

ACIRT COVID-19 SPECIAL PAYMENT

The CFMEU and NSW Plumbing Trades Employees' Union understand this is a difficult time for our members.

Whilst the construction industry is still operating there may be some employees who find that work slows down and some employees may be stood down.

After representation from your Unions, the CFMEU and the NSW Plumbing Trades Employees' Union the ACIRT Board has approved the establishment of a Covid-19 Special Payment.

Normally you can only claim your ACIRT benefit if your employment is terminated. This will continue.

During the crisis, however, the conditions to access your ACIRT account have been expanded so that if you have been stood down by your employer, but not terminated, you can claim up to a maximum of \$10,000 from your ACIRT Account.

It is not an additional benefit. Effectively, your Covid-19 Special Payment is a pre-payment of the redundancy benefit you could claim on termination.

• **Eligibility:** To be able to claim your COVID-19 Special Payment, you will have to confirm that as at the date of the application you are not receiving any paid work from your current employer, have not been promised any paid work for the next two weeks, and are not on paid leave. Like any normal claim, ACIRT will require confirmation from your employer that you have been stood down.

• **Maximum payments:** Subject to having sufficient funds in your account, you can claim two payments of a maximum of \$5,000, five weeks apart. If you want the second payment, you will have to make a second application.

• **How to apply:** Initially, you will only be able to apply for your Special Payment(s) by signing an Application form which you will be able to download from the ACIRT website www.acirt.com.au. You can then email the form back to ACIRT at acirtadmin@aas.com.au, or alternatively post it back are unable to email.

• **How long will it take:** Once ACIRT have received all the documentation, ACIRT hope to be able to pay your Special Payment within five (5) business days. ACIRT are only paying by EFT.

• **Tax rate:** Because you have been stood down, and not claiming your benefit for redundancy, ACIRT have to deduct tax at 32% (ACIRT have made an application to the ATO to reduce this – we will keep you posted).

• **How long will it last:** It will only be available until 31 December 2020 at the latest.



Theo Samartzopoulos
NSW State Secretary
NSW Plumbing Trades Employees' Union



Darren Greenfield
NSW State Secretary
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