

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support

GRANT FUNDING

Small Business Support Grant

Eligible ratepayers?

- Businesses in receipt of the Small business bonus scheme relief (SBSS)
 - Individual premises have a rateable value of £18,000 or less
 - and, the combined rateable value of all your business premises is £35,000 or less.
- Businesses in receipt of Rural relief
- Businesses in receipt of Nursery Relief, Disabled Relief, Business Growth Acceleration Relief or Fresh Start.
- **Update - Announced 8th June 2020**, if you have multiple properties and don't qualify for SBSS, (i.e. cumulative rateable value of all your business premises is greater than £35,000), you could qualify for the Small Business Support Grant, if:
 - Have a retail, hospitality or leisure property with a rateable value under £18,000, **AND**
 - All of your properties must have a combined rateable value of between £35,001 and £500,000.
- **NEW – Announced 8th June 2020**, you can now apply for the Small Business Support Grant if you are NOT a ratepayer but occupy certain types of shared space, e.g. Shared office space, business incubator or industrial space. You must lease the space from a landlord who is the registered ratepayer for the property. Eligibility:
 - Be a registered business or partnership
 - Have a lease signed before 17 March 2000
 - Employ at least one person
 - Have a business account

What's being offered?

- A one-off, taxable grant of £10,000.
- **Announced 15th April 2020**, for small business rate payers with multiple premises, 100% grant available on first property and 75% grant available on all subsequent properties, provided total combined rateable value of premises is £35,000 or less.
- **NEW – Announced 8th June 2020**, as of 8 June 2020, those eligible businesses who are NOT ratepayers will be able to apply to their local authority for grants **of up to** £10,000.

How to claim?

- Application process for £10,000 grants is available now. Please check your relevant local authority website to download necessary form to complete. *Please note, some councils are operating an online application process, which will request the same information as the form.*
- Key piece of information required is your 'rates reference' number, which you can find on your 2019/20 rates notice.
- Application process for 75% grants available on additional properties will be available from **5th May 2020**.
- **New – Announced 8th June 2020**, the Small Business Grant and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant schemes will now close for new applications on **10 July**. This was previously 31 March 2021, however new applications have slowed in recent weeks, as most eligible businesses have already claimed their grant and the Scottish Government is keen to utilise and re-route funds left in the Scheme to help other businesses.

When will I receive grant?

- Councils are aiming to pay out grant funds within 10 working days upon receipt of application.

Retail, Hospitality, Leisure Support Grant

Eligible ratepayers?

- Ratepayers in the retail, hospitality and tourism sectors, with a property rateable value of between £18,001 and up to and including £51,000.
- Qualifying businesses below:

RETAIL

- Auction marts
- Opticians
- Furnishing shops/display rooms
- Second-hand car lots
- Markets
- Garden centres
- Shoe repairs/key cutting
- Travel agents
- Dry cleaners
- Domestic appliance repair
- Photo processing
- Car hire
- Shops
- Post offices
- Showrooms (including car/caravan showrooms)
- Car washes
- Petrol stations
- Hair and beauty services
- Ticket offices
- Laundrettes
- Funeral directors
- Tool hire

HOSPITALITY

- Bed and breakfast accommodation
- Caravans and caravan sites
- Guest houses
- Public houses
- Bothies
- Camping sites
- Chalets and holiday huts
- Hotels and hostels
- Restaurants

LEISURE

- Arts centres
- Sports clubs/centres/grounds
- Museums
- Music venues
- Studios
- Live music venues
- Fishing huts
- Galleries
- Cinemas
- Recreation grounds
- Theatres

What's being offered?

- A one-off, taxable grant of £25,000.
- **Announced 15th April 2020**, 100% grant available on first property and 75% grant available on all subsequent properties, provided total combined rateable value of premises is £51,000 or less.
- **NEW – Announced 8th June 2020**, the above upper combined rateable value limit has been increased from £51,000 to £500,000.

How to claim?

- Application process for grants is available now. Please check your relevant local authority website to download necessary form to complete. *Please note, some councils are operating an online application process, which will request the same information as the form.*
- Key piece of information required is your 'rates reference' number, which you can find on your 2019/20 rates notice.
- Application process for 75% grants available on additional properties will be available from **5th May 2020**.
- **New – Announced 8th June 2020**, the Small Business Grant and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant schemes will now close for new applications on **10 July**. This was previously 31 March 2021, however new applications have slowed in recent weeks, as most eligible businesses have already claimed their grant and the Scottish Government is keen to utilise and re-route funds left in the Scheme to help other businesses.

When will I receive grant?

- Councils are aiming to pay out grant funds within 10 working days upon receipt of application.

BUSINESS RATES

What's being offered?

- 100% rates relief for ratepayers in the retail, hospitality and tourism sectors from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. (*Qualifying businesses as stated above*).
- **NB.** To get this relief a property has to be occupied.
- All business properties across Scotland will receive a 1.6% rates relief for 2020-21 – effectively a rate freeze on last year.

How to claim?

- The 1.6% rates relief effective on all business properties across Scotland will be administered by local councils automatically.
- Ratepayers in the retail, hospitality and tourism sectors will possibly need to apply to their local council for the 100% rates relief

When will I receive?

- From the beginning of the new Rates year on 1st April 2020.

ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDING (Announced 15th April 2020)

Creative, Tourism & Hospitality Enterprises Hardship Fund

Eligibility?

- For creative, tourism and hospitality companies of up to 50 employees not receiving business rates relief.

What's being offered?

- Rapid access £3,000 hardship grants.
- Larger grants up to £25,000 where it can be demonstrated support is needed.

Pivotal Enterprise Resilience Fund

Eligibility?

- For vulnerable SME firms who are vital to the local or national economic foundations of Scotland.

What's being offered?

- Possible grant funding of up to £100,000.
- *Will depend on the specific need of the enterprise and be developed by the relevant enterprise agency with wraparound business advice and support.*