**Support for self-employed through the Self-employment Income Support Scheme**

The [**Self-employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme) will support self-employed individuals (including members of partnerships) who have lost income due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

This scheme will allow you to claim a taxable grant worth 80% of your trading profits up to a maximum of £2,500 per month for the next 3 months. This may be extended if needed. [Claim a grant through the Self-employment Income Support Scheme](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/5hF1C2vwyhkVYzgu2L_iL).

To be eligible to apply you must be self-employed or a be a member of a partnership and:

* Have submitted your income self-assessment tax return for 2018-19
* Have traded in 2019-20
* Are still trading, or would have been had it not been for COVID 19
* Intend to continue to trade in the tax year 20-21
* Have lost trade/partnership trading due to COVID 19

To qualify your profits should be less than £50,000 and more than half or your income should come from self-employment. This will be determined as follows:

* Have trading/ partnership trading profits in 2018-19 of less than £50,000 and these profits should constitute more than half your taxable income
* Have average trading profits in 2016-16. 2017-18 and 2018-19 of less than £50,000 and these profits to constitute half your taxable income.

If you started trading between 2016-19, HMRC will only use those years you have filled in and filed a Self-Assessment tax form for.

**How much you will get**

You will receive a taxable grant of up to 80% or a maximum of £2,500, of the average profits from the tax years (where applicable)

* 2016 to 2017
* 2017 to 2018
* 2018 to 2019

This will be calculated by adding together the 3 years profit (where applicable) and dividing this by 3. Any grant will be paid directly into your bank account in one instalment and will be payable for up to 3 months.

**How to apply**

The scheme is not yet up and running and therefore presently you cannot apply for this grant. HMRC will contact your directly if you are eligible for the scheme and invite you to apply online.

Once you have applied for the scheme, HMRC will contact when they have received your claim to let you know what you are eligible for and how and when you will receive the grant.  If you are claiming tax credits, you will need to include the grant in your income.

**Other help available**

The government has put in place other measures to help the self-employed during the COVID-19 outbreak such as:

* deferral of Self-Assessment income tax payments due in July 2020 and VAT payments due from 20 March 2020 until 30 June 2020
* grants for businesses that pay little or no business rates
* increased amounts of Universal Credit
* Business Interruption Loan Scheme