

Grants Guide 8 October 2009

Grant	Body	Purpose	Amount	Rules	Means test?	Contact	Further info
Is the person bereaved?							
Compassion and Bereavement Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist with costs associated with the death of a person in the bushfires.	\$10,000 for each deceased person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant to the next of kin of a person deceased as a result of the Victorian bushfires. Only one next of kin can apply. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Funeral Expenses Grant	TAC	Assist with funeral/memorial costs.	Up to \$10,000 for each deceased person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant to next of kin of persons deceased as a result of the Victorian bushfires. Toll free outside Melbourne 1800 332 556 	No	TAC 1300 654 329	tac.vic.gov.au
Special Payment to Assist with Funeral/Memorial Related Costs	Centrelink	Assist with funeral/memorial and any related costs.	\$5000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant to immediate family members of a missing/deceased person as a result of the Victorian bushfires. 	No	Centrelink 180 22 11	centrelink.gov.au
Has a house been damaged or destroyed?							
Temporary Living Expenses Grant	DHS	Assist with cost of temporary accommodation and living expenses.	Up to a maximum of \$865 per week, up to a total of \$8650	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant available to both home owners and renters from bushfire affected areas. Assist with needs such as temporary accommodation, food, clothing, health and hygiene items and reconnection of essential services. 	Yes	DHS grants officers	dhs.vic.gov.au
Re-establishment Grant	DHS	Assist with the re-establishment of a household's principal place of residence.	Up to \$8650 for repairs and:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant of up to \$8650 for repairs to structural damages. Available to owner-occupiers. <i>If people claim this they are ineligible for the Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund Household Repairs Grant.</i> 	Yes	DHS grants officers	dhs.vic.gov.au
			\$8650 for contents. Maximum of \$17,300 per household.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant of up to \$8650 for replacement of essential household contents. Available for both owner-occupiers and renters. 			
Destroyed Homes Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist those who have lost their homes to be rehoused and to assist in replacing household contents.	Stage 1: \$35,000 to assist with rehousing; and \$15,000 to assist with contents replacement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be the owner/occupier whose residence has been destroyed. The residence destroyed must have been the principal place of residence at the time of the fires. <i>This payment should not be sought in conjunction with the Damaged Homes Payment as only one grant type will be paid.</i> 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
			Stage 2: A needs based payment of up to \$40,000 to assist with rehousing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants will need to certify and provide evidence that the funds allocated will be applied to meet their rehousing needs (rehousing includes rebuilding, a new purchase or establishing a tenancy). 			

Damaged Homes Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist with the repair of bushfire damage to homes, outbuildings or other structures to your principal place of residence.	An immediate payment of \$15,000. A Stage 2 payment of up to \$20,000 based on need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This grant is only available to home owners, where the home is the principal place of residence. <i>This payment should not be sought in conjunction with the Destroyed Homes Payment as only one grant type will be paid.</i> If a payment has been received under the Home Repairs Grant this payment may also be applied for. However, where the quotes provided under the Home Repairs Grant were for \$3,000 or less, you cannot seek to claim payment for the same items under the Damaged Homes Payment. The damage must have occurred to the house, the house interior, outbuildings or other structures. Examples of what would <i>not</i> be covered under this grant: fences, garden furniture, children's play equipment and gardens/plants/trees. 		Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Home Under Construction payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	To assist owners of residential properties which were under construction and destroyed in the 2009 Victorian Bushfires.	<p>Properties that were at lock up stage at time of bushfires are eligible for \$35,000.</p> <p>Properties yet to reach lock up at time of fires eligible for up to \$25,000.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The residence under construction must have been intended to be the principal place of residence. You will not be eligible for the Rehousing and Recovery - Home Under Construction payment if the property is owned by a corporate entity. You will not be eligible for this payment if you have already received a Rehousing and Recovery payment for your principal place of residence. Receipt of the Tenants Contents Payment does not make you ineligible for this payment. Only one payment will be made per individual regardless of the number of properties under construction. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Tenant Contents Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist tenants to replace their contents where their property was destroyed.	\$15,000 for loss of contents as a direct result of the bushfires.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landlords are not eligible for this payment. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Winter needs payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Support people with winter needs	\$2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paid to individuals who received the Appeals Fund payments: Destroyed Homes, Damaged Homes, Tenants Contents, Household repairs and Rural properties recovery assistance Paid to individuals who received the Rural Finance payments: bushfire initial clean up and restoration and the special circumstances bushfire relief grant 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Transitional Support payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	To support those who lost their primary residence in the bushfires in their transition to permanent accommodation.	<p>Home owners: \$10,00 for singles/ couples, \$15,000 for families of 3 or more.</p> <p>Tenants and boarders: \$5,000 for singles and couples, \$7,500 for families of 3 or more</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to qualify for the payment, the applicant must be living in temporary or transitional arrangements and experiencing ongoing financial hardship as a result of the bushfires. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Safe Removal of Hazardous Trees payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	To help residents in bushfire-affected areas meet the cost of assessing and removing hazardous trees on their private properties	Up to \$4000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both owner occupiers and landlords are eligible to apply for this payment if they have trees that are a hazard to human safety needing to be removed on a residential property Payment will be made based on an assessment from a qualified arborist confirming the tree(s) is/are hazardous to human safety. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au

