



PAYROLL TAX RELIEF

COVID-19 RESPONSE



QUEENSLAND

SUMMARY

You may be eligible for one or more of a range of payroll tax relief measures as a result of the impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19).

These include:

- ▶ Refunds of payroll tax for 2 months
- ▶ A payroll tax holiday for 3 months
- ▶ Deferral of paying payroll tax for the 2020 calendar year.

As part of this relief package, the refund and payroll tax holiday do not have to be repaid.

ELIGIBILITY

If you are an employer (or part of a group of employers) who pays \$6.5 million or less in Australian taxable wages, you may have received an email about a:

- ▶ Refund of your payroll tax for 2 months (November and December 2019)
- ▶ Payroll tax holiday (i.e. no payroll tax to be paid) for 3 months (January to March 2020).

You can also apply for a deferral of payroll tax for the 2020 calendar year. (If you have already applied for a deferral, you do not need to reapply – it will be extended.)

If you do not receive an email, or you are unsure about your eligibility, complete the refund/holiday application form.

If you are an employer (or part of a group of employers) who pays more than \$6.5 million in Australian taxable wages and have been negatively affected (directly or indirectly) by coronavirus, you can apply for a:

- ▶ Deferral of payroll tax for the 2020 calendar year (If you have already applied for a deferral, you do not need to reapply – it will be extended.)
- ▶ Refund of your payroll tax for 2 months (January and February 2020).



02 9970 5267



paul.bailey@northernbeachesaccountants.com.au



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A business is directly or indirectly affected by coronavirus if their current turnover, profit, customers, bookings, retail sales, supply contracts or other factors are negatively affected compared with normal operating conditions.

HOW TO APPLY

Have your 7-digit client number ready before you apply. You can find your client number under the Lodgement Obligations tab in OSRconnect.

If you are waiting to hear about your application for [payroll tax registration](#), you won't yet have a client number. We will contact you as soon as possible.

There are 2 online application forms.

[Apply for deferral](#)

[Apply for refund/holiday](#) (You must apply for this one before 31 May 2020.)

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Once your applications have been processed, we will send an email with instructions on what you need to do.

- ▶ You won't need to pay payroll tax returns for the 2020 calendar year.
- ▶ You must continue to lodge returns in [OSRconnect](#) - without paying them - during this time.
- ▶ You can resume paying returns at any time during the deferral period.

Return Period	Lodgement due date	Deferred payment due date
March	7 April 2020	14 January 2021
January-March Quarter	7 April 2020	14 January 2021
April	7 May 2020	14 January 2021
May	8 June 2020	14 January 2021
2019-2020 Annual	21 July 2020	14 January 2021
July	7 August	14 January 2021
August	7 September	14 January 2021
September	7 October	14 January 2021
July-September Quarter	7 October	14 January 2021
October	9 November	14 January 2021
November	7 December	14 January 2021
December	14 January 2021	14 January 2021
October-December Quarter	14 January 2021	14 January 2021
July-December Half Year	14 January 2021	14 January 2021



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FAQS

What does the payroll tax relief package involve?

The package includes immediate payroll tax refunds of \$740 million for COVID-19 affected businesses. Eligible businesses can also apply for deferral until the end of 2020 and a payroll tax holiday for three-months.

What payroll tax relief can small and medium businesses get?

All small and medium businesses (payrolls of \$6.5 million or less) in Queensland will be eligible for:

- ▶ A two-month refund of payroll tax, giving an average of nearly \$9,000 in cash
- ▶ A three-month payroll tax holiday, saving an average of \$13,360

In addition, they will be eligible to defer all payroll tax payments for the rest of 2020. This means no eligible small or medium Queensland business will have to make a payroll tax payment this calendar year.

What payroll tax relief can large businesses get?

Larger businesses (payroll over \$6.5 million) affected by COVID-19 will also be eligible for the two-month payroll tax refund and have their deferral extended for all of 2020. This means no eligible larger Queensland business will have to make a payroll tax payment this calendar year.

Who is eligible for the payroll tax refund?

There are two categories of eligible businesses:

- ▶ If you are an employer (or part of a group of employers) who pays \$6.5 million or less in annual Australian taxable wages you will receive a refund on your November and December 2019 payroll tax returns, and a payroll tax holiday (which means that you pay no tax) for January, February and March 2020.
- ▶ If you are an employer (or part of a group of employers) who pays more than \$6.5 million in annual Australian taxable wages and have been negatively affected, directly or indirectly, by COVID-19 you will receive a refund on your January and February 2020 returns.



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When will the refund be paid?

We will aim for the refund to be paid within 48 hours of you completing all the required steps.

How will the payment be made?

The payment will be made to the business' nominated bank account. As you go through the process, you will have the opportunity to either update or provide your bank details.

Why not just automatically refund businesses instead of making them apply?

The Government investigated the quickest and most secure way of getting refunds to businesses to support their cashflow.

This practical measure will see businesses who need cashflow support start to receive payments within a couple of days of completing the required process.

The process is very simple and will be familiar to any business that pays payroll tax. Importantly, it is the process which will get money to businesses the quickest.

Do I automatically get the refund if I have already applied for the deferral?

If you have been approved for deferral then your deferral will be automatically extended until 31 December 2020. You will need to separately apply for the refund.

How long have I got to make an application?

Applications for the deferral can be made up until the end of the 2020 calendar year. Applications for the refund and/or holiday need to be made by 31 May 2020.



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