

STATE STIMULUS PACKAGES

ACT - AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

- Rebates of \$150 on residential rates for Canberra households. These will be automatically applied to 2020-21 rates bills.
- Freeze on Government fees and charges, including the fire and emergency services levy, public transport, vehicle registration and parking fees. These will be automatically applied to 2020-21 rates bills.
- Rebate on the fixed charge for 2019-20 on commercial rates for properties with an AUV below \$2 million. Targeted at businesses who own their own premises.
- Interest free deferrals of payroll tax from 1 July 2020 for all businesses up to a payroll threshold of \$10 million. Businesses will need to complete a simple online application form (which will be available soon on the ACT Revenue Office website at: www.revenue.act.gov.au) to confirm their eligibility.
- The ACT Government is providing \$20 million to fast track infrastructure projects and maintenance on government-owned community, school and other buildings as well as suburb maintenance. The program will focus on: works that can start immediately, be undertaken using local suppliers and workers, and meet social distancing requirements. This fund will be utilised this financial year.
- The Government will provide more funding for the removal of dead trees, planting of new trees and maintenance of surrounding areas to redeploy existing government contractors impacted by event cancellations.
- Prioritised processing of development applications.
- The Government will delay the issuing of all general rates notices by four weeks, and push back payment dates by that time, to allow people eligible for Commonwealth assistance to start receiving it.

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- 'Homefront' survival package funding up to \$10,000 per artist will be available to support arts development and the sustainability of their arts practices over the next 6-9 months. A total of \$500,000 will be available for Canberra's artists and creatives. Applications will open on 30 March 2020 and will close on 17 April 2020 at 5pm. [MORE DETAILS](#)
- Electricity rebates: Small business owners with electricity usage below 100 megawatts per year will see rebates of \$750 automatically applied to their next electricity bill in around June or July 2020. The rebate will apply regardless of whether customers are on standing or market offers. You do not need to contact your electricity supplier as this will be automatically applied.
- Commercial property owners with an Average Unimproved Value of \$2 million or less on their property are eligible for a rebate on their commercial rates fixed charge. Commercial rate payers will receive a credit of \$2,622 (equivalent to the annual fixed charge) to their 2019-20 general rates, in quarter four. This will be applied automatically. Where rate payers have paid in full or have a quarter bill less than the credit, they will be eligible for a refund. Businesses will need to complete a simple online application form (which will be available soon on the [ACT Revenue Office website](#)) to apply for a refund.
- The ACT Government is relaxing parking restrictions in various areas of the city to support Canberrans to collect take away food and services from local restaurants and cafes. Signs will start going up in areas such as Braddon, Woden, Belconnen and Tuggeranong attached to the existing parking signs.
- **Jobs for Canberrans** - fund will allow ACT Government Directorates to continue employing people for cleaning, repairs and maintenance projects. This fund will focus on providing secure work opportunities for Canberrans who have relied on casual work and are not eligible for the Commonwealth's wage subsidy scheme.

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- ACT Government will encourage landlords to reduce rents by at least 25 per cent for tenants under rental stress by sharing the cost reduction of the rental on a 50/50 basis, capped at \$1,300 per quarter (around \$100 a week)
- Any owner occupier in the Territory experiencing hardship because of COVID-19 will be eligible for a deferral of their general household rates for 12 months. No interest will be applied to the deferred amount.
- Depending on the level of hardship commercial tenants are facing, landlords will be eligible to apply for a waiver or rebate on their commercial rates, tied to the rental relief passed onto their tenants.
- The construction industry is vital to the long-term economic survival of the nation's economy. While the sector is continuing to operate under physical distancing requirements, there may be impacts to the financial viability of construction businesses in the weeks and months ahead. To protect as many jobs as possible in the industry, the ACT Government is enabling businesses in the construction sector to access interest free payroll tax deferrals for six months.
- Tenants and Landlords package - a temporary ban on evictions, pausing rental increases for six months, and providing land tax relief for landlords and rent relief for tenants experiencing financial hardship. [READ MORE](#)
- Canberrans and local businesses have started work on new fast-tracked infrastructure and maintenance projects on significant Canberra venues. [READ MORE](#)
- Canberrans will be able to register and apply online for a variety of temporary short-term roles in a range of areas such as maintenance, cleaning, administration, customer service, public transport and logistics. [MORE DETAILS](#) WWW.TRADIEPAD.COM.AU

