

Coronavirus: A short guide to Government help

Last updated 4 March 2021

We will be happy to assist you in considering these claims, and we invite you to contact your normal team who will offer you support. We have experts in many of these areas and will be pleased to assist you in every way we possibly can.

Finance Support	How to claim
<p>CBILS – Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum loan £5m per business • Interest free for 12 months • Available to all businesses without adequate security to support the level of borrowing needed. 	<p><i>Applications should be made to your existing banker by 31 March 2021. All available security will be taken before government security is available. Businesses will need to demonstrate viability once things return to normality. We can help you prepare the information needed for your application.</i></p>
<p>CLBILS - Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme Medium-sized and larger businesses can apply for loans of up to £200m</p>	<p><i>For further details on this visit https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-schemes/clbils/</i></p>
<p>Bounce Back Loans Loans from £2,000 to £50,000 100% guaranteed by government, interest and fee free for 12 months</p>	<p><i>Available through on online form. Contact your bank</i></p>
<p>Corporate Financing Facility – this will be available to large companies on favourable but as yet unspecified terms.</p>	<p><i>Large companies selling commercial paper to the markets will be supported by the Bank of England buying that debt.</i></p>
<p>Time to Pay – All UK businesses are eligible to defer paying VAT without penalty or interest. Applies to VAT due from 20 March through to 30 June 2020. All deferred liabilities can be paid in a lump sum by 31 March 2021 or in smaller, interest free payments over 11 months</p>	<p><i>If you have deferred your VAT for the periods from 20 March 2020 to 30 June 2020, you will need to contact HMRC to arrange for the new payment scheme to be set up.</i></p>
<p>Business interruption insurance – Government has put pressure on insurers to honour the spirit of their policy. Coronavirus closures are to be seen as business interruptions.</p>	<p><i>Insurance claims for business interruption should continue as usual through your broker or direct to the insurer.</i></p>
<p>Small business grant of £10,000, is available to all businesses entitled to small business rates relief</p>	<p><i>Local Authorities will contact eligible businesses directly.</i></p>

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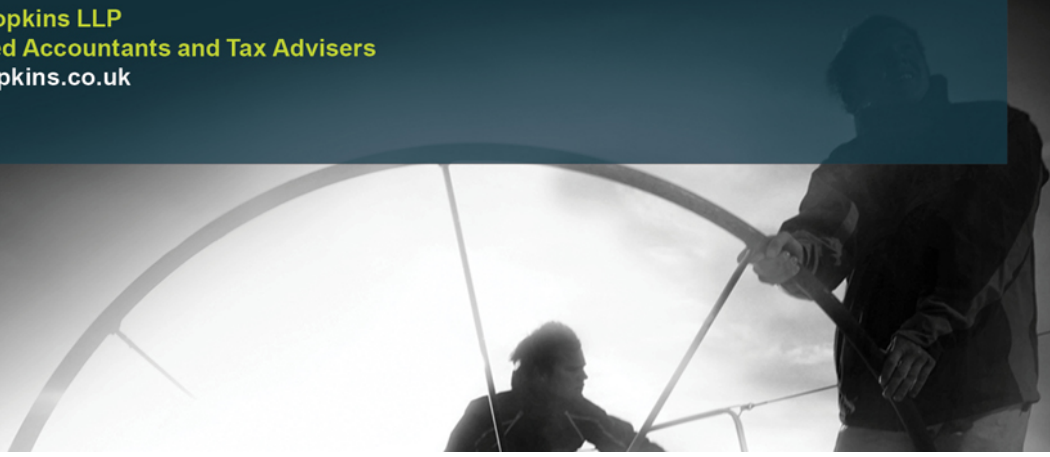
Useful links

CBILS

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-scheme>

Government information on all support measures

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-employees-employers-and-businesses>



Support for people	How to claim
<p>Sickness Leave - Government will refund Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) which has a rate of £94.50 per week (maximum) per person for two weeks from the start of any Covid-19 sickness or isolation.</p>	<p><i>Applies to businesses with up to 249 employees from 13/3/2020. Ensure you keep records of all the SSP you wish to claim for. The Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme is open for claims from 26 May.</i></p>
<p>Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) – All UK businesses and charities are eligible. This has been extended until the end of September 2021. HMRC will pay 80% of the employee’s salary for hours not worked up to a maximum of £2,500 monthly per employee until the end of June, then HMRCs contribution decreases to 70% in July and 60% in August and September with the employer responsible for contributing 10% and 20% respectively.</p>	<p><i>This scheme is complicated. Please visit our guides and help sheets page for further information. Employees who you wish to furlough should be notified in writing or email and records kept for 5 years. Claims can be made using the government portal by employers or payroll agents. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wages-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme Employees should continue to be dealt with through the payroll, with tax and NI deducted.</i></p>
<p>Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)- Provided a grant of 80% of average monthly profits (up to a maximum of £2,500 per month). A fifth grant was announced in the Budget 2021, for the 3 months from May 21, which may be available to many more people who weren’t eligible before. Calculations are based on last three years tax returns – or whatever data is available.</p>	<p><i>To be eligible, at least 50% of your income must come from being self-employed. We cannot make a claim on your behalf, but we can check your eligibility and prepare the information you need to make your claim. Please get in touch if you need help. For more information on the grants you can visit https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme</i></p>
<p>Self-assessment payments on account due 31/07/2020 and 31/07/2021 can be deferred till 31/01/2022</p>	<p><i>Applies to all self-assessment income tax payments whether or not you are self-employed.</i></p>

