



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

Assistance to the Aviation Sector

International Aviation Support

September 2021

Purpose

The international aviation sector continues to be heavily affected by restrictions on international passenger departures and arrivals. This International Aviation Support (IAS) grants support Australian international passenger airlines to maintain a core international aviation workforce and operation capability, enabling the airlines to quickly recommence commercial international flights as international restrictions are lifted, should they choose to do so.

Who

Australia's two international passenger airlines - Qantas and Virgin Australia.

Design

Funding is being provided through a monthly payment, with each airline required to provide monthly reporting of expenditure and assurance statements that it is maintaining the agreed level of international capability.

The funding is designed to maintain a core capability and preserve jobs, whilst providing flexibility to accommodate the different operating models of the airlines and the changing commercial requirements over the life of the initiative. The funding is expected to cover (but may not be limited to):

- wages and employees expenses to maintain an agreed level of international capability;
- training to ensure skilled international workers maintain skills and currency necessary to transition back to flying when international borders open;
- maintaining international aircraft in flight-ready condition; and
- costs associated with bringing aircraft out of long-term storage.

Timing

The initial grant agreements cover the period from 1 April to 31 October 2021 and provide for total funding of up to \$200 million. The Government has agreed to the agreements being extended from 1 November 2021 to 31 March 2022 with an additional funding commitment of up to \$119.65 million.

Contact

The grant will be administered by the International Aviation Branch of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The key contact is internationalaviation@infrastructure.gov.au.