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- Applications are now open for the 2020-21 ACT Heritage Grants Program. Priorities for the 2020-21 round are conservation works, Conservation Management Plans and projects that enable the continued use of and access to heritage places and objects. Priority will be granted to conservation works for private residential dwellings. Applications close Friday 12 June 2020. Grant application forms and guidelines are available by phoning 13 22 81 or applying online www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage
- \$3 million package covering tree planting and maintenance, playground refreshes and public space maintenance as part of a stimulus package to support local businesses during COVID-19. [READ MORE](#)
- Local contractors are being called for to help deliver a purpose-built facility at Canberra Hospital. [READ MORE](#)
- The ACT Government has allocated \$365,000 to undertake solar and sustainability upgrades on public and community housing as part of the government's fast-tracked infrastructure projects to support the local economy. [READ MORE](#)
- ACT gradual easing of restrictions across a number of sectors coming into effect for the long-weekend [READ MORE](#)
- Public school solar batteries get fast tracked. [READ MORE](#)
- The Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission's (ICRC) final decision on regulated electricity prices in the ACT will see an average price decrease of 2.56 per cent from 1 July 2020. [READ MORE](#)

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- A further 100 Canberrans will gain employment with the ACT Public Service following another expansion of the Jobs for Canberrans Fund. [READ MORE](#)
- \$10 Million second phase of the Fast Tracked suburban infrastructure program has been announced. [READ MORE](#)
- A range of government fees and charges such as parking, business registration and development application fees will not increase in the 2020-21 financial year, recognising the pressures facing our community as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. [READ MORE](#)
- First day of operations for new and independent WorkSafe ACT [READ MORE](#)
- The new and independent WorkSafe ACT has begun operations on 1st July 2020 [READ MORE](#)
- ACT/Victoria travel restrictions from Wednesday 8th July [READ MORE](#)
- Green light for UNSW Canberra City campus [READ MORE](#)
- Registrations are now open for expressions of interest to join the ACT Heritage Council [READ MORE](#)
- The ACT Government will move to further crackdown on dodgy developers by establishing a team of public sector certifiers as part of our plan to restore confidence in the Territory's construction sector. [READ MORE](#)
- The moratorium period for COVID-19 impacted residential tenants has been extended for three months to 22 October 2020. In addition, COVID-19 impacted households will now be able to terminate their fixed-term tenancy agreements early, without penalty. [READ MORE](#)

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- The Government will invest \$8.8 million to improve the look and feel of the city with refresh works to local shopping centres and the city centre, new public toilets and increased maintenance activities [READ MORE](#)
- Advice on mask wearing & NSW Travel [READ MORE](#)
- A wellbeing call service, available to all Canberrans who would like to register, was launched today. The service is a partnership between the ACT Government and Red Cross and offers connection and support to Canberrans to help them maintain their wellbeing through regular conversation. It also provides locals with information about relevant activities and services available. [READ MORE](#)
- ACT Government expands nation-leading investment in social housing [READ MORE](#)
- The ACT Government has today released our Jobs and Economic Recovery Plan, outlining how our city can be supported to recover from this once in a life time economic shock. [READ MORE](#)
- Tax reform verdict: stronger Territory economy, increased production, household consumption and investment. [READ MORE](#)
- The ACT Government has reduced the risk of corrupt conduct in the electoral system by banning property developer donations to local political parties and candidates in the ACT. [READ MORE](#)
- The ACT's rich and unique heritage will be showcased and preserved through 21 new local projects with the support of Government grants. [READ MORE](#)

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- New landfill gas generators to power over 5,700 ACT households. [READ MORE](#)

ACT Gov Business Liaison Team: : 6205 0900
ACT COVID-19 Helpline: 02 6207 7244 - 8am and 8pm daily

Care Inc and the Consumer Law Centre
Care Inc - 1800 007 007 Consumer Law Centre - (02) 6143 0044

You can register your intention to claim a Centrelink payment using myGov. You don't need to complete a full claim right now. Payments will be backdated to the date you registered. [MORE INFO](#)

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ACTION ITEM

**Contact your
bookkeeper or
accountant
ASAP.**

MAKE SURE YOU GET ACCESS TO EVERY
SCHEME AVAILABLE TO SAVE YOUR
BUSINESS MONEY.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A BOOKKEEPER OR
ACCOUNTANT LET US KNOW, AND WE'LL
CONNECT YOU WITH ONE.