



The following grants may be relevant to those affected by the current bushfires occurring across Australia.

NB: ourcommunity.com.au have brought these out from behind their membership pay-wall so that as many groups and individuals as possible have access to the information.

---

## ***National***

### **Disaster Recovery Allowance**

The Department of Human Services is providing support for people who have lost income as a direct result of the bushfires in New South Wales, Eastern Queensland, South Australia and Victoria through the Disaster Recovery Allowance.

Disaster Recovery Allowance is a short-term payment to help you if a declared disaster directly affects your income. You can get it for a maximum of 13 weeks. It's payable from the date you lose income as a direct result of the bushfires.

The maximum payment rate is the equivalent of [Newstart](#) or [Youth Allowance](#), based on your circumstances. Your rate of payment will be affected by your income prior to and following the disaster.

Visit the [Department of Human Services' website](#) for information relevant to your location.

### **Disaster Recovery Payment**

The Department of Human Services is providing support for people adversely affected by the bushfires in New South Wales, Eastern Queensland, South Australia and Victoria through the Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment.

The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment is a one-off payment to help you if a declared disaster significantly affects you. It's not for minor damage or inconvenience.

You can choose to get this payment in 2 instalments if you prefer. If you're eligible you will get:

- \$1,000 per adult
- \$400 for each child younger than 16.

Visit the [Department of Human Services' website](#) for information relevant to your location.

### **Red Cross Emergency grants**

If you've lost your home in a bushfire since July 2019, you can apply for an emergency grant of \$5,000.

Emergency grants are open across Australia to people whose primary place of residence has been destroyed or rendered uninhabitable as the result of bushfires from 1 July 2019 to 28 February 2020.

[Apply online here.](#)

### **NAB Disaster Relief fund**

NAB is providing grants of \$2,000 to customers who have lost their homes to bushfire, to help cover costs such as temporary accommodation, food and clothing. They are also providing support for NAB business and agribusiness customers directly impacted by bushfires to help restart or reopen and cover the cost of damaged property, equipment, fencing – and for loss of stock or livestock.

For information on how to access the grants contact the NAB Assist team on the dedicated number 1300 683 106 (8am-8pm Monday to Friday; and 9am-1pm Saturday AEST/AEDT).

NAB business and agribusiness customer wishing to access the grants should call NAB's dedicated team on 1300 023 429

[More information is available on the NAB website.](#)

### **Westpac Bushfire Fund, Bushfire Recovery Support Package**

Westpac Group has established a \$1.5 million Bushfire Fund, which will include \$500,000 in grants to immediately support customers and employees whose properties have been destroyed or damaged. Grants of up to \$2000 can be accessed to help cover temporary accommodation, food and clothing.

Those requiring assistance or support should contact their local branch, Relationship Manager or call the Westpac Assist team on 1800 067 497 to discuss their circumstances. [View the press release for more information.](#)

Additional support has been allocated for Westpac mortgage customers who have lost their principal place of residence due to the bushfires. Westpac will pay the customer's mortgage repayments for one year (up to \$1,200 per month). Westpac's Bushfire Recovery Support Package also supports a range of measures for retail and business customers, as well as affected communities. [More information available here.](#)

For information on Westpac's Disaster Relief Package, [visit this link.](#)

### **CommBank Bushfire Recovery Grants**

Up to \$50,000 grants available to assist the longer term recovery of organisations directly affected by the bushfires.

Community organisations, fire services, schools, sporting clubs and non-government organisations in a bushfire affected area are eligible to apply.

[More information is available here.](#)

### **[ANZ Bushfire Relief Package](#)**

ANZ is providing a bushfire relief package for customers affected by bushfires across the nation.

ANZ customers affected by bushfires in a disaster-declared area are encouraged to visit their local branch if they are able, or to contact their relationship manager to discuss the impact on their business or personal circumstances. Customers can also contact ANZ's dedicated financial hardship team on 1800 149 549 or [anz.com/hardship](https://anz.com/hardship).

[View the press release here](#) for more information.

### **[Bank First Bushfire Assistance Package](#)**

Bank First have a financial assistance package to support customers experiencing hardship.

Support is available based on your needs and includes: interest-free loans of up to \$5000; the ability to defer loan and credit card repayments; credit card customers can apply for an emergency credit card limit increase; waiver of interest rate reduction for term deposit withdrawals prior to maturity; waiver of other fees and charges that are derived as a result of the bushfires.

Customers with home and contents insured through CGU can also apply for emergency funds and temporary accommodation costs.

The Bank First Community Fund will provide donations of up to \$10,000 to help Victorian schools and preschools rebuild.

Call their Customer Care team on 03 9834 8530 to find out more and discuss your needs or visit their [Financial Hardship page](#).

### **[OAKS Bushfire Support Offer](#)**

Oaks Hotels, Resorts & Suites have announced that selected properties nationwide will offer complimentary rooms for up to seven days for those who have lost their homes.