Has there been a severe injury?							
Severe Injury Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist people injured during the bushfires.	\$7500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant for people who as a direct result of the Victorian bushfires were severely injured and as result of their injury: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stayed overnight in hospital and - have had or will require additional surgery or hospital treatment. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
Severe Injury Transition to Home Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist those seriously injured during the bushfires.	Initial lump sum of \$50,000.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those severely injured and admitted to hospital for a sustained period. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
			A further payment of up to \$50,000 to those who require specialist support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those who require specialised support such as modifications to homes or cars as a result of their injury, or other additional support. Staff from DHS will approach each hospital where there were admissions as a result of the fires. With the hospital DHS will identify the needs of the patient. Payment will be determined on a case by case assessment. 			

Has the person had a loss of income?							
Income Recovery Subsidy	Centrelink	Assist employees, small business owners and farmers who have experienced as loss of income as a direct result of the bushfires.	Up to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$405 for adults who are a member of a couple - \$449 per fortnight for single adults - \$486 for single adult with a dependent child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fortnightly payment for people who have had a loss of income as a result of the Victorian bushfires. See income limits on fact sheet. 	Yes	Centrelink 180 22 11	centrelink.gov.au

Is the person a primary producer or small business owner?							
Bushfire Supplementary Grant – Primary Producers	Rural Finance	Assist primary producers whose properties have suffered direct physical damage a result of the Victorian bushfires.	Up to \$20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplementary grant available for people who received the Initial Grant. Note applications for Initial Grant are now closed. Grant for primary producers for clean up, removal of debris, animal welfare and business restoration. An eligible farmer is one who is registered with the Australian Tax Office and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o has a right or interest in land for the purpose of primary production o contributes a significant part of their labour and capital to the farming enterprise, and o derives more than 51% of his/her individual income from the farming enterprise. Lifestyle or hobby farmers are not eligible for assistance. Separate application and assessment. Can be supplemented with a concessional interest rate loan – see website. 	No	Rural Finance 1800 255 925	ruralfinance.com.au
Bushfire Supplementary Grant – Small Businesses	Rural Finance	Assist small business owners whose business assets have suffered direct physical damage a result of the Victorian bushfires.	Up to \$20,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplementary grant available for people who received the Initial Grant. Note applications for Initial Grant are now closed. Grant for small business owners for clean up, removal of debris, animal welfare and business 	No	Rural Finance 1800 255 925	ruralfinance.com.au

				restoration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate application and assessment. • Can be supplemented with a concessional interest rate loan – see website. 			
Special Circumstances Bushfire Relief Grant	Rural Finance	Assist primary producers and small business owners who have otherwise missed out on a business recovery grant.	\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be directly impacted by the bushfires through damage or destruction of physical assets. • Earn less than \$100,000 a year from other income sources. • Have not already received other bushfire assistance available through the Australian or Victorian Governments or certain property related payments through the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund. • Must meet the standard criteria for business grants under the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), such as having an ABN and employing fewer than 20 people. 	No	Rural Finance 1800 255 925	ruralfinance.com.au
Primary Producers Repair and Restoration payment	Rural Finance	To help primary producers who have suffered loss or damage to their properties as a result of the bushfires.	Up to \$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary producer's who have not received the Commonwealth Government's Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) Initial/Supplementary Clean Up and Restoration Grant, can apply for a \$10,000 payment. • Those who have received the Initial/Supplementary Clean Up and Restoration Grant, can apply for a \$5000 payment. • Must carry on a primary production business as defined by the Australian Tax Office (ATO). 	No	Rural Finance 1800 255 925	ruralfinance.com.au

Has the person provided support or service to bushfire affected communities?

Exceptional Hardship payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	Assist those who have helped a bushfire affected community, and as a result have suffered hardship.	Up to \$8000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note that while applications have closed, they can be considered on a case-by-case basis. • Grant for individuals or businesses who provided substantial, exceptional and unique support or services to bushfire affected communities through the operation of their business or utilisation of their skills in business, and who are suffering hardship as a result of providing that support and charity. • People are not eligible for this payment if, as an individual, they provided this support or service as a member of a volunteer emergency service or under any other duty to render assistance, or as a part of their normal employment for which they have been paid. • People are not eligible for this payment if, as a small business, they receive a Rural Finance grant for businesses directly affected by the bushfires. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
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Is the person a rural land owner?

Rural Properties Recovery Assistance Payment	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund	To relieve the distress and hardship of individuals who have suffered direct physical damage or destruction to their property.	Up to \$5000 Dependant on hectare size.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual rural land owners of two hectares or more are eligible. This does not include properties owned by a company, trust or partnership. • Land owners who have received a Rural Finance Bushfire Clean-up and Restoration Grant are not eligible for this payment. 	No	Vic Bushfire Appeal Fund 1800 180 213	dhs.vic.gov.au
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