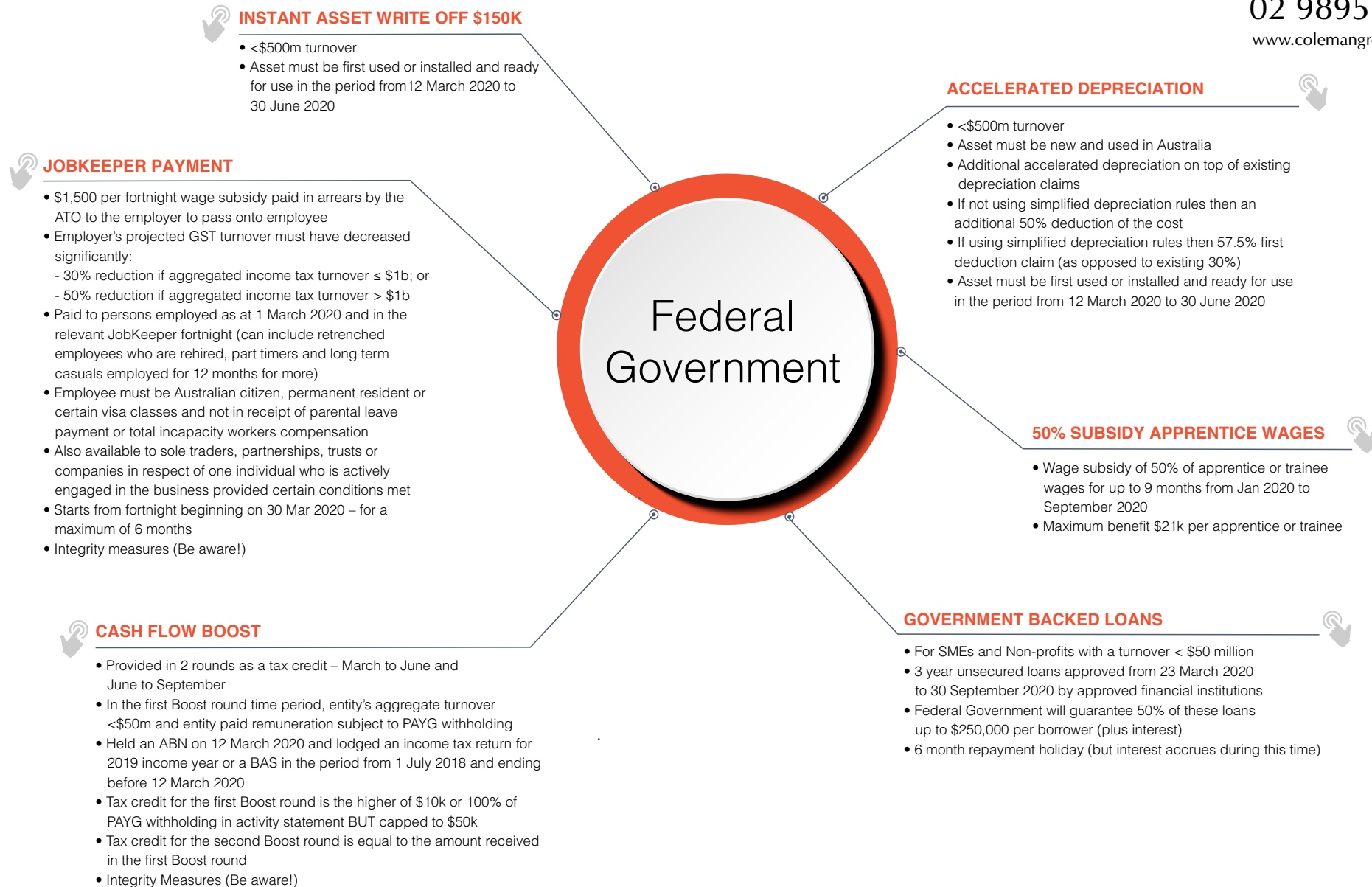


# COVID-19 INCENTIVES What are some of the incentives that various federal, state and other bodies have announced to help us get through this once in a lifetime event.

For more information phone  
**02 9895 9200**  
[www.colemangreig.com.au](http://www.colemangreig.com.au)





### New South Wales

- If Australian Group Taxable Wages ≤ \$10m then payroll tax for 2020 financial year reduced by 25% and not required to pay payroll tax for March, April or May 2020.
- Deferral of payroll tax payment for all businesses until October 2020
- Tax-free payroll tax threshold increased from \$900k to \$1m from 1 July 2020
- Land tax reduction by up to 25% for 2020 year if landlord reduces rent by at least as much as land tax reduction to a tenant affected by COVID-19:
  - if residential tenant then household income must have been reduced by at least 25%;
  - if business tenant must have an annual turnover ≤ \$50 million and revenue must have reduced by at least 30%.
- Landlords who receive a rebate or waiver may ask for a 3 month deferral for paying land tax and additionally concessional payment plans available
- Small business grant of up to \$10,000 for certain small businesses (turnover > \$75k and payroll below \$900k) significantly affected by COVID-19
- Waiver of fees for small businesses including bars, restaurants, cafes and trades



