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## Rena Support Subsidy

A PAYMENT FOR SOLE TRADERS AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS TO ASSIST IN PAYING EMPLOYEES WHILE YOU MANAGE THROUGH THE IMPACT OF THE RENA STRANDING

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### ***What is the Subsidy?***

The Rena Support Subsidy can help sole traders and small business owners who are unable to pay employees due to the impact of the Rena stranding. The intention of this subsidy is to enable you to retain your staff and continue to pay them while you transition back to business-as-usual.

- It is paid for a maximum period of six weeks from 7 November 2011.
- It is paid at a rate of \$500 gross per week per (including GST) for full time employees, and \$300 per week (including GST) for part-time employees.
- The employer is responsible for paying GST, ACC levies, PAYE and holiday pay, and any other employment related expenses in respect of the employee(s).
- Payment will be made by lump sum for a period of up to three weeks and after this businesses must verify they still meet eligibility criteria, to receive a further payment for up to another three weeks.
- You can apply from 7 November 2011. Applications will close on 20 November 2011.

### ***Who can get it?***

To be eligible for the subsidy, the following conditions must be met:

- you have no other way to pay your employees, including insurance cover
- you operate your business in or nearby the exclusion zone
- you are unable to transfer or relocate your business to another location
- you must be a sole trader or small business (generally less than 20 employees)

The subsidy is not for businesses that are only experiencing loss of trade.

### ***What is the exclusion zone?***

The exclusion zone is outlined by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and can be found at:  
[www.maritimenz.govt.nz/Incident/public.asp](http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/Incident/public.asp)

# Factsheet

## ***How to apply***

Please phone our Employer Line on **0800 778 008**. We'll talk with you about your situation and give you more information about how to apply.

As part of your application you will need to be able to provide:

- your business IRD number
- your business bank account number
- details of the staff you want the subsidy for (employees' names, dates of birth, IRD numbers and their normal hours of work).

## ***How the payments are made***

Payments will be made directly to your business bank account. You are responsible for continuing to pay your employees.

for more information:

Visit our website **[www.workandincome.govt.nz](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz)** and click on Rena grounding  
Call us on our Employer Line on **0800 778 008**