

## Coronavirus Strategic Framework Business Fund

If your business is required to close by law or to significantly change its operations due to COVID-19 restrictions from 2 November 2020, you may be eligible to apply for grant funding.

You can [check if your business is eligible for this fund](#) on the Scottish Government website.

This support is separate from, and in addition to, the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Restrictions Fund](#) to support employees and businesses impacted by local COVID-19 restrictions, from 9 October until 1 November. Applications for that funding closed on 3 November.

## Moving to tier level 4

Edinburgh will move to tier 4 of the Strategic Framework on 26 December 2020.

If you are receiving a Strategic Framework Business Support Grant **you don't need to reapply**. You will receive the next payment on 23 January 2021.

For new eligible applicants from 26 December 2020, the next cycle of these grants will be paid on 23 January 2021.

## What you can get

If your business is required to close by law - Business Temporary Closure Fund – **the link is below**

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/xfp/form/235>

If your business is required to close by law you could be entitled to a temporary closure grant, every four weeks, of one of the following:

- £2,000 if your business premises has a rateable value of up to and including £51,000
- £3,000 if your business premises has a rateable value of £51,001 or above.

An upper limit of £15,000 in total in any four-week period will apply to any eligible business operating multiple premises.

If your business is required to modify its operation - Business Restrictions Fund

If your business is specifically required to modify its operations, as specified by the schedules of [The Health Protection \(Coronavirus\) \(Restrictions and Requirements\) \(Local Levels\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2020](#), or specified in the levels list on the [Strategic Framework Business Fund eligibility page](#), you may be entitled to a

## **Business Restrictions grant, every four weeks, of one of the following**

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/xfp/form/236>

- £1,400 if your business premises has a rateable value of up to and including £51,000
- £2,100 if your business premises has a rateable value of £51,001 or above.

An upper limit of £10,500 in total in any four-week period will apply to any eligible business operating multiple premises.

### How grants will be paid

Grants will be paid every four weeks in arrears. We are planning for the first schedule of 4 weekly payments to be made to eligible businesses who have fully completed an online application form on **Thursday 26 November 2020**.

You will not need to re-apply if restrictions are extended beyond four weeks.

When restrictions end, any final payment in arrears may be adjusted to reflect the duration of the restrictions to the nearest week.

## **Eligibility**

Whether your business is eligible will depend on where your premises are located and what level of restrictions are in place at any point in time.

[You can check the protection level \(tier\) for your area](#) on the Scottish Government website.

## **You can apply if**

- your business has been directly impacted by restrictions, and the type/ sector is specifically mentioned in the list below
- you have a business bank account - this is the account your grant will be paid into if your application is successful
- your business is registered for non-domestic rates - if you pay rates through a landlord rather than directly to a local authority you can still apply but must provide evidence through a copy of the lease agreement.

Limited companies (including [Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations](#)), sole traders, trust and partnerships can apply provided they meet the above criteria.

If your business operates multiple premises you can apply for grants for each premise. You must complete an application for each premises through the Local Authority area in which your business is headquartered. The maximum any one business can receive will be restricted, regardless of the number of premises.

## **Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme**

If you've had to ask your employees to stop working or work less because of coronavirus (put them on 'furlough') you can get support to pay their wages for the hours they do not work.

The government will pay 80% of employees' usual wages for hours they do not work, up to a maximum of £2,500 per month.

### **The scheme is open until 30 April 2021.**

You must submit your claim by:

- 14 January 2021, for eligible employees on furlough in December 2020
- 15 February 2021, for eligible employees on furlough in January 2021
- 15 March 2021, for eligible employees on furlough in February 2021
- 14 April 2021, for eligible employees on furlough in March 2021
- 14 May 2021, for eligible employees on furlough in April 2021

You can no longer submit claims for eligible employees in November.

Check if your employees are eligible for the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

## **Deferring VAT**

If you're a UK VAT registered business and had a VAT payment due between 20 March 2020 and 30 June 2020, you can defer payment until 31 March 2021.

Check if you are eligible to defer your VAT payment

## **Statutory Sick Pay rebate**

You can reclaim Statutory Sick Pay you've paid for employees who are off sick, self isolating or shielding because of coronavirus. This scheme will cover up to 2 weeks of SSP for every eligible employee.

You're eligible if both of the following apply to your business:

- it's based in the UK
- it has had fewer than 250 employees since 28 February 2020
- Claim back Statutory Sick Pay paid to employees because of coronavirus

## **Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme**

You can get loans and other kinds of finance of up to £5 million for small or medium-sized enterprises or if you're self-employed.

You're eligible for this scheme if both the following apply to your business:

- it's based in the UK
- it has a turnover of £45 million or less per year
- You also need to show your business:
- would be considered viable by a lender, if not for the current pandemic
- has been negatively affected by coronavirus
- The scheme is open until 31 January 2021.

Find out how to apply for the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme

## **Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan**

You might be able to borrow between £2,000 and £50,000 for a small or medium-sized enterprise, or if you're self employed.

The government will guarantee 100% of the loan and for the first 12 months you will not have to pay any fees or interest, or make repayments. If you already have a Bounce Back Loan but borrowed less than you were entitled to, you can top up your existing loan to your maximum amount. You must apply for the top-up by 31 January 2021.

You're eligible for this scheme if your business:

- is based in the UK
- was established before 1 March 2020
- has been negatively affected by coronavirus
- The scheme is open until 31 January 2021.
- Find out how to apply for a Coronavirus Bounce Back loan

## **Support for businesses paying tax: Time To Pay Service**

If you cannot pay your tax bill on time because of coronavirus, you may be able to delay it without penalty using HMRC's Time to Pay service.

You might be eligible if your UK business:

- pays tax to the UK government
- has outstanding tax liabilities
- Find out what to do if you cannot pay your tax bill on time