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[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Media releases](#) >

More support for SA business as Marshall Government announces latest package to protect jobs and boost economy

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29/01/2022 | Steven Marshall MP

The Marshall Liberal Government has moved decisively to protect local jobs and safeguard the economy by today announcing further business financial supports and stimulus packages as part of its strong omicron response plan.

Additional cash grants of up to \$22,000 together with more *Great State* vouchers, and CBD dining out vouchers are key features of the latest State Government funded business support package for hospitality and tourism businesses, gyms and other businesses impacted by restrictions.

The cash grants will be automatically paid to previous recipients of the Tourism, Hospitality and Gym Grant – turnover based payment – December 2021 and the Business Hardship Grant – December 2021, paid from Government, January 2022, bringing the total available from the last two rounds for a business up to \$44,000.

For other businesses that meet the turnover decline criteria between 10 January and 30 January 2022 – *30 per cent turnover decline for the Tourism, Hospitality and Gym Grant and those impacted by the 1 person per 7sqm density restrictions, and 50 per cent turnover reduction for all others* – the grants will be application based.

Rounds 7 (Accommodation) and 8 (Tours and Experiences) of the *Great State* voucher scheme are another key element of this businesses support package, and will see 160,000 vouchers up for grabs across accommodation, tours and experiences – equating to more than half of the total number of vouchers issued in the scheme to date.

“Omicron was a game changer, but by working together we have risen to the challenges to ensure SA’s strong economic recovery from the global COVID-19 pandemic continues,” Premier Steven Marshall said.

“As we move through the Omicron peak and the health situation changes, our response must also change, and that is why we are announcing this further significant financial support package for hospitality and tourism businesses and gyms and other businesses impacted by density restrictions, along with measures to boost the CBD.

“There’s no doubt that many businesses in the CBD and beyond have been doing it tough, particularly over the last month. This eighth business support package is acknowledgement of those challenges faced by industries disproportionately hit by the pandemic.

“That’s why two further rounds of Great State Vouchers form a key part of this latest business support package – with the largest number of vouchers available for local and interstate travellers supporting our plan to provide demand stimulus to the state’s tourism industry.

“Adelaide is one of the first CBDs in the country to ease work from home arrangements post-Omicron and we had one of the best track records of any state for regional tourism in 2021. This support package is about helping businesses to keep their doors open and creating a spending flow-on across cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs and retail.

“It’s no accident that SA’s unemployment rate of 3.9 per cent was the lowest since monthly records began in 1978, along with having the fastest growing economy in the nation.

“However, we know we must continue to protect jobs and support SA businesses to get through these challenging times so they can help drive our economic recovery – which is exactly what this latest business support package does.

“South Australians have done an incredible job of working together and now is the time to continue to pull together to support our hardworking small businesses who are the backbone of the state’s economy.”

Applications are expected to be open from 14 February 2022. Automatic payments should commence by 4 February 2022. Details available at www.treasury.sa.gov.au/Growing-South-Australia/COVID-19 ■

This new business support package, estimated to cost around \$50 million and fully funded by the State Government, consists of:

- Further grants of up to \$22,000 for eligible* tourism and hospitality businesses, gyms and other businesses impacted by the 1 person per 7 sqm density restrictions**
 - ◆ Grants available include:
 - ◆ \$6,000 for employing businesses with annual turnover below \$2 million***
 - ◆ \$20,000 for employing businesses with annual turnover above \$2 million***
 - ◆ \$2,000 for non-employing businesses
 - ◆ Plus an additional grant of \$2,000 for eligible businesses with a commercial premise in the CBD
 - ◆ Grants will be automatically paid to businesses that received a COVID-19 Tourism, Hospitality and Gym Grant – turnover based payment – December 2021.
 - ◆ Other tourism and hospitality businesses, gyms and other businesses impacted by the 1 person per 7 sqm density restrictions that experience a reduction in turnover of 30 per cent or more over the period 10 January to 30 January 2022****, can apply for a grant.
- Further grants of up to \$8,000 under a Business Hardship Grant for other eligible* businesses
 - ◆ Grants available include:
 - ◆ \$6,000 for employing businesses
 - ◆ \$2,000 for non-employing businesses

- ◆ Plus an additional grant of \$2,000 for eligible businesses with a commercial premise in the CBD
 - ◆ Grants will be automatically paid to businesses that received a COVID-19 Business Hardship Grant- December 2021.
 - ◆ Other businesses that experience a reduction in turnover of 50 per cent or more over the period 10 January to 30 January 2022****, can apply for a grant.
- Extending the existing Major Events Grant to include events scheduled to be held up to 31 March 2022. The major events grant provides up to \$100,000 for organisers of major events cancelled or postponed due to density restrictions introduced from 27 December 2021.
 - Extending the payroll tax deferral for the remainder of 2021-22 for tourism and hospitality businesses, gyms and other businesses impacted by the 1 person per 7 sqm density restrictions upon application to RevenueSA
 - Great State vouchers round 7 (\$100 for CBD and \$50 for regional accommodation) and round 8 (\$200 and \$100 vouchers for hosted tours and experiences). 160,000 vouchers will be available across both rounds, supporting accommodation and tourism operators across the State.
 - \$250,000 for the City of Adelaide / Adelaide Economic Development Agency to at least double the number of \$30 vouchers available under the new Welcome Back food voucher promotion in the CBD.
 - \$1 million for the City of Adelaide to deliver a city-wide activation program 'Adelaide Unleashed'
 - \$250,000 for the City of Adelaide to at least double the number of grants on offer under its StreetSide Activation Grant Scheme. The scheme will provide grants of up to \$5,000 in value for eligible businesses to activate the area immediately outside its premises in the CBD.
 - Free public transport to the CBD from midday Friday to midnight Sunday each week during Festival period (Friday 18 February and finishing on Sunday 20 March).
 - \$150,000 to the City of Adelaide to expand its existing business advice and support program, provided in conjunction with Business SA. Provides access to the Business Advice Hotline three times a year, and other advisory services (Accounting, Statutory and Compliance Information, Tenants' Landlord Advisory Service, Mental Health Support Services, Digital Capability Coaching and Grants and Tenders Support).

**Businesses are subject to certain standard eligibility criteria, including having an Australia-wide grouped payroll of less than \$10 million, having a valid ABN and being registered for GST*

*** Must fall within an eligible ANZIC code or be required to operate under the 1 person per 7 square metre density restriction*

****Turnover based on 2019-20 or 2020-21*

*****Turnover decline over the period 10 January to 30 January 2022 is compared to the same period in 2019-20. Alternative comparison periods are available for businesses that commenced trading from 2019-20.*

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<https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/news/media-releases/news/more-support-for-sa-business-as-marshall-government-announces-latest-package-to-protect-jobs-and-boost-economy>

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