

What you need to know about 12 of the most popular payroll products

The table below outlines some of the key facts SMEs need to know about 12 of the most popular payroll solutions. The options listed here are by no means exhaustive. A product's inclusion should not be regarded as an

endorsement by Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand or *Acuity*. All of the information included in this guide has been supplied by the relevant vendors. Prices may be subject to change.

	Upfront costs	Ongoing costs	Single Touch Payroll compliant (AUS)	Payday Filing compliant (NZ)	Certified partners	Available training options			Available help desk support	Target segment	Desktop or cloud based	If cloud based, where is the data stored?	Integration options (open or restricted API)	Frequency of integration (minute, hour, day)
Xero Payroll (AUS & NZ versions available)	Nil	Multiple plans available starting from A\$10 per month for up to 4 employees. Premium plans start from A\$65 per month.	Yes	Yes	Xero Payroll is integrated within the Xero small business digital platform	Certification programs, courses, product updates, webinars, playbooks, guides, checklists and other training videos and support content			Yes, at no additional cost	Small to medium sized businesses and their advisers	Cloud based	Amazon Web Services (AWS)	Open API that integrates with 700+ third-party apps	This varies depending on the integration with Xero's app partners
MYOB Essentials Payroll (AU)	Nil	A\$10 per month	Yes	No	MYOB Certified Consultants	MYOB Academy, self-paced product tutorials, guides, online employer resources as well as tutor-led webinars, classroom-based, onsite and customised training			Yes, at no additional cost	Micro businesses with 1-4 employees	Cloud based	In a secure AWS environment	Yes	Real-time data entry updates. New features and updates are generally released fortnightly
MYOB Essentials Starter (NZ)	Nil	NZ\$25 per month	No	Yes	MYOB Certified Consultants	MYOB Academy, self-paced product tutorials, guides, online employer resources as well as tutor-led webinars, classroom-based, onsite and customised training			Yes, at no additional cost	Ideal for a business that employs fewer than 10 staff, makes standard PAYE deductions and wants to run payroll from anywhere	Cloud based	In a secure AWS environment	Integration with MYOB Essentials Accounting and Inland Revenue	Real-time data entry updates. New features and updates are generally updated fortnightly
Attache Payroll	A\$150 per month	A50c per pay advice, including 6 online services	Yes	Yes	200 Attache partners across the region	Partners onsite, classroom, webinars, videos and online help			Yes, at an additional cost	Medium-sized businesses with 10-1000+ employees	Desktop	Hybrid system: desktop + cloud options.	Restricted APIs available for security, rostering, time and attendance	Instant
QuickBooks Online Integrated Payroll, powered by KeyPay	Nil	From A\$15 per month	Yes	Yes	QuickBooks	Extensive online resources are available (video tutorials, webinars, helpful articles, community forum and user guides)			Yes at no additional cost	Accountants and bookkeepers with small business clients who have between 1-20 employees	Cloud based	Answer not supplied	Open API	Real-time
KeyPay	Nil	A\$4 to A\$6 per active employee, per month	Yes	Yes	Integration partner to QuickBooks. Also integrates with MYOB and Xero	Weekly webinar, YouTube videos, Getting Started Guide and a support library			Yes, at no additional cost	Accountants and payroll outsourcers with complex payroll clients. Direct businesses with modern awards	Cloud based	Australia	Open API	Real-time
Hero Pay, by Employment Hero	Implementation costs vary	Standard: A\$4 per employee per month Premium: A\$6 per employee per month	Yes	No (not available in NZ)	MYOB, Xero, QuickBooks	Self-learn, 1:1 training with implementation process. Training available through accredited partners			Yes, at no additional cost	Businesses with up to 800 employees	Cloud based	AWS, Australia	Integrates with most major accounting software platforms	Real-time
Sage Business Cloud Accounting	A\$20 per month, includes accounting and payroll	Subscription based	Yes	No	Sage	2 free live webinars			Yes, at no additional cost	Start-ups, small businesses, accountants and bookkeepers	Cloud based	AWS, Sydney region	Open	By the minute
iPayroll	NZ\$75 + NZ\$10 per employee	Standard plan is NZ\$1.30 per employee up to 5 staff, then NZ\$2 for each extra employee. Plus a payroll processing fee starting from NZ\$7.75	No (see Australian subsidiary CloudPayroll)	Yes	Fully integrated with Xero, plus the ability to upload/download files to all major accounting software providers	Free training provided over the phone or at an iPayroll office. Onsite training available for a small fee			Yes, at no additional cost	Businesses with 1 to several hundred employees	Cloud based	AWS	Open modern REST API for partners and private integrations	Depends on the integration partner. Can be real-time
CloudPayroll	A\$115 + plus A\$20 per employee. Free set-up for CloudPayroll Micro (up to 4 employees)	A\$2.20 per employee plus a payroll processing fee, starting from A\$7.75	Yes	No (see NZ parent iPayroll)	Fully integrated with Xero, plus the ability to upload/download files to all major accounting software providers	Free training provided			Yes, at no additional cost	Businesses with 5 to several hundred employees. CloudPayroll Micro is designed for businesses with 4 or less employees	Cloud based	AWS	Open modern REST API for partners and private integrations	Depends on the integration partner. Can be real-time
Smart Payroll	Varies	Basic package from A\$10 per month. Premium package from A\$25 per month plus A\$2.99 per payslip	Yes	Yes	Xero certified partner and integrates with most major accounting software	Free training provided			Yes, at no additional cost	Employers with 1-1000 employees	Cloud based	Datacom	Restricted (requires token)	Real-time
PayHero, by Flexitime	Nil	A\$2 per payslip	No	Yes	Xero	Free training provided			Yes, at no additional cost	Employers with 1-500 staff. Targeted to industries with part-time, casual and variable staff	Cloud based	Microsoft Azure, Australia	Open API	By the minute