

## John Barilaro Deputy Premier Minister for Regional NSW Minister for Industry and Trade

## **Damien Tudehope**Minister for Finance and Small Business

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NEW \$10K GRANT OPENS FOR BUSHFIRE-AFFECTED SMALL BUSINESSES

Much needed cash is on the way for bushfire-affected small businesses located in highly impacted areas with applications for the brand new \$10,000 small business grant now open.

Deputy Premier and Minister responsible for Disaster Recovery John Barilaro said this grant is now available for businesses who have been indirectly affected by the bushfires and have lost business as a result.

"Small businesses are the backbone of this state's regional economy and I want to make sure they remain open and continue to thrive," Mr Barilaro said

"This new grant of up to \$10,000 will help significantly-impacted small businesses in selected Local Government Areas (LGAs) get back on their feet and maintain their businesses during this difficult time.

"Our initial calculations are that about 20,000 NSW small businesses will be eligible for this new grant and we have made this application process as easy as possible.

"Our small business owners have been outstanding throughout this bushfire crisis and we need to be as vigilant in recovery as they have been in the face of disaster," he said.

Eligible businesses must have experienced a 40 per cent drop in revenue over a three-month period, compared to the previous year, as a result of the recent bushfires.

Small Business Minister Damien Tudehope said the Government was listening and was doing what it could to assist.

"Small businesses are the life and soul of our towns, they're incredibly resilient and we want them to thrive into the future," Mr Tudehope said.

"I encourage eligible small businesses to contact Service NSW to apply," he said.

NSW LGAs eligible for this grant include; Bega Valley, Blue Mountains, Clarence Valley, Eurobodalla, Hawkesbury, Kempsey, Lithgow, Mid Coast, Nambucca, Port Macquarie, Queanbeyan, Richmond Valley, Shoalhaven, Snowy Monaro, Snowy Valleys, Wingecarribee and Wollondilly.

Additionally, grants of up to \$50,000 are available for eligible small businesses that have been directly impacted. If you have already received financial assistance via other grants, you may still be eligible for the \$10,000.

Concessional loans of up to \$500,000 are also available for eligible small businesses. The NSW Government is also working with the Commonwealth to ensure greater access to concessional loans

with fewer documents and fewer security requirements, as well as additional business advisers on the ground working directly with small business owners to help them navigate the road to recovery.

To apply for a \$10,000 small business grant, call Service NSW on 13 77 88 or visit: www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/business-support-bushfire-impacted-communities/grants-and-loans

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