flow support for small and medium businesses](#)
- [Temporary relief for financially distressed businesses](#)
- [Increasing the instant asset write-off](#)
- [Backing business investment](#)
- [Supporting apprentices and trainees](#)
- [Not-for-profit organisations](#)
- [Support for sole traders](#)

## More information

Australian Tax Office: <https://www.ato.gov.au/>

Treasury: <https://treasury.gov.au/>

Services Australia:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/affected-coronavirus-covid-19>

The **Victorian Business Support Fund** is for small businesses that employ staff and are subject to closure or are highly impacted by the shutdown restrictions announced by the Victorian Government as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19). This includes businesses in the hardest hit sectors including:

- Accommodation and Food Services (e.g. cafes, restaurants, caterers, hotels, motels)
- Arts and Entertainment (e.g. cinemas, performing arts venues, creative spaces, performers, museums)
- Health and Beauty Services (e.g. hairdressers, barbers, beauty therapists)
- Sport and recreation (e.g. gyms, swimming pools, indoor climbing, play centres)
- Tourism (e.g. tourist transport, tour operators, tour arrangement)

- Retail, other than supermarket, groceries, liquor and pharmacy businesses
- Other Services (e.g. real estate agents)

Funding of \$10,000 per business is available and will be allocated through a grant process.

For more information:

<https://www.business.vic.gov.au/support-for-your-business/grants-and-assistance/business-support-fund>

Closing date: 1 June 2020

## BUSHFIRE

### [Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Grants](#)

The Regional Tourism Bushfire Recovery Grants program has two funding streams which, together, will support events, concerts, festivals and visitor attractions in fire affected regions to assist with recovery efforts and encourage international and domestic visitors to come back to the regions.

Stream 1 applicants will be local government authorities and regional tourism organisations operating in local government areas with activated state government Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) for the 2019-2020 fire season. These entities are listed in Annexure A in the guidelines.

**Closing dates extended:** 5:00pm (AEDT) Friday, 18 December 2020.

Stream 2 applicants are local government authorities and regional tourism organisations in local government areas activated by state or territory governments for DRFA assistance during the 2019-20 fire season and which are declared Category D. The eligible entities for this stream are listed in Annexure B to the guidelines.

**Closing dates extended:** 5:00pm (AEST) Friday, 8 May 2020.



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## [Emergency Bushfire Primary Industries Grants](#)

The Emergency Bushfire Response in Primary Industries Grants provide a grant to primary producers to help pay for costs of clean-up and other emergency measures including disposing of dead stock, and rebuilding or replacing damaged or destroyed on-farm infrastructure.

The support is available to bushfire affected primary producers in the Indi local government areas of Alpine, Indigo, Mansfield, Towong, Wangaratta, and Wodonga.

The maximum grant amount for clean-up, reinstatement activities and emergency measures is \$75,000.

**Closing date:** 31 July 2020.

## [Small Business Grants](#)

A \$10,000 grant is available for small businesses in Towong and Alpine Local Government Areas, as determined by state governments.

The grant is designed to assist with the costs of maintaining businesses, including – but not limited to – covering salaries, rents and utilities.

To be eligible, businesses must have experienced a 40 per cent drop in revenue over a three-month period, compared to the previous year, as a result of the bushfires. Further eligibility criteria will apply.

You can apply through the state government by calling your state hotline:

- Victoria call 1800 560 760

**Closing date:** 30 September 2020

## [Small Business Bushfire Recovery Grants](#)

Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to eligible Victorian small businesses and non-profit organisations affected by the Victorian bushfires in the Indi local government areas of Alpine, Indigo, Mansfield, Towong, Wangaratta, and Wodonga

These grants are intended to help pay for costs of clean-up and reinstatement of eligible small businesses that have suffered direct damage as a result of bushfires.

**Closing date:** 31 July 2020

## [Bushfire Clean-up Program](#)

The program covers the demolition and disposal of all buildings destroyed or damaged beyond repair by this season's bushfires. This includes:

- residential homes
- sheds and other out-buildings
- commercial buildings
- public buildings

This may also include the removal of fencing, trees and vehicles, but only where it is necessary for the safe clean-up of destroyed buildings.

To register: <https://www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-clean-up-program>

## [Victorian Farmers Federation Bushfire Recovery Infrastructure Grants](#)

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) Disaster Relief Fund is a charitable fund which aims to raise and distribute funds to provide relief and assistance to farmers and rural Victorians who suffer loss or are suffering distress as a result of flood or other natural disaster.

The Fund is accepting applications for grants of up to \$3000 (excluding GST) for infrastructure items to support farmers who have experienced fire damage on their properties.

Applications opened Tuesday 14 April 2020. Funds will be allocated on a 'first in, best dressed' basis until the available funding is committed.

## [Into our Hands - Bushfire Recovery and Pandemic Small Grant Program](#)

Grants up to \$3,000 are available to support projects responding to the recent bushfires



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and/or the COVID-19 Pandemic, which assist people in North East Victoria. The Foundation will give priority to projects which will:

1. Improve Community Connectedness and Social Wellbeing
2. Enhance the mental health of residents
3. Develop Organisational Resilience and Capacity
4. Foster cultural vibrancy

**For more information:**

<https://intourhandsfoundation.com.au/grants/>

**[Bushfire Assistance Grants - St George Foundation](#)**

To assist with the recovery of communities, St. George Foundation, [Bank of Melbourne Foundation](#) and [Bank SA Foundation](#) will provide funding of a total value of up to \$500,000 to eligible organisations in Australia to invest in projects that aid in long-term recovery efforts for bushfire-affected community organisations.

Projects to help rebuild communities that have suffered losses during the bushfires, including:

- Physical repairs to properties affected by fires.
- Assistance packages to bushfire impacted families.
- Continuation of community services where they have been prevented from operating or relocated due to fires.
- Recreational and respite programs to bushfire-affected communities.
- Counselling and therapy to communities due to experiences of fires.
- Medical equipment to aid in recovery for injuries sustained during bushfires; and
- Other applications deemed suitable by Governors at their discretion, to assist in bushfire recovery.

Applications will be open until either the total funding pool is awarded; or 31st December 2020; whichever occurs first.

**[The Reece Grant – Bushfire Rebuilding projects](#)**

Are you a tradesperson who is involved in a project to help rebuild in a community that has been affected by the Australian bushfires, you may be eligible for a Reece grant.

Apply here:

<https://www.reecegrant.com.au/bushfires/>

**COMMUNITY GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS**

**[Westpac Foundation Community Grants](#)**

Westpac Foundation has announced a new \$500,000 partnership with the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR), expanding its Community Grant program in rural, regional and remote areas across Australia.

Westpac Foundation's Community Grant program provides \$10,000 grants to local organisations creating opportunities through education, training and employment across Australia. Not-for-profit organisations providing support to communities outside a major city are now invited to apply.

Community Grant recipients will also have access to pro bono support via the Westpac Changemaker program, which includes access to leadership development programs, legal support and financial capability training.

Community organisations based in or providing support to areas outside a major city, as defined by the 2016 ABS Remoteness Index, can apply for a Rural Community Grant through the FRRR application gateway here:

<https://www.frrr.org.au/WestpacFoundation>

**Closing date:** 13 May 2020.