

Victorian Sick Pay Guarantee for casuals and self-employed workers in specified occupations

SUMMARY

The Victorian Government has implemented a Sick Pay Guarantee scheme for casual and self-employed workers in specified occupations.

The scheme provides up to five days a year of sick or carer's pay at the National Minimum Wage (currently \$20.33 per hour).

The scheme is Government-funded for a two-year trial period. When the proposed scheme was first announced, the Victorian Government indicated that a levy may be imposed on businesses at the conclusion of the trial period to fund an ongoing scheme.

Which occupations does the scheme cover?

Lists of eligible occupations are included in Appendix 1 of the <u>Program Guidelines</u>. The eligible occupations fall within the following job types:

- Hospitality workers
- Food preparation assistants
- Food trades workers
- Sales support workers
- Sales assistants
- Other labourers who work in supermarket supply chains
- Aged and disability carers
- Cleaners and laundry workers
- Security officers and guards

The Program Guidelines state that more eligible occupations will be added at a later date.

What are the eligibility criteria?

To be eligible for the Sick Pay Guarantee a person must meet all these criteria:

- 15 years or over.
- A casual employee or a self-employed worker with no other employees (such as a sole trader or an independent contractor).
- Not entitled to paid personal, sick or carer's leave in any job.
- Work physically in Victoria.
- Have the right to work in Australia.

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- Work in an eligible occupation.
- On average, work at least 7.6 hours per week in an eligible occupation(s).

Is evidence required to be provided by eligible workers?

Yes, the evidence requirements are set out in the Program Guidelines.

How do eligible workers make a claim?

Eligible workers must make a claim directly to the Victorian Government's through its <u>Sick Pay</u> <u>Guarantee Website</u>. Claims are not made through employers.

How are the payments made to eligible workers?

Payments are made to eligible workers directly from the Victorian Government.

Do you require further advice?

For further information or assistance, please contact Ai Group. Ai Group has set up a <u>special section on our website</u> to provide access to Ai Group advice and assistance relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery from the pandemic.

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