

Dear Member,

AAT News

Welcome to the October 2018 edition of the AAT Australia's eNews and Views. In this edition you'll find out all about:

- AAT Working with Software Vendors to Ensure Right STP Solution Delivered
- ATO Ban on Electronic Sales Suppression Tools
- Australia and New Zealand Sign Trans-Tasman E-Invoicing Arrangement
- Small Business Victoria's Request for Info for Workshop Leaders Panel
- Changes to Long Service Leave in Victoria

AAT Working with Software Vendors to Ensure Right STP Solution Delivered

To ensure we champion the voice of the bookkeeping community, AAT CEO Rochelle Park has been working directly with accounting software vendors in their development of STP solutions.

MYOB's latest development allows users to view the basic information provided to the ATO which includes:

- Viewing STP reports (per pay run).
- Sending payroll reports that have failed.
- View errors prohibiting the report being accepted by the ATO.
- Download a summary of what has and hasn't been sent to the ATO.

For more information, members can view the MYOB support note on the above by clicking [here](#).

ATO Ban on Electronic Sales Suppression Tools

On the 3rd of October 2018 the ban on electronic sales suppression tools received royal assent. The ATO have released the below statement to provide further information for our members.

Ban on electronic sales suppression tools

On 3 October 2018, legislation to ban electronic sales suppression tools (ESSTs) received royal assent.

The ban on ESSTs – tools that can be used to facilitate tax evasion by manipulating records and under reporting income – is part of the government response to recommendations from the Black Economy Taskforce.

It is now an offence to produce, supply, possess, or incorrectly keep tax records using an ESST – significant criminal or administrative penalties may apply.

A transitional period is in place for six months starting from the day after royal assent until 3 April 2019, as long as the required provisions are met.

To find out more about the ban on ESSTs, including penalties, transitional arrangements and how to come forward, click [here](#).

Australia and New Zealand Sign Trans-Tasman E-Invoicing Arrangement

It was announced on Thursday 25th of October that Minister Nash and Minister Robert had signed the 'Australia and New Zealand Government Electronic Invoicing arrangement'.

The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, Kate Carnell advised in a statement on the 18th of October '*Around 1.2 billion invoices are exchanged in Australia every year; the potential benefit to the Australian economy in switching to e-invoicing is \$28 billion over 10 years.*'

She also stated '*Research shows it costs \$30.87 to process a paper invoice, \$27.97 per PDF invoice and only \$9.18 per e-invoice; a significant saving.*'

The purpose of the arrangement is to show commitment to the E-invoicing strategy in order to '*...help businesses save time and money by allowing the direct exchange of invoices between suppliers' and buyers' financial systems*' says Assistant Treasurer Stuart Robert.

Small Business Victoria's Request For Info For Workshop Leaders Panel

Small Business Victoria's Request for Information for Workshop Leaders panel (1 January to 30 June 2020) is open as of 12 October 2018.

In order to be considered as part of the new panel, you will need to respond to this RFI by **2pm AEDT, Thursday 8 November 2018.**

Please check tenders.vic.gov.au and click on Tenders on the left-hand side panel.

The title of the tender is **Small Business Victoria - Provision of Workshop Leaders – 1 February 2019 to 30 June 2020.**

Should you have any questions regarding the tender, please email ws.sbv@ecodev.vic.gov.au.

Answers to all questions will be posted on tenders.vic.gov.au.

Workshop leaders deliver educational workshops to different parts of the business community, they are in particular need of skilled professionals in regional areas

Changes to Long Service Leave in Victoria

Business Victoria has announced that as of November 1st this year the 1992 Long Service Leave act will be superseded. The Long Service Leave act 2018 changes include the following:

- Greater flexibility for women, families and people transitioning to retirement.
- Access to long service leave after seven years, not ten.
- Allowing employees to take long service leave in smaller increments (i.e. for any period of one day or more)
- Most absences from work do not break continuous employment.
- Unpaid leave, including parental leave, counts towards long service leave.
- Increased penalties for employers who do not keep records or do not produce them when requested.

Who is affected?

Most Victorian employees (excluding employed under some Commonwealth enterprise agreements and pre-reform awards, and certain other Victorian Laws).

The following types of employment are included:

- Full time
- Part time
- Casual
- Seasonal
- Fixed Term

What is the new entitlement?

After an employee completes a minimum of 7 years 'continuous employment' with 'one employer' they are entitled to an amount of long service leave on ordinary pay equal to 1/60th of the period of employment. This is approximately 6.1 weeks after 7 years, less any period taken during that period.

Is LSL paid on termination?

Yes, an employee who is eligible for LSL under the new act must be paid out their entitlement on the day employment ends.

How do I calculate payment?

Long service leave is paid at 'ordinary pay', however if hours changed, there were no fixed hours or no ordinary rate of pay, averaging is required.

You can use the Victorian LSL calculator to help with calculating the entitlement by clicking [here](#).

Can an employer encourage their staff to take their LSL?

An employer can direct an employee to take leave via 12 weeks written notice. Is there a full detail guide I can access if required?

Yes, from the 1st of November the 2018 Comprehensive Guide is available to download at business.vic.gov.au/longserviceleave you can also call 1800 287 287 to obtain a copy.

Join our Facebook Discussion Group

Feedback from members indicates that community is very important to accounting technicians. In response the AAT Team has established a Facebook group especially for AAT members to join in an online community and discuss your successes and your not-so-successes, ask questions, give support to your colleagues and enjoy networking with your peers. We will be posting articles, information pieces, event details plus more. Click through here to join in today:

[AAT Facebook Group](#)

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Feedback

AAT welcomes your feedback. Please share your thoughts and ideas, let us know what your concerns are as well as the support and CPD that you need, so that we can deliver the best possible outcome for all of our AAT community. [Contact us](#)



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