

CV-19 Support checklist for the self employed

The government has announced the following support for businesses:

1. Draft proposals to help the self employed
2. Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
3. Deferring VAT and Income Tax payments
4. Statutory Sick Pay relief package for small and medium sized businesses (SMEs)
5. A 12-month business rates holiday for all retail, hospitality, leisure and nursery businesses in England
6. Small business grant funding of £10,000 for all business in receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief
7. Grant funding of £25,000 for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses with property with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000
8. Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme offering loans of up to £5 million for SMEs through the British Business Bank
9. HMRC Time To Pay Scheme

There has been a lot of confusion around who qualifies and who does not qualify for the above support. We have set out below a checklist for the self employed, so that you can tick through to see which support you are eligible for.

Self employed / sole traders (individuals not trading through a Ltd company)

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| <p>Draft proposals to help the self employed (not officially announced yet)</p> | <p>The self employed to receive 80% of their monthly net earnings, averaged over the last three years, or £2,917 whichever is lower.</p> <p>We can only assume this will be based on 2017, 2018 & 2019 as we have not yet completed 2020 but this will be subject to the final guidance issued.</p> <p>The government to confirm how the scheme will work practically and when funds will be available.</p> |
| <p>Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. [HMRC will reimburse 80% of furloughed workers wage costs, up to a cap of £2,500 per month.]</p> | <p>As a self employed individual you will NOT qualify for this scheme. It is for employees only.</p> <p>If you have employees, which are put on unpaid leave, then you will be able to receive government support for their pay.</p> |
| <p>Deferring Income Tax payments [This will happen automatically, you do NOT need to apply for this.]</p> | <p>Being self employed you will qualify to have your 31 July 2020 payment on account be deferred to 31 January 2021.</p> |
| <p>Deferring VAT payments</p> | <p>If you are a VAT registered business upcoming VAT payments can be deferred from 20 March 2020 until 30 June 2020.</p> |

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| <p>[This will happen automatically, you do NOT need to apply for this.]</p> | |
| <p>Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) relief package for small and medium sized businesses (SMEs)</p> | <p>Self employed individuals do NOT qualify for SSP. Instead Universal Credit may be available.</p> <p>If you have employees the government will refund cover up to 2 weeks' SSP per eligible employee who has been off work because of CV-19.</p> |
| <p>A 12-month business rates holiday for all retail, hospitality, leisure and nursery businesses in England.</p> <p>[This includes shops, restaurants, cafes, pubs, cinemas and live music venues, hotels, guest & boarding premises and self-catering accommodation.]</p> | <p>This applies to all businesses, whether self employed or not (for 2020/21).</p> <p>The important points here are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are you in one of the selected industries? 2. Do you pay business rates? <p>If so, you will be contacted by and rebilled by your local authority in April 2020. You do not need to do anything.</p> |
| <p>Small business grant funding of £10,000 for ALL business in receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief</p> <p>[Your local authority will write to you if you are eligible for this grant and you will rebilled by your local authority in April 2020.]</p> | <p>This applies to ALL businesses, whether self employed or not.</p> <p>The important point here is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you have premises which ordinarily fall within business rates, but currently receive small business rate relief or rural rate relief? <p>It is a one off cash grant, not a loan, so you do not need to repay.</p> |
| <p>Grant funding of £25,000 for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses with property with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000</p> <p>[It is a one off cash grant, not a loan, so you do not need to repay.]</p> | <p>This applies to self employed retail, hospitality and leisure businesses.</p> <p>Businesses with a property that has a rateable value of £15,000 and under will receive a grant of £10,000.</p> <p>Businesses with a property that has a rateable value of between £15,000 and £51,000 will receive a grant of £25,000.</p> |
| <p>Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme offering loans of up to £5 million for SMEs through the British Business Bank</p> <p>[Please note if your current bank is not able to assist, then there are 40 other lenders able to offer the scheme. So please research and see what options are available to you.]</p> | <p>If immediate cash flow is required then the self employed can work with their banks to receive cash loans.</p> <p>The government will cover the first 12 months of interest payments and any lender-levied fees.</p> <p>The government will provide lenders with a guarantee of 80% on each loan.</p> |
| <p>HMRC Time To Pay Scheme</p> <p>[Arrangements are agreed on a case-by-case basis and are tailored to individual</p> | <p>Self-employed businesses, with tax owing to HMRC can speak to HMRC and may be eligible to receive support with their tax affairs.</p> |

circumstances HMRC's dedicated helpline is 0800 0159 559.]

We would always recommend speaking to HMRC soon rather than later to make HMRC aware and agree a payment plan with them, if possible.