### Victoria

- Taxable Wages (Victorian wages only) < \$3m then full payroll tax refund for 2020 financial year and may defer first 3 months of 2021 financial year's payroll tax until 1 January 2021
- Any additional payment to employees above their normal wage to meet the JobKeeper payment are exempt from payroll tax
- Land tax may be reduced by up to 25% for 2020 year if COVID-19 affects:
  - residential or commercial tenant's ability to pay rent (for commercial property the tenant's annual turnover must be ≤ \$50 million and tenant must be eligible for JobKeeper Payment); or
  - landlord's ability to secure a tenant
- Land tax may be deferred until 31 March 2021 if landlord has at least 1 taxable non-residential property and total taxable landholding < \$1million
- Rent assistance for COVID-19 affected residential tenants, 6 month ban on rent increases and 6 month ban on evictions of residential tenants and SME business tenants affected by COVID-19
- Business Support Fund to provide up to \$10k grant to affected businesses (e.g. hospitality and tourism)



### ACT

- 6 month waiver of payroll tax from March to August 2020 for businesses prohibited from trading (e.g. hospitality, creative arts and entertainment)
- Construction businesses can defer payroll tax payment for 6 months from April to September 2020
- Businesses with group Australian wages ≤ \$10 million can defer their 2020/21 payroll tax, interest free until 1 July 2022
- Commercial property with an average unimproved value < \$2 million eligible for rebate of commercial rates fixed charge
- Certain commercial property owners affected by COVID-19 may seek a waiver or deferral of rates
- Residential property owners may apply for a land tax and rates rebate (equal to 50% of rent reduction but capped to \$1,300 per quarter) if they reduce rents by at least 25%
- Food registration and liquor licensing fees waived in certain cases for certain periods up to 12 months
- \$750 rebate on electricity bills for small business owners with electricity usage < 100 megawatts per year



### Queensland

- Australian wages ≤ \$6.5 million then refund of 2 months payroll tax (November and December 2019) and waiver of payroll tax for 3 months (January to March 2020)
- Australian wages > \$6.5 million and affected by COVID-19 may apply for refund of 2 months payroll tax (January and February 2020)
- Can apply to defer payment of 2020 calendar year payroll tax until 14 January 2021
- Land tax rebate of up to 25% for 2020 year if either:
  - Leasing to a tenant whose ability to pay the rent is affected by COVID-19, rent relief has been provided which is commensurate with the land tax rebate and landlord complies with leasing principles; or,
  - Landlord's ability to secure tenants affected by COVID-19 and needs relief to meet their financial obligations
- Waiver of 2% land tax foreign surcharge for 2020 land tax year
- 3 month deferral of land tax liabilities for 2021 land tax year
- Low interest loans of up to \$250,000 with initial 12 month interest free period for businesses to retain staff
- Grants for Queensland based businesses affected by COVID-19 and \$500 power rebate for certain SMEs consuming < 100,000 kilowatts



### Western Australia

- Tax free payroll tax threshold increased to \$1m from 1 July 2020
- Taxable wages < \$7.5m waiver of payroll tax for March to June 2020
- Taxable wages > \$1m and < \$4m then one-off grant of \$17,500
- JobKeeper payments exempt from payroll tax
- Interest payment arrangements and payment deferral for land tax
- Waiver of penalty for late payment of land tax if financially affected by COVID-19



### South Australia

- Payroll tax from April to September for eligible business with grouped wages ≤ \$4 million waived
- Businesses with grouped wages > \$4 million who are affected by COVID-19 may defer payroll tax payments for 6 months
- JobKeeper payments exempt from payroll tax
- Statewide revaluation of property deferred such that impact of new land tax changes deferred
- 2019/2020 land tax quarterly bill can be deferred for 6 months
- 2020/2021 Land Tax Transition fund relief increased from 50% to 100%
- Various grants for affected industries and community sectors including Business and Jobs Support Fund, Community and Jobs Fund and \$10k Small Business emergency cash grant for businesses with a payroll < \$1.5 million and not otherwise entitled to a payroll tax waiver



### Tasmania

- Employers in hospitality, tourism and seafood industries and other approved COVID-19 affected employers with taxable Australian wages ≤ \$5m will have payroll tax waived for 2019/2020 financial year and amounts already paid refunded
- One-year rebate for employers who pay payroll tax and employ new youth employees < 25 yrs old employed between 1 April and 31 December 2020
- Land tax may be waived for commercial property for 2020/2021 financial year where business owner affected by COVID-19
- Payment of land tax for 2019/2020 financial year deferred until 30 June 2020 if suffering financial hardship
- Interest free business loan for business with turnover < \$10 million to purchase equipment or restructure business



### Northern Territory

- Businesses affected by COVID-19 (30% drop in turnover) with Australian grouped wages < \$7.5 million may receive a payroll tax waiver for 6 months
- Businesses affected by COVID-19 (30% drop in turnover) whose Australian grouped wages ≥ \$7.5 million can defer payroll tax payment by 6 months
- \$10k Business Improvement Grant to make permanent physical improvements to business (land or building) with additional \$10k if business contributes \$10k of own funds
- Small business survival fund for grants of up to \$50k for small businesses affected by lockdown restrictions (e.g. hospitality, retail and personal care services)