

# Coronavirus: Support for businesses in Northern Ireland

## Scheme details

## Eligibility

### Business Rates Holiday | NI only

A three-month rates holiday for all NI business ratepayers, ie no rates will be charged for April, May and June 2020. This will be shown as a 25% discount on the annual rate bill for business ratepayers.

**How to access? Automatic – no application required**

All NI businesses

### Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) | UK-wide

Loans up to £5m guaranteed by government. Businesses can access the first 12 months of that finance interest-free, as the government will cover the first 12 months of interest payments.

**How to access? You must apply** – [delivered by the main banks in NI and some other lenders](#)

Businesses with turnover under £45m + British Business Bank eligibility criteria

### Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme | UK-wide

A grant to cover 80% of furloughed workers' wage costs (employees kept on your payroll, rather than being laid off) up to £2,500 per employee per month.

**How to access? You must apply** – [when HMRC online system for reimbursement is available](#)

Employers with a PAYE scheme

### COVID-19 Corporate Financing Facility (CCFF) | UK-wide

The Bank of England will purchase commercial paper of up to one-year maturity, issued by firms making a material contribution to the economy.

**How to access? You must apply** – [contact a bank that issues commercial paper](#)

Larger companies that make a material contribution to the UK economy

### COVID Small Business Grant | NI only

A grant of £10,000 for all small businesses who are eligible for the Small Business Rate Relief Scheme.

**How to access?** [More details to be announced](#)

All NI businesses with a rateable value up to £15,000

### Hospitality, Tourism and Retail Sectors Grant Scheme | NI only

An immediate grant of £25,000 for all businesses in these sectors with a rateable value from £15,000 up to £51,000.

**How to access?** [More details to be announced](#)

Sector-specific businesses with a rateable value from £15,000 up to £51,000

### Income Tax Deferral for the Self-Employed | UK-wide

Income Tax payments due in July 2020 under the Self-Assessment system will be deferred to January 2021. Late payment penalties won't be charged in the deferral period.

**How to access? Automatic – no application required**

All self-employed individuals

### Statutory Sick Pay Rebate | UK-wide

This refund will cover up to 2 weeks' Statutory Sick Pay per eligible employee who has been off work because of COVID-19.

**How to access? You must apply** – [when UK government repayment system is available](#)

Businesses with less than 250 employees as of 28 February 2020

### Time To Pay | UK-wide

If you miss a tax payment due to Coronavirus, contact HMRC as soon as possible – you may get more time to pay or be able to agree to pay in instalments.

**How to access? You must apply** – contact the HMRC Coronavirus Helpline on Tel: **0800 015 9559**.

Businesses paying tax to the UK Government

### VAT payments deferral | UK-wide

Business payments for VAT payments will be deferred, applying from 20 March to 30 June 2020. VAT refunds and reclaims will be paid by the government as normal.

**How to access? Automatic – no application required**

All VAT-registered businesses