

Financial Hardship Policy

Current as at Jul 2023

Introduction

Financial Hardship can happen to anybody. **We** understand that unexpected events can happen that impact your ability to remain on top of your financial commitments. Rest assured, **we** are here to help. We'll work with you to help you get things back on track. The sooner you let us know that help is needed, the better placed we will be to assist you to respond to financial difficulty. Trained team members are available to support you through this process.

Definition

Financial Hardship is a situation where:

- A customer is unable to discharge the financial obligations owed by the customer under their customer contract or otherwise discharge the financial obligations owed by the customer to a supplier, due to illness, family violence, unemployment or other reasonable cause.
- The customer believes that they are able to discharge those obligations if the relevant payment arrangements or other arrangements relating to the supply of products or services by the supplier to the customer are changed.
- The customer is experiencing entrenched financial hardship due to ongoing physical, mental, economic or cultural barriers that limit their ability to manage their financial commitments.

Causes of Financial Hardship

There are many reasons for Financial Hardship. If you're unsure if your circumstances meet the definition of Financial Hardship, please contact us directly. Some common situations are:

- Loss of employment
- Reduction of income
- Illness or injury
- Changes to family circumstances
- Domestic violence
- Natural disasters

Cost

There is no cost associated with requesting Financial Hardship Assistance from **us**, nor for the administration of an agreed-upon arrangement.

Arrangements Available

Every application is individually assessed. Our trained staff will require information to understand the circumstances that surround your situation. **We** will attempt to come to an agreement on how best we can support you to get your situation under control.

Some potential options available include:

- Tailored payment options
- Temporarily postponing or deferring payments, suspending billing
- Waiving late payment fees

Assessment of your situation

Your request for Financial Hardship Assistance will be investigated. Things that we will consider when assessing your situation for Financial Hardship Assistance include, but are not limited to:

- The severity of your financial hardship (for example, the nature, extent, and duration)
- The type of contract or service you have with **us**.
- Your current financial position with **us**, including any debts owed.
- Your ability to meet your on-going financial commitments to **us**.

Information Required

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To make a complete assessment of your situation, and provide the best outcome possible, **we** may request from you some documentation. This may include, but is not limited to:

- The nature of your changed circumstances
- Contact details
- Employment information
- Income details
- Your expenses
- Any Government benefits you receive.

If there is further supporting documentation that is required, **we** will let you know.

Documentation that is requested can be sent via:

- **Email:** support@koganmobiledevices.com.au
- **Post:** PO Box 330, Sydney NSW 2001

If you're unable to provide the necessary information, **we** may not be able to make an assessment. Additionally, the provision of false or incomplete information may lead to **us** cancelling any hardship arrangements or investigations.

Confirmation

We will confirm with you that you understand the Financial Hardship Assistance policy, and the reason for requested documentation.

Contact details:

1. By phone

Call us on 1800 945 025 to speak to a Customer Service team member about your financial situation.

Please note **our** business hours are 9:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday (AEST).

Call charges from mobile may apply.

2. By email

You can send us an email to support@koganmobiledevices.com.au

Please put 'Hardship' in the Subject Field.

3. Chat

Visit www.koganmobiledevices.com.au

You'll be able to chat with a Customer Service team member about your financial situation.

Please note **our** business hours are 9:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday (AEST).

4. Helpdesk Support

Visit www.koganmobiledevices.com.au/support

You'll be able to lodge a ticket directly to our Customer Service team, who will respond as soon as possible.

5. By mail

Our mailing address is PO Box 330, Sydney NSW 2001.

Please note postage fees may apply.

Timeframe

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Once **we** have received all the information to make an informed decision, including any requested documentation, an assessment will be conducted and communicated to you within 7 business days. You'll receive our proposed arrangement in writing and, before any changes are applied, you'll be required to confirm acceptance of the proposal.

Approved Assistance

If your application for Financial Hardship Assistance is approved after investigation, **we** will confirm this outcome and the applicable arrangement with you in writing. A Financial Hardship Assistance arrangement won't be commenced until **we** receive your acceptance of the arrangement.

Change in Circumstances

If there has been a change in your circumstances that originally were assessed for Financial Hardship Assistance, you must notify **us** of these changes so that your arrangement can be reviewed.

Declined Assistance

We are committed to assisting its customers get back on track. If we're unable to proceed with an application for Financial Hardship Assistance, you'll be notified of this outcome immediately.

Review of Assessment

If you believe we have not assessed your application fairly or would like to dispute the outcome of the application, we invite you to raise a complaint directly with **us**. You can find further information on **our** Complaints Policy [here](#).

You can also escalate your complaint to the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA) on 1800 931 678.

Additional Resources

You may also benefit from engaging an external third-party financial counselling service. Further details can be found at the following websites:

The National Debt Helpline	www.ndh.org.au / 1800 007 007
The Australian Financial Security Authority	https://www.afsa.gov.au/debtors/get-help/financial-counsellors
MoneySmart	https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/managing-your-money/managingdebts/financial-counselling
The Salvation Army Australia Financial Counselling	https://salvos.org.au/need-help/financial-assistance/financial-counselling/