Eligible applicants are entitled to seven nights free accommodation across any Australian property of Minor Hotels, subject to blackout periods which will be notified upon enquiry. Participating properties are located in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia.

[More information available here.](#)

### **[Salvation Army disaster support](#)**

The Salvation Army offers a range of services and assistance measures to help people who have been impacted by bushfires including:

- Financial assistance
- Emotional wellbeing and support services
- Information, referrals and advice.

Contact The Salvation Army Disasters Assistance team by emailing [sal.disasters@salvationarmy.org.au](mailto:sal.disasters@salvationarmy.org.au) or by calling 1300 662 217

### **Reece Grant - Bushfire Rebuild projects**

The Reece Grant will be directing all funds raised until 30 June 2020 to projects dedicated to Bushfire Rebuild projects. The Reece Group have kick-started this fund with \$150,000.

If you, or a tradesperson you know is involved in a project to help rebuild in a community that has been affected by the Australian bushfires, you may be eligible to apply.

[More information available here.](#)

### **Bushfire Emergency Response Grant to Assist Indigenous Australians**

The Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) has established an emergency response grant for any Indigenous corporation whose property has been directly affected by the recent bushfires. A grant of up to \$20,000 will be available to assist Indigenous corporations to immediately secure and clean up damaged properties.

The ILSC will also make available a grant to assist Indigenous land management groups and contractors assisting recovery efforts with equipment.

Indigenous corporations who have been directly impacted by the current bushfire emergency and are seeking assistance should contact the ILSC on 1800 818 490 or [EDOAdmin@ilcorp.gov.au](mailto:EDOAdmin@ilcorp.gov.au).

### **Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) Bushfire Crisis Support**

To assist its business finance and home loan customers directly impacted by the current bushfires through the loss of property or compulsory evacuation, IBA has established a Bushfire Crisis Fund that will provide the following support:

- Temporary suspension of loan repayments;
- Access to a \$2,000 bushfire crisis grant to cover immediate needs;
- Assistance with making insurance claims; and
- Further assistance for business customers to be assessed on an individual basis.

Customers who have either lost property or been evacuated from their homes are encouraged to contact IBA on 1800 064 800 to discuss how they can assist you at this time.

---

## ***New South Wales***

### **Rural Assistance Authority Disaster Recovery Grants**

Disaster recovery grants of up to \$15,000 are now available to primary producers, small businesses and not-for-profit organisations in LGAs affected by the NSW bushfires that have occurred from 31 August 2019.

To find out if you are eligible view the LGAs affected and the Guidelines on the [NSW Rural Assistance Authority website.](#)

### **NSW Government Disaster Relief Grants**

NSW Government Disaster Relief Grants are available for eligible individuals and families whose homes and essential household contents have been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster.

Contact the Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444 for more information, or [visit the website here](#).

### **Wildlife Heroes Bushfire Emergency Fund**

Up to \$100,000 is available through the Wildlife Heroes Bushfire Emergency Fund 2019 grant program, with NSW licensed wildlife volunteer groups able to apply for up to \$10,000 and independent wildlife license holders \$1,000.

More information available [here](#).

### **Volunteer Firefighter Payment**

The Volunteer Firefighter Payment is for eligible volunteer firefighters who are self-employed or employed by small and medium businesses, and have lost income due to being called out for more than 10 days since 1 July 2019.

Payments of up to \$300 per day, with a total cap of \$6000, will be available in the 2019–2020 financial year. The payments are tax-free and not means-tested.

[More information available here](#).

---

## **Victoria**

### **Personal Hardship Assistance Program**

If you have been affected by a natural disaster or single house fire and you are experiencing financial hardship, you may be eligible for an emergency relief and/or emergency re-establishment payments.

*Emergency relief assistance* may be available for up to 7 days after the emergency event. A one-off payment is provided to help meet immediate needs, including emergency food, shelter, clothing, medication and accommodation.

Payments of up to \$560 per adult and \$280 per child (up to a maximum of \$1960 per eligible household). To find out if you are eligible, visit a relief centre in the area. Go to [https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief/#relief\\_and\\_recovery\\_centres](https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief/#relief_and_recovery_centres) to check which relief centres are open.

*Emergency re-establishment assistance* will support eligible recipients to re-establish their homes as quickly as possible after a natural disaster. The total maximum emergency re-establishment payment is \$42,250 per household (as at December 2019).

Visit the [Department of Health and Human Services \(VIC\) website](#) for more information.

### **Monash University Bushfire Crisis Student Grant**

If you've been impacted by the 2019/2020 bushfires, grants of up to \$2,000 are available to support you in your studies at Monash.

Money provided through a grant can be used for essential living expenses and such things as laptops (to meet BYOD requirements), course materials or other unexpected expenses.

More information is available [here](#).

