

COVID-19 Disaster Payment Application

The COVID-19 Disaster payment is a lump sum payment to help workers unable to earn income due to a COVID-19 lockdown, hotspot or period of restricted movement.

The process is as follows:

1. Log on to your MyGov account and go into the “Centrelink” linked service.
2. Select the “Make a Claim” button in the “Payments and Claims”.
3. Select “Make a Claim”.
4. Select “Get Started” under the “Affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) box.
5. Select “Apply for COVID-19 Disaster Payment” in COVID-19 Disaster Payment box.
6. The following questions will be asked – they will need to be answered according to your particular circumstances.

Question 1

Eligibility check

We need to make sure that the COVID-19 Disaster Payment is suitable for you.

We're going to start collecting some basic information from you, and check whether you're eligible to start claiming for the COVID-19 Disaster Payment.

You must answer all questions unless they are marked optional.

Begin

An employee may be entitled to this payment if they have lost income or work due to COVID-19 and they meet eligibility rules. The eligibility rules are as follows:

1. they are at least 17 years old;
2. they are an Australian resident or hold a visa that gives them the right to work in Australia;
3. they are not receiving an income support payment, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, Dad and Partner Pay or Parental Leave Pay;

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4. they are not getting the Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment;
5. they live in, work from or have visited Greater Sydney, including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Shellharbour and Wollongong;
6. they had paid employment and because they were in the COVID-19 hotspot or are subject to restricted movement, they cannot attend work on or after day 8;
7. they have lost income on or after day 8 and don't have any appropriate paid leave entitlements; and
8. they have liquid assets of less than \$10,000, for a period starting **before**:
 - a. 8 July 2021 for Parts of Sydney; or
 - b. 11 July 2021 for Greater Sydney.

Note that the liquidated assets test does not apply for all claims on and from 11 July 2021.

Employees can get this payment even if they are eligible on only one day of a recognised COVID-19 period of restricted movement, lockdown or hotspot.

Question 2

The Australian Government uses taxpayer money to support Australians in genuine need of help. The COVID-19 Disaster Payment is only for people who:

- can't work because of the current restricted movement/lockdown area, and
- don't have other ways to support themselves.

Services Australia has advanced methods of detecting false claims for payments.

By proceeding you acknowledge that you will answer the questions honestly and accurately. Services Australia may contact your employer and other agencies to confirm that the information you provide is correct. There are serious penalties for deliberately claiming a payment you are not entitled to.

Next

Claimable periods include:

Parts of Sydney

Parts of Sydney include the Local Government Areas of Bayside, City of Sydney, Canada Bay, Inner West, Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra. For parts of Sydney, the restricted movement order applies from 1 July 2021 to 30 July 2021. The following table sets out the periods of the restricted movement order and when claims can be made:

Period	Event dates	Claims open	Claims close
First	1 July to 7 July 2021	1 July 2021	28 July 2021
Second	8 July to 14 July 2021	8 July 2021	4 August 2021
Third	15 July to 21 July 2021	15 July 2021	11 August 2021
Fourth	22 July to 28 July 2021	22 July 2021	18 August 2021
First	29 July to 30 July 2021	29 July 2021	25 August 2021

Greater Sydney

For Greater Sydney, the restricted movement order applies from 4 July 2021 to 30 July 2021. The following table sets out the periods of the restricted movement order and when claims can be made:

Period	Event dates	Claims open	Claims close
First	4 July to 10 July 2021	4 July 2021	31 July 2021
Second	11 July to 17 July 2021	11 July 2021	7 August 2021
Third	18 July to 24 July 2021	18 July 2021	14 August 2021
Fourth	25 July to 30 July 2021	25 July 2021	21 August 2021

Note that employees will only be entitled to claim for periods in which they are affected and unable to earn an income.

Question 3

Please read the following Privacy Notice:

Privacy and your personal information

The privacy and security of your personal information is important to us, and is protected by law. We need to collect information about you so we can process and manage your applications and payments, and provide services to you under social security laws. If you do not provide this information, we may not be able to process your claim, determine your eligibility for a payment or provide other services to you.

We only share your information with other parties where you have agreed, or where the law allows or requires it. If you choose to use your digital identity, we will also collect information from, and disclose information about you to your identity provider to allow us to verify your identity electronically. If you do not allow us to collect this information, you may need to provide identification documents in person at one of our service centres.

For more information about the way in which we will manage your personal information [contact us](#), or view [Centrelink's Personal Information policy](#). Our [Privacy Policy](#) also contains information about how you can access and correct your information or make a complaint if you have privacy concerns.

