Home Mail TV News Sport Finance Lifestyle Entertainment Weather Answers Mobile

Search for news, symbols or companies Search Sign in

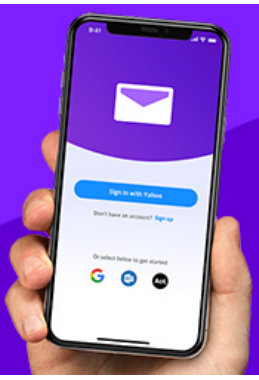
Finance Home Watchlists My Portfolios Markets Money Work Technology Industries

Australia markets closed

ALL ORDS 5,959.90 -119.60 (-1.97%)
ASX 200 5,847.80 -112.80 (-1.89%)
AUD/USD 0.6873 +0.0024 (+0.35%)
OIL 36.56 +0.22 (+0.61%)
GOLD 1,737.30 -2.50 (-0.14%)

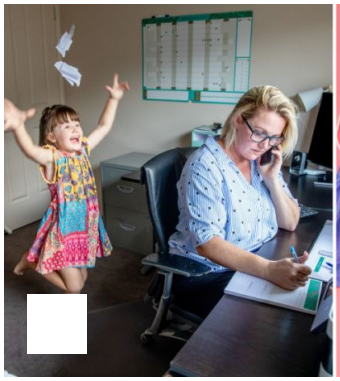
Close ad

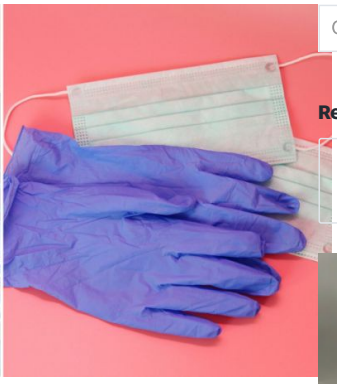
yahoo!mail
BE THE ORGANISATION MASTER
Outlook, Gmail and Yahoo Mail. All in one app.
Download now



ow Covid-19 has anged your ork-related tax eductions

Tony Yoo
Yahoo Finance AU 12 June 2020
Follow





This tax year sure has been different, so what can you claim on your tax return? (Images: Getty)

The Australian Taxation Office has clarified what can and can't be claimed as work expenses in the year of the coronavirus epidemic.

"This tax time the ATO expects to see a substantial increase in people claiming deductions for working from home or for protective items required for work," said ATO assistant commissioner Karen Foat.

Here are four points of advice from the ATO about work-related expenses:

Working from home: what I can claim

Rather than having to work out all the different minute expenses, the tax office has created a temporary "shortcut method" to claim expenses for millions of people forced to work from home.

"People claiming their working from home expenses using the shortcut method, should include the amount at the 'other

Quote lookup

Recently Viewed ›

Your list is empty.



What to read next

1 March and 30 June, 2020.

"It covers all deductible expenses and can be used by multiple people working from home in the same house."

However, you must have kept a log of the hours that you worked from home to backup the numbers inputted into the tax return.

"[Shortcut method] is all inclusive, meaning you can't claim for any other working from home expenses," said Foat.

The shortcut method is optional, so you can still calculate everything individually if you think that would advantage you.

ATO's warning to Aussies getting JobKeeper, JobSeeker, early super
Yahoo Finance AU

ahm flexi packages
ahm health insurance Ad

Will your tax return look different this year due to the coronavirus?

- No
- Yes, I worked from home a lot more
- Yes, I used a lot more protective gear
- Yes, I had reduced work

'Just ridiculous': Outrage over Aldi item shorta
Yahoo Finance AU

Travelling from home to work is still not claimable

How I saved $100,000 before I turned 20
Yahoo Finance AU

A golden rule each tax year is that costs incurred to commute to and from work is not a deductible expense.

"Generally, most people cannot claim the cost of travelling to and from work and working from home as a result of COVID-19 does not change this," Foat said.

"For example, if you are working from home because of COVID-19 but need to go to your regular office one day per week, your home to work travel is still private travel and cannot be claimed."

'Free money': Mum earns $433 for 10 minutes work
Yahoo Finance AU

Protective clothing: what I can claim

Protective gear used for work is a category that will see a surge in interest this tax year.

"Taxpayers working in jobs that require physical contact or close proximity with customers or clients during COVID-19 measures may be able to claim a deduction for items such as

Why building robots is good for kids
Officeworks Ad

Reduce claims not relevant outside the coronavirus period

There will be expenses that were not incurred or somewhat reduced during the coronavirus lockdown period, such as laundry or travel costs.

These must be reduced in your tax return for that part of the year, so you don't overclaim.

"It's still important to meet the three golden rules: you must have spent the money and not have been reimbursed, it must relate directly to earning your income, and you must have a record to prove it," said Foat.

"If you aren't travelling for work, you can't claim travel expenses. If you aren't wearing your work uniform, you can't claim laundry expenses."

Foat said that taxpayers must adjust for change in work situations due to the epidemic and lockdown.

"We are... asking people to take a bit of extra care if their circumstances have changed this year."



Sign up to the newsletter for exclusive access.

Follow Yahoo Finance Australia on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

How this woman scored $1,300 a year without working
Yahoo Finance AU

Postcodes most at risk when JobKeeper ends
Yahoo Finance AU



Sport Australian Associated Press
Eels, Cowboys forwards set for suspensions



News Agence-France Presse
Brazil now second in virus deaths, as US states see...

