



# COVID-19 WEBINAR Q&A

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Below are summary responses to some of the questions raised in the COVID-19 Webinar on Wednesday 25 March 2020 relating to Government assistance.

Please read through the three summary sections below relating to Apprentices, Cash Flow and Essential Service. We have provided a comprehensive document that you can click on for further information on Government assistance and examples.

Since this webinar the Government has announced a new JobKeeper subsidy worth \$130B for employers and employees. This is in addition to existing government support relating to cash flow, and apprentices. The answers below do not pertain to the JobKeeper subsidy.

To find out more about how the new JobKeeper subsidy applies to your workplace, [CLICK HERE](#)

## Government Assistance

### Apprentices

Subsidies for retaining apprentices and trainees are for businesses with 20 employees or less. The program supports apprentices who were already in employment on 1 March 2020. The subsidy is for a maximum of \$7,000 per apprentice, per quarter (March - Oct 2020). For more information on the amount, the eligibility and the application process, please find a link to the AAAA Information Sheet on Apprenticeship Incentives [CLICK HERE](#).

### Cash Flow

The Boosting Cash Flow assistance is available to businesses with a turnover of less than \$50 million in the previous financial year. It does not matter if you are a workshop or a retail business. The incentive is based on the amount of withholding tax for PAYG employees. You are not required to payback any amount because it is based on the PAYG per month/per quarter. If you have paid for January and February, the amount is calculated as 300% of your March Activity Statement. Please see our detailed explanation of the Boosting Cash Flow stimulus in our recent advice to AAAA members [CLICK HERE](#).

### Essential Service

“The AAAA are working with all State Governments and the Federal Government to state the case that automotive is part of 'Transport and Logistics' for essential services. So far we have been successful and our sector of auto parts supply and auto repair is still open. We can't predict that this will remain the case. Each State Government has a different interpretation of 'essential service' and we are working with them to ensure that we are in the last line of business that will need to close.

Our advice is to remain open if it is safe and commercially viable to do so, until requested by state governments to close operations. We are urgently lobbying that auto repair is critical for the health and emergency services sector - but we cannot guarantee that this will mean we remain open in the event of a total shut down.”

**More Information:**

If you require further advice, please contact AAAA at [advocacy@aaaa.com.au](mailto:advocacy@aaaa.com.au)

*Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association*

[www.aaaa.com.au](http://www.aaaa.com.au)