

Updated March 16, 2020

Accessing Government Funding and Supports			
Support/Funding	Overview	Comments	Links for more information
Covid-19 Jobseekers Emergency Payments Guide	<p>Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment has been introduced for anyone whose employer is unable to continue to pay them. The payment is available to all employees and the self-employed who have lost employment due to the pandemic.</p>	<p>Payments are €203 per week for up to 6 weeks (as applicable).</p> <p>Applicants should download and complete form. They should not attend the Intreo office.</p>	<p>Scheme details and application for can be found on https://www.gov.ie/en/service/be74d3-covid-19-pandemic-unemployment-payment/</p> <p>Details for employers to follow.</p>
Short Term Work Support	<p>Firms that need to reduce hours or days worked can avail of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection Short Term Work Support.</p> <p>It is intended to help employers during periods of temporary difficulty without resorting to permanent layoffs.</p>	<p>This is a form of Jobseeker's Benefit and is an income support payment for employees who have been temporarily placed on a shorter working week. The payment is made in respect of their regular salary for the days that they are no longer working however they must work 3 or less days per week. Employees must be full time and meet PRSI payment criteria to apply. If they do not meet these criteria, then employees will be referred to Jobs Seekers Allowance which is means tested.</p>	<p>DEASP COVID-19 information https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/department-of-employment-affairs-and-social-protection/</p> <p>DEASP Customer Notice COVID-19 https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/cd4c9b-deasp-customer-notice/</p> <p>Scheme overview and links to application https://www.gov.ie/en/service/c20e1b-short-time-work-support/</p>

		Ongoing certification of employees work pattern will be required each week by employer.	
How to access support	<p>As it may be necessary to cut back all non-essential staff, ensure that they apply for state supports immediately. This scheme will apply to full time employees whose hours are reduced but for those on shorter term contracts the Citizen Information offices provide detailed information on benefits eligibility for employees https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/</p> <p>The most current DEASP advice and information for both employers and employees can be found on: https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/4cf0e2-covid-19-coronavirus-information-for-employers-and-employees-test/?referrer=/deaspcovid19/</p>		
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Illness Benefit for COVID-19 Illness	Reforms for sick pay, illness benefit, and supplementary benefit have been put in place and is designed to ensure that employees and the self-employed can abide by medical advice to self-isolate where appropriate.	<p>To receive the enhanced payment, employees must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - self-isolating on the instruction of a doctor or other medical professional - diagnosed with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) 	<p>To apply for illness benefit</p> <p>https://www.gov.ie/en/service/df55ae-how-to-apply-for-illness-benefit-for-covid-19-absences/</p>
How to access support	<p>Individuals apply for this themselves and steps are explained on the link above. As the situation continues to evolve the most current advice and information can be found on https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/4cf0e2-covid-19-coronavirus-information-for-employers-and-employees-test/?referrer=/deaspcovid19/</p>		
Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland	A €200m Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) Working Capital scheme for eligible	<p>The SBCI is currently working to finalise the terms and conditions of the Scheme, eligibility and the application process. It is likely to be very similar to the Brexit Loan Scheme whereby SBCI</p>	For all information https://sbci.gov.ie/

	<p>businesses impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>Loans of up to €1.5m will be available at reduced rates, with up to the first €500,000 unsecured.</p>	<p>will assess the eligibility and issue cert which can then be taken to participating banks. Banks normal lending criteria then apply.</p>	
How to access support	<p>The first step in the process will be to get an eligibility code from SBCI. Once the eligibility code is received, the loan application process follows the banks own credit policies and procedures.</p>		
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DEBI Credit Guarantee Scheme	<p>This will be available to COVID-19 impacted firms through the Pillar Banks. Loans of up to €1m will be available at terms of up to 7 years. The Scheme aims to assist viable SMEs, which under normal lending criteria are unable to borrow from their bank, in accessing credit.</p>	<p>The scheme operates by providing an 80% guarantee to participating finance providers (currently AIB, Bank of Ireland and Ulster Bank) on qualifying loans to SMEs.</p>	<p>For all information https://sbc.gov.ie/schemes/sme-credit-guarantee-scheme-cgs</p>
How to access support	<p>There is no eligibility process on the Credit Guarantee Scheme. Businesses should approach their banks about the scheme and then banks take it from there.</p>		
Micro Finance Ireland Loans	<p>The maximum loan available from MicroFinance Ireland</p>	<p>MicroFinance Ireland are currently working on guidelines, criteria and application logistics for scheme.</p>	<p>For all information and business plan and financial projection templates</p>

	<p>has increased from €25,000 to €50,000. Open to sole traders and firms with up to 9 employees i.e. less than €2m in turnover and 1-10 staff</p>		<p>https://microfinanceireland.ie/loan-packages/</p>
<p>How to access support</p>	<p>Register your interest online and then complete application form and short business plan template and provide financial forecasts in template provided with 6 months statements.</p>		