The Aussie property market that's pandemic-proof
Yahoo Finance AU

Ad
ahm flexi packages
With an ahm flexi limit, you can use your included extas how you want.
ahm health insurance



Injured teen claims she was deliberately run over

News Australian Associated Press

Small turnout at cancelled Adelaide rally



Ad

Why building robots is good for kids

It's a great way to teach your children the all-important STEM subjects of...

Officeworks

How to negotiate working from home permanently

Yahoo Finance AU

Entertainment Financial Times

Anne Tallentire: the artist making captivating work from stationery

Entertainment Financial Times

Russell Tovey: 'Art has become a huge part of my life'

China, Russia Are Spreading Virus Misinforma EU Says

Bloomberg

Entertainment Financial Times

Art Basel's Marc Spiegler: 'The future of the art world is not digital'



Ad

Get $50 when you open a Westpac Choice account.

New customers under 30yo only. Offer period 11/3/20 to 30/06/20. Min...

Westpac

Thousands of Aussies score $200 travel vouch

Yahoo Finance AU

News Financial Times

Magic monday: Europe reopens to tourists

Entertainment Financial Times

Bob Dylan's new album Rough and Rowdy Ways is deft, teasing and...

Adam's expert advice to get your home winter ready

Natural Gas Ad

Entertainment Financial Times

Union Pacific gallery — 'We couldn't do without art fairs'



Ad

It's here: Trade US shares for $0 commission

Seize global opportunity for less. No minimum trades necessary. All trading...

IG

This is where Australians were investing their money as the market rebounded

Business Insider

Business Financial Times

Who's buying what art online?

News Financial Times

UK economic history: slavery

Ad

Reinvent Remote Working

Work remotely and securely with HP Sure Click Pro, now free for all Aussie...

HP

Lifestyle Financial Times

Fantasy dinner party: Barbara Pym meets Buffy

Lifestyle Financial Times

What the rise of the debating champion tells us about the world

News Australian Associated Press

Regional airports get $41.2m in support



Ad

Never Scrub Your Bathroom Floor Again

This 50-years-old mom figured out a really genius way to make bathroom...

BuyGroutShine.com



Sport Australian Associated Press

Smart 'N' Sexy breaks maiden in Dalrello



Sport Goal.com

Barcelona have 'no intention' of selling Man...



Sport Goal.com

Anirudh Thapa - I look up to Rowllin Borges and...

Aussie shares sink after Wall St plunge
Australian Associated Press

Hilarious Photos With People In The Backgrou
Post Fun Ad

ASX finished the week in the red
Yahoo Finance AU

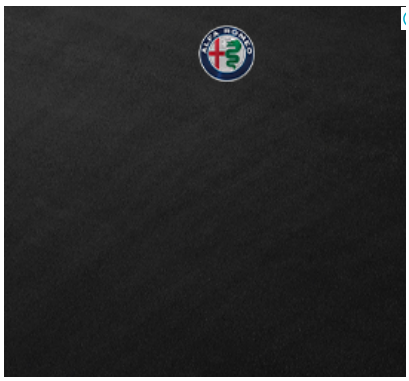
Boeing's 787 Delivery Drought Shows Crisis Behind Rally
Bloomberg

Finance Minister's JobSeeker threat to protest
Yahoo Finance AU

2.2 million Aussies to benefit from major tax change
Yahoo Finance AU

Some nightmare scenarios for the November elections
Yahoo Finance

Australia's in recession: Now what? Experts on things to fix the economy
Yahoo Finance AU



China, Russia Are Spreading Virus Misinforma EU Says
Bloomberg

Home Mail TV News Sport Finance Lifestyle Entertainment Weather Answers Mobile

Search for news, symbols or companies Search

Sign in

Finance Home Watchlists My Portfolios Markets Money Work Technology Industries

Adam's expert advice to get your home winter ready
Natural Gas Ad

This is where Australians were investing their money as the market rebounded
Business Insider

Revealed: The happiest states in Australia
Yahoo Finance AU

Aussie shares sink after Wall St plunge
Australian Associated Press

Hilarious Photos With People In The Backgrou
Post Fun Ad

Home Mail TV News Sport Finance Lifestyle Entertainment Weather Answers Mobile

Search for news, symbols or companies Search

Sign in

Finance Home Watchlists My Portfolios Markets Money Work Technology Industries

Boeing's 787 Delivery Drought Shows Crisis Behind Rally
Bloomberg

Finance Minister's JobSeeker threat to protest
Yahoo Finance AU

Massive Payments For Aussies Born 1940-198
Survey Compare Ad

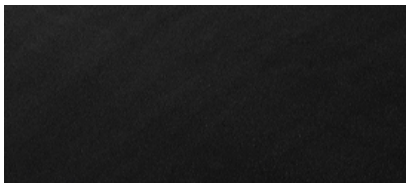
2.2 million Aussies to benefit from major tax change
Yahoo Finance AU

Some nightmare scenarios for the November elections
Yahoo Finance

Home Mail TV News Sport Finance Lifestyle Entertainment Weather Answers Mobile

Search for news, symbols or companies Search Sign in

Finance Home Watchlists My Portfolios Markets Money Work Technology Industries



Data Disclaimer Help Suggestions