Do you agree with the privacy agreement?

Yes
 No

Next

Question 4

Are you currently living in Australia?

Yes No

Next



We need to know if you're in Australia when claiming a payment. It might affect your claim if you're not.

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Question 5

Are you any of the following?

- An Australian citizen
- A permanent visa holder
- A temporary visa holder which gives you the right to work in Australia
- A New Zealand passport holder with a Protected Special Category Visa (SCV)

Yes No

Next



In most cases to get a payment, you need to be a resident of Australia. Find out more about residency on the [Residence descriptions](#) page.

For this payment you may be entitled if your temporary visa subclass gives you the right to work in Australia.

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Question 6

Do you live or work in an area under a COVID-19 restricted movement / lockdown that has been declared as a COVID-19 hotspot?

Yes No

Next



For the purposes of the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, the definition of restricted movement / lockdown is a period of restricted movement when people must stay at home and can only leave for approved reasons.

If you do not live or work in a hotspot, but were present in a relevant area subject to a COVID-19 restricted movement, answer no to this question to move to the next question.

A COVID-19 hotspot is defined as an area listed on the Department of Health website by the Chief Medical Officer as an area of COVID-19 local transmission.

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This includes Greater Sydney. See commentary on question 2 above.

Question 7

What state or territory were you living in, working in, or present in, which resulted in you becoming impacted by the restricted movement / lockdown?

New South Wales

Next



This is the state or territory you live in, work in, or were present in, where a COVID-19 hotspot was declared, that was also subject to restricted movement / lockdown.

If you live in one state or territory and work in another, or you live or work in one state or territory but were present in another, you can only claim for the affected area that the payment is available for. You can find out more information on areas that this payment is available for at servicesaustralia.gov.au/covid

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Question 8

What is the Local Government Area where you live, work, or were present in, at the time that area became impacted by the restricted movement / lockdown?

Penrith

Next



Before proceeding, you should [check](#) the information on areas that this payment is available for and when the claiming periods commence. Based on the information you have read, select the Local Government Area that best fits your circumstances.
If you do not know what Local Government Area you were in, you can find it using the address where you live, work, or were present in, [here](#).

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Question 9

Were you unable to earn your expected income due to the restricted movement / lockdown?

Yes

No

Next



For the purposes of the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, the definition of restricted movement/lockdown is a period of restricted movement when people must stay at home and can only leave for approved reasons.

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Question 10

Was there any day where you were unable to earn an income between 4 July and 10 July 2021 due to a COVID-19 restricted movement / lockdown?

Yes No

Next



For the purposes of the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, the definition of lockdown is a period of restricted movement when people must stay at home and can only leave for approved reasons.

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This question relates to the periods as set out in Question 2 above.

If the employee was unable to earn an income between the relevant period as set out in this question, then the employee meets this eligibility criteria.

Question 11

Have you already claimed the COVID-19 Disaster Payment for the period 4 July to 10 July 2021?

Yes

Not yet - I would like to claim for this period now

No - I would not like to claim for this period

Next

Question 12

Do you have access to funds in cash or in savings totalling \$10,000 or more?

Yes

No

Next



For the purposes of the COVID-19 Disaster Payment, liquid assets means access to funds in cash or in savings, or assets that can easily be converted into cash in a short amount of time (such as money loaned to other people).

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For claims from 11 July 2021, the liquid asset test does not apply and employees will be eligible to claim the COVID-19 Disaster payment (if they meet all criteria) even where they hold \$10,000 or more in liquid assets.

Question 13

Do you have employer funded 'appropriate leave' you can access or have accessed, to cover the full period of 4 July to 10 July 2021 (inclusive)?

Yes

No

Next



Appropriate leave does not include annual leave, long service leave, unpaid leave, or any leave you are not able to access, when you have been stood down without pay by your employer under the Fair Work Act.

Appropriate leave includes special pandemic paid leave; or paid sick/carers leave only when you are sick or injured or need to care for an immediate family/household member who is sick or injured; or for an emergency - find more on the [Fair Work Ombudsman's website](#).

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Appropriate paid leave does not include any of these types of leave:

1. annual leave;
2. unpaid leave;

3. paid sick and carer's leave;
4. long service leave; or
5. compassionate leave when your employer has stood you down without pay.

This means employees do not need to take these types of leave before they can receive the COVID-19 Disaster Payment.

Final Step

Before you proceed

Make sure you have provided correct answers. You won't be able to change your answers once you continue.

Select "Continue" to save your changes and proceed.

Continue >