[**Concession Scheme for Covid-19 Fines**](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Support/concession#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20eligible%20for,to%20deal%20with%20your%20fine)

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The Concession scheme for COVID-19 fines commenced on 30th August 2022, and allows people who have a COVID-19 fine, and who hold a valid concession card or other entitlement, to pay a reduced fine amount.

For example, a fine of $200 for a face covering offence maybe reduced to $50, a fine of $1849 for breaches of COVID-19 public health directions maybe reduced to $185, and other $5000 fines maybe reduced to $462.

Please let your staff and volunteers working with people who may be eligible for the scheme, know about the scheme and how to apply.

**Who can apply**

To apply, a person must hold an [eligible concession card](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Support/concession) or have applied for, or hold, a protection-related visa. The application is simple, and does not require the assistance of a lawyer. Eligibility is assessed based on current circumstances, rather than the person’s circumstances at the time the fine was incurred.

Please reach out to clients with payment plans for Covid-19 fines, so they do not pay more on the fine than they need to. Even if they get a reduction under the scheme, they will **not** get a refund for any excess paid.

**Steps to apply for a concession fine**

1. download and complete the [COVID-19 concession application form](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/-/media/Files/Application-COVID-19-fines-concession-scheme.ashx?la=en&hash=7DA79CB479716E87C4DBE9FBE995797FC28F1980)
2. show proof that you are eligible for the scheme, via scan or photo of:

* concession card, or
* a card or letter from the Department of Home Affairs about immigration status.

1. [Upload your completed application](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/covid-concession) the completed PDF form & the proof of eligibility
2. Fines Victoria will write to let you know if you are eligible for the scheme or not. If you are eligible for the scheme, they will tell you the amount of your reduced fine.

If you are not eligible, you will need to deal with your fine within 21 days of receiving the letter, by one of these options: [pay your fine](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Your-options/Pay-your-fine), apply for a [payment plan](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Your-options/Request-to-pay-by-instalments) or an [extension of time to pay](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Your-options/Request-a-payment-extension), apply for a [review](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Your-options/Request-a-review), apply under the [Family Violence Scheme](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Support/Family-Violence-Scheme), or apply for a [Work and Development Permit](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Support/Work-and-Development-Permit).

**You cannot apply if:**

* the fine and any fees have already been paid in full (you cannot get a refund)
* sheriff enforcement & legal actions have commenced in relation to the Covid-19 fine
* the fine has been registered with the Children's Court.
* the person has elected to have the matter heard in court.

**For help**

If you need legal assistance with your fine, visit [fclc.org.au](https://www.fclc.org.au/find_a_community_legal_centre)to find your local community legal centre, or email Youthlaw [legal@youthlaw.asn.au](mailto:legal@youthlaw.asn.au) (if you are under 25 years).

For assistance with managing your payment and other debt visit [fcvic.org.au/find-a-financial-counsellor/](https://fcvic.org.au/find-a-financial-counsellor/) to find your local financial counsellor.

For further information about your Covid-19 fine call Fines Victoria (03) 9200 8222 between 8am and 6pm weekdays, except public holidays, or via [contact Fines Victoria](https://online.fines.vic.gov.au/Contact-Us)