### **Tax Relief and Council Support For Communities**

Businesses, families, and individuals whose properties have been destroyed or substantially damaged by bushfires will receive ex-gratia relief for their 2020 land tax assessment. Land tax will be also be waived on eligible properties being used to provide free accommodation for people who need it.

For people who decide not to rebuild in their local community, the Government will provide up to \$55,000 in stamp duty relief if they buy a home elsewhere.

For people who lost motor vehicles due to bushfires, they can receive up to \$2,100 in ex-gratia relief from the duty on up to two replacement vehicles.

For more information: [View the media release here](#).

---

## ***Queensland***

### **Emergency Hardship Assistance Program**

The Emergency Hardship Assistance Grant is available as a contribution to support people directly impacted by a disaster to meet their immediate essential needs for food, clothing, medical supplies or temporary accommodation.

Applicants may receive \$180 per person up to \$900 for a family of 5 or more.

For more information, visit the [Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors website](#).

### **Essential Services Hardship Grant**

This grant supports people directly impacted by a disaster to meet their immediate needs where they have experienced loss of one or more essential services for more than 5 days.

Applicants may receive \$150 per person, up to \$750 for a family of 5 or more.

For more information, visit the [Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors website](#).

### **Essential Household Contents Grant**

If you are uninsured, or unable to claim insurance, you may be eligible for financial assistance to provide a contribution towards replacing or repairing essential household contents, such as beds, linen and whitegoods, that have been lost or damaged in a disaster.

Grants of up to \$1,765 for single adults and up to \$5,300 for couples/families are available.

For more information, visit the [Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors website](#).

### **Structural Assistance Grant**

If you're uninsured, or unable to claim insurance, you may be eligible for a one-off payment as a contribution towards repairs to your home to make it secure and safe.

Grants of up to \$10,995 for single adults and up to \$14,685 for couples/families are available.

For more information, visit the [Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors website](#).

### **Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Grant**

If you're uninsured, or unable to claim insurance, you may be eligible for a grant to help you reconnect essential services that were damaged by a disaster.

There are 2 parts to the grant:

1. Inspection: up to \$200 towards a safety inspection for each essential service needing reconnection (electricity, gas, water and sewerage or septic system)
2. Repair: up to \$4200 towards repair work to enable essential services to be reconnected (for example, electrical rewiring).

For more information, visit the [Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors website](#).

### **Support for QFED Volunteers**

The Department of Housing and Public Works' [Volunteer Firefighters Compensation Package](#) supports Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) volunteers, who have dedicated considerable personal time to respond to the 2019/2020 bushfires and incurred a financial loss of income as a result.

Eligible volunteers will receive up to \$6000 in compensation if they have volunteered to firefight on a fire ground, or provided direct operational support, for more than 10 calendar days between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

A volunteer may only claim actual lost net (post-tax) income up to \$300 per day, with the total claim not exceeding \$6000.

More information available [here](#).

### Wildlife Carers Assistance Grants

The Wildlife Carers Assistance Grants will provide grants to wildlife care groups and individual carers to assist with their wildlife rescue and rehabilitation services.

Program guidelines and an application form will be available from 29 January 2020.

Register your interest by emailing [csagrants@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:csagrants@des.qld.gov.au) or call the grant program office on 3330 6360.

---

## ***South Australia***

### Re-establishment Grants up to \$10,000 for Bushfire Residents

Eligible South Australians who are uninsured and have had their principal residence damaged by bushfires can apply for grants of up to \$10,000 to help them re-establish their homes.

The payments can be used to help repair bushfire-damaged homes or replace essential household items.

For more information on eligibility please visit a relief centre or phone the SA Recovery Hotline on 1800 302 787 (8.00 am to 8.00 pm).

### Small Business Bushfire Recovery Grant

The Department for Innovation and Skills (DIS) may provide grants of up to \$10,000 to impacted small businesses and not-for-profit organisations in Cudlee Creek and Kangaroo Island for costs associated with clean-up, restoration and rebuilding.

Visit [business.sa.gov.au/bushfires](https://business.sa.gov.au/bushfires) for more information.

### Primary Producer Bushfire Recovery Rebate Grant

Primary Producers located within the Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island who have suffered direct damage from a bushfire disaster in 2019/20 may be eligible for a rebate of up to \$15,000 for reimbursing reinstatement and clean-up costs from recent bushfire events.

Applications are open to primary producers in local government areas of:

- Adelaide Hills
- Kangaroo Island
- Murray Bridge
- Mount Barker

Visit the [Primary Industries and Regions SA \(PIRSA\) website](#) for more information.

---



## ***Western Australia***

### **[Department of Fire & Emergency Services financial assistance](#)**

There are a range of financial disaster relief measures available to assist individuals and communities recover from a disaster event. Visit the [DFES website](#) for more information relevant to your circumstances.

---

### **Donating to 2020 Australian bushfire relief efforts**

Below site provides regular updated avenues where to donate

<https://help.givenow.com.au/hc/en-us/articles/360001315355-How-can-I-donate-to-help-with-the-bushfires->