

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

COVID-19 Visitor Economy Grants Guidelines



Application guidelines and information



South Gippsland
Shire Council



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Summary

Council is committed to helping our region recover from COVID19 by working alongside communities and by supporting and building the capacity of individuals, communities, businesses and organisations.

We understand that tourism businesses have been particularly hard hit due to COVID-19 restrictions which have limited regional visitation.

To assist with the immediate hardship these businesses are facing, Council has created the COVID19 Visitor Economy Grants for tourism businesses.

Eligible businesses will receive a one-off payment of \$1000 (ex GST) to expend on essential business fees, services and/or materials. *We ask that South Gippsland Be Kind to Business!*

Funding can be used for fees, services and/or materials such as:

- financial advice/accounting/bookkeeping
- materials to help make your business COVID-safe
- marketing
- industry development

It is our expectation that funding should be spent in the local community.

Eligibility

To qualify you will need to meet the following criteria.

You must:

Operate a tourism business that is open to the public and reliant on the visitor economy in South Gippsland (for example accommodation, tour operators or farm gate experiences etc).

- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN). You must not be subject to any legal impediment, including bankruptcy or liquidation.
- Have paid your rates for 2019/20.
- Be registered in Victoria.
- Have turnover up to \$250,000 and less than 20 staff.
- Provide proof of Hardship (minimum 30% downturn from the previous year).
- Submit only one application per ABN.

Key dates

Applications open 9.00am 1 September and close 5.00pm 18 September or until such time the funding allocation is exhausted.

Applicants are expected to use their funds as soon as possible within three months.



Ineligible

- Australian, state and local government agencies, bodies and enterprises.
- Not-for-profit associations.
- Incorporated or unincorporated associations.
- Businesses where the applicant has outstanding debt to South Gippsland Shire Council.
- Businesses with 100 per cent online sales (excluding accommodation businesses).
- Businesses that were successful recipients through the COVID-19 Business Grant Program.

Assessment

Applications will be assessed:

- In the order the applications are received;
- Until 5pm on 18 September 2020 or such time as the budget of \$100,000 is exhausted;
- Will be undertaken by an internal panel of skilled and relevant officers.

South Gippsland Shire Council may request further information to assess your application.

Apply

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/covid-visitoreconomygrants

Please note:

- Applications must be submitted by the Business Owner and not a third party (i.e. an accountant).
- Successful applicants will be requested to provide banking details, please ensure that these details are accurate.
- **The name and business name of successful applicants may be disclosed publicly for acquittal and promotional purposes.**

Questions?

Please contact Council's Tourism Development Coordinator Danielle Todaro on 5662 9322.