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Useful links

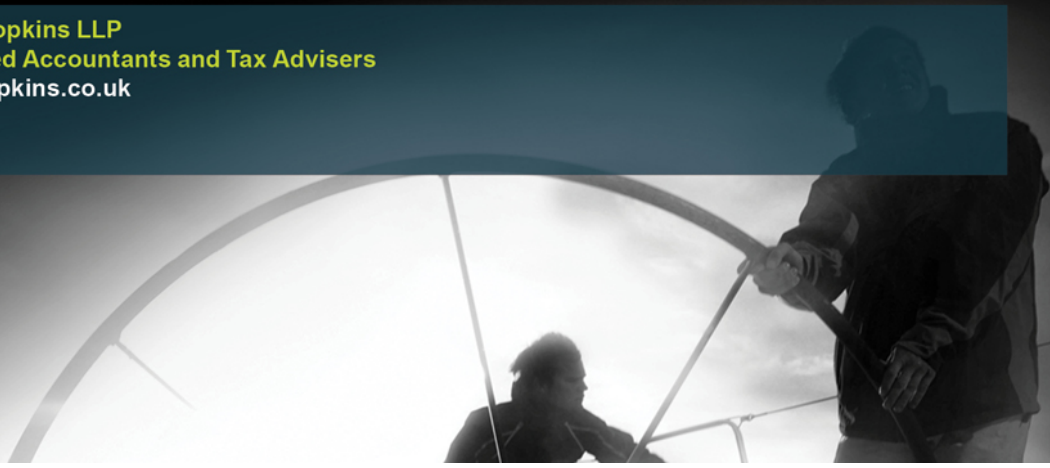
- Sick pay rebates**
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-back-statutory-sick-pay-paid-to-employees-due-to-coronavirus-covid-19>
- Job Retention Scheme**
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wages-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>
- SEISS**
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme>



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Support for people	How to claim
Mortgage holidays of 6 months for those struggling. Applies to mortgages on main residential property, and properties let to tenants unable to pay rent.	<i>Contact your mortgage lender if you are a home-owner experiencing financial difficulty to discuss the mortgage holiday.</i>
Embargo on evictions - This will help renters, but landlords will be strapped for cash and some tenants will take advantage.	<i>Landlords should talk to their tenants and ensure that those who can pay do so. Potentially offer partial deferral schemes as it is better to receive some rent than none.</i>

Support for hospitality and retail	How to claim
Businesses with business interruption insurance should in the first instance contact their insurer.	<i>Insurance claims for business interruption should continue as usual through your broker or direct to the insurer.</i>
Businesses in this sector have access to a grant of £25,000 if their property rateable value is between £14,999 and £51,000. Those with properties with rateable value less than £15,000 will be entitled to a grant of £10,000.	<i>Local Authorities will contact all eligible businesses directly</i>
All retail, hospitality and leisure businesses will have a business rates holiday for the whole of 2020/21 regardless of the rateable value of their property.	<i>Automatically applied by Council. Contact the Council if you receive a charge when you should not. Most notices have gone out with the original charge and a revised bill should arrive shortly.</i>
A reduced VAT rate of 5% for hospitality and tourism is in place until 30 September 2021 increasing to 12.5% until 31 March 2022 after which the full standard rate applies.	<i>Automatic</i>

This is a fast-changing situation and we will keep you informed as and when we know more. If you have any concerns or queries, please speak to your usual adviser or contact us on 0330 024 3200.

Offices

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Milton Keynes
Watford

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How we can help you

We can advise you on how to access the support and what is needed to use it. We may be able to make claims on your behalf. Please contact your normal team who will offer you support. We have experts in many of these areas and will be pleased to assist you in every way we possibly can. If you are not sure who to contact, call us on 0330 024 3200 or hi@hhllp.co.uk.