

## This is the seventh in our weekly COVID 19 Business Support Information

### Self-employed? Check if you can claim a grant through the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme

If you're self-employed or a member of a partnership and have been adversely affected by coronavirus (COVID-19) find out if you can use this UK Government scheme to claim a grant.

The scheme will allow you to claim a taxable grant of 80% of your average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment covering 3 months, and capped at £7,500 altogether. This is a temporary scheme, but it may be extended.

You can use the [online tool](#) to find out if you're eligible to make a claim. You'll need your Self-Assessment Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) number and National Insurance number.

Further information, including the steps you need to take, who can claim, eligibility and the online tool can be found [here](#)

### HMRC invites self-employed to get ready to make their claims

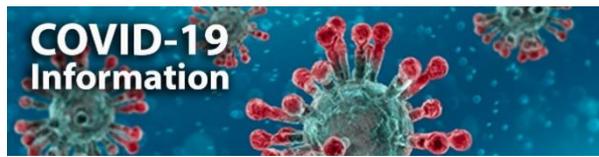
This week, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) will start contacting around three and a half million customers who may be eligible for the government's Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) to explain the application process and help them get ready to make a claim.

The claims service opens on **Wednesday 13 May** and is being delivered ahead of schedule, with payments reaching bank accounts by 25 May, or six working days after the claim is made.

An online checker was made available from Monday 4 May ([see above](#)) which lets customers check their eligibility for themselves, as well as giving them a date on which they can apply.

Where individuals are ineligible for the scheme, HMRC will direct them to guidance setting out the conditions to help them understand why they are ineligible, and advice about other support that might be available to them such as income tax deferrals, rental support, Universal Credit, access to mortgage holidays and other various business support schemes.

HMRC phone lines are expected to be very busy over the next few weeks as people enter this new scheme, so customers are encouraged to only call if they can't find what they need on GOV.UK, from their tax agent or via the webchat service.



## **New Bounce Back Loans launched**

Britain's small businesses will be able to apply for quick and easy-to access loans of up to £50,000 from 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Thousands of small firms and sole traders – including high street staples like hairdressers, coffee shops and florists – will be eligible for 100% government-backed Bounce Back Loans to help ensure they can continue to trade, and be a key part of efforts to reboot the British economy.

Features include:

- businesses will be able to borrow between £2,000 and £50,000 with the cash arriving within days
- loans will be 100% government backed for lenders, and businesses can apply online through a short and simple form, with 7 questions
- Affordable flat rate of 2.5% interest

The loans are available through a network of lenders, including the five largest banks.

Read more at [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

## **Award winning Torfaen logistics firm supporting the NHS and delivering during lockdown**

Freight Logistics Solutions is an award winning firm based in Torfaen, continuing to provide UK transport services as well as importing and exporting services around the globe for their clients during the COVID-19 crisis.

Throughout the current COVID -19 crisis FLS have also been supporting the medical sector, primarily the NHS, but also pharmaceutical businesses and other companies diversifying, producing and supplying PPE, equipment and other services to the sector. [Read full story](#)



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## **DWP launches new support websites for employees and employers**

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on many parts of the labour market, with some sectors reducing in size and others expanding rapidly. To help jobseekers find work in new areas and employers tap into new labour markets, the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) have launched new [job help](#) and [employer help](#) websites. These offer labour market information for people looking for work now, and advice for employers to help.

## **Business Insurance Guidance on Covid-19**

The Association of British Insurers (ABI) members are working tirelessly to support their customers, through the swift payment of valid claims, interim payments to their customers, and providing clear and quick answers to their questions. ABI has provided the following [guidance](#) on the common questions relating to insurance and other business issues:

Other Business Issues:

Do I need to continue to make regular visits to my unoccupied business premises if it is against government guidance?

If my business isn't able to operate because of COVID-19, should I just cancel my insurance policy?

Do cyber insurance policies cover working from home/remote working?

Further information including advice, guidance, and common questions relating to insurance can be found on the [ABI Coronavirus Information Hub](#) on the ABI website. See also ABI's guidance on [Business Insurance cover](#). Source: [Business Wales](#)

## **Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme to claim for employees' wages, the steps you'll need to take are:**

1. [Check if you can claim..](#)
2. [Calculate 80% of your employees' wages.](#)
3. [Claim for your employees' wages..](#)
4. [Report a payment in PAYE Real Time Information..](#)

**[Read more](#)**



## **Economy & Enterprise Team – Business Support**

If you need to get in touch with an enquiry complete your [details here](#) and we will contact you as soon as possible.

### **COVID-19: guidance for employees, employers and businesses**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>

### **COVID-19: Support for businesses**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses>

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