

Economic Development Newsletter



Industry E-Newsletter Summary

The Economic Development Team continues to advocate on behalf of, and assist business within our region. With Public Health Orders and restrictions continuing to be extended, we know that this is a very difficult time for many businesses in our region.

Please don't hesitate to contact [Kristy Forche-Baird](#) directly with any questions you may have during this time.

Summary and Quicklinks

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COVID & SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Now Open COVID-19 Support Package for Business

New financial assistance is available due to the recent COVID-19 situation and lockdowns. Get the most up to date information at [Grants, loans and financial assistance | Service NSW](#)

The support package Includes:

- COVID-19 business grant
- COVID-19 micro business grant
- JobSaver payment
- Small Business fees and charges rebate
- Payroll tax support

If a business cannot compare figures from 26 June 2021 to 17 Jul 2021 to the same period in 2019 they now have the option to compare a similar period (of at least two weeks). Additional information may be required to support your application. See question below to enter alternate dates.

Step 3 of 5

Supporting information

* indicates a required field

During 26 June 2021 to 17 July 2021, did your business experience a decline in turnover of at least 30% due to the Public Health Orders over a minimum two-week period compared to the same period in June and/or July 2019? *

- Yes
 No

Has your business suffered a decline in turnover of at least 30% or more in comparison to a similar period (of at least two weeks)? *

- Yes
 No

Make sure to download the Matrix with a [summary of support packages](#) for individuals, businesses and industries.

Support available	What is it?	What period of the lockdown does it cover?	When will it start?	How do I find more information?	How can I apply?
2021 COVID-19 Micro Business Grants	Forfeiture grant of \$1,000	From the start of the lockdown	From the start of the lockdown	Payments start Service NSW	Apply for the 2021 COVID-19 Micro Business Grants
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Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants & Kempsey Workshop

Join the Kempsey workshop to learn about the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program. Many different types of projects are eligible for support through this grants program – but they must be about the recovery and/or resilience of communities impacted by the 2019-20 Black Summer

bushfires.

Date: Mon 9th Aug 2021

Time: 12:45 pm - 3:00 pm AEST

Tickets: [Humanitix](#) (Kempsey location to be confirmed)

Cost: Free



Access to FREE Business Support

Small businesses affected by the current COVID-19 lockdown and restrictions can seek free advice from the NSW Government's business advisory service, Business Connect

Business Connect has advisors across the State who were ready to help businesses navigate the current situation. For more on Business Connect, visit www.nsw.gov.au/businessconnect.

There is also a wide range of upcoming webinars and virtual events covering financial fundamentals, creating a sales-boosting digital strategy and understanding marketing objectives. [Visit the website](#) or call 1300 134 359 to connect to a local advisor.

WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS

Regional Arts & Entertainment Funding

An addition of \$7 million will bring the Creative Economy COVID Support Package to \$440 million. The funding aims to attract additional visitors to Australian regions and to speed up economic recovery in communities hit hard by COVID-19. For further information visit [COVID-19 update | Office for the Arts, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications](#).

Regional Housing Taskforce - Have Your Say!

The taskforce is charged with investigating regional housing issues and wants to hear from you, about the barriers you are experiencing in growing your business, buying, renting and building a place to live in the regions.

Have your say by making a submission by 11.59pm Friday 27 August 2021 online at [Regional Housing Taskforce | Planning Portal - Department of Planning and Environment \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

Supply Chain Resilience Initiative

Applications are open for manufacturers under the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative – a part of the Government's \$1.5 billion Modern Manufacturing Strategy.

Matched grants of between \$50,000 and \$2 million are on offer for businesses which can help address supply chain vulnerabilities across medicines and agricultural production chemicals. To find out more or apply for a grant under the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative visit [business.gov.au/scri](#). This program closes on 12 August 2021.

Women's Financial Toolkit - It's your future

The NSW Government's free, online resource that all women can use to find help with money concerns. The toolkit brings specialist expertise which aims to support women with building financial capability and economic opportunities. It includes information for starting a business and women in business networking. You can check out the Toolkit here: [women.nsw.gov.au/resources/wft](#)



Women NSW

Search for...



Planning for the future

Thinking about the future is vital to long term financial wellbeing. The resources here can help you plan for life stages and events, from starting to work to retirement. You can also find information about topics like relationships and money, superannuation, and becoming an investor.

 [Experiencing an emergency? Contact help now.](#)



New Business Assistance with New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (NEIS)

This program supports people who want to start and run a business. NEIS assists people to turn their good ideas into viable businesses and assists existing micro-business owners to refocus their business to meet new areas of demand.

NEIS support includes:

- NEIS Training

- NEIS Assistance—business mentoring and support for up to 52 weeks
- NEIS Allowance—for up to 39 weeks (if eligible)
- Rental Assistance—for up to 26 weeks (if eligible)

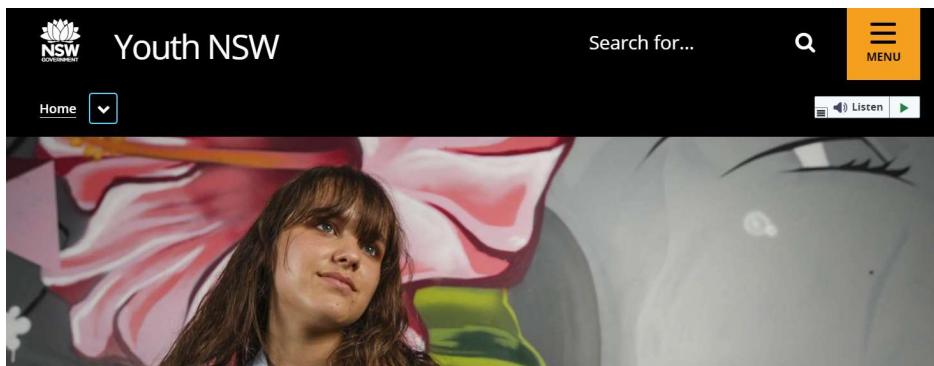
For further information visit [How people access NEIS and Participate in NEIS Training - Department of Education, Skills and Employment, Australian Government \(dese.gov.au\)](#)

Youth Opportunities Program

Up to \$1.5 million is available for *new* Youth Opportunities projects to commence in 2022. The Youth Opportunities program provides one-off, time-limited grants between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to not-for-profit organisations and local councils for new youth-led and youth-driven community projects that have a positive youth development focus.

Organisations applying for funding must have spoken with young people and involved them in developing the project proposal prior to submitting an application.

Applications close 6 September 2021. For further information visit [Grant applications 2021 | Youth NSW](#).



Regional Tech Hub

The Regional Tech Hub provides much needed independent, free advice about telecommunications services for people who live and work in regional, rural and remote areas of Australia.

Regional, rural and remote Australians can now access the Regional Tech Hub, where they will find a range of online resources to help understand connection options, troubleshoot faults and optimise phone and internet connections. The Regional Tech Hub staff, who bring a wealth of experience in IT, regional communications and customer service, are available to provide one-on-one assistance via phone, email or social media. For further information see the below links.

