



Covid-19 Business Grants & Rates

Grants

Support will come in the form of Grants, applicable for small businesses with premises in the UK and Northern Ireland.

- There will be a £10,000 cash grant to our smallest businesses, delivered by local authorities. Small businesses that pay little or no business rates and are eligible for small business rate relief (SBBR) or rural rate relief will be contacted by their local authority - they do not need to apply. The funding will be provided to local authorities in early April. Guidance for local authorities on the scheme will be provided shortly.
- For those in retail, hospitality and leisure businesses with business premises, you will also qualify for a grant of £25,000 if your business is valued below £51,000. To avail of this, please contact your local authorities.
- Finally, the government is introducing a business rates holiday for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses in England for the 2020 to 2021 tax year.

Any enquiries on eligibility for, or provision of, the reliefs should be directed to the relevant local authority. Guidance for local authorities on the business rates holiday will be published by 20 March.

Rates

The government guidance depends on the region.

Northern Ireland

- There will be a 3-month business rates holiday for all business ratepayers
- All business rates bills will now not be issued until June 2020
- There will be no rates charged for April, May and June and this will be shown as a 25% discount on the annual rate bill.
- Businesses may be eligible for hardship rate relief intended to assist a business recover from a temporary crisis – contact LPS for application form and guidance notes - Need to apply in each rates year

England

- There will be a 12-month business rates holiday for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses.
- It is applicable for businesses that receive the retail discount for the 2020-2021 year
- More guidance will be published by 20 March and any enquiries should be directed to the relevant local authority
- Grant funding of £3000 for those in receipt of Small business rate relief was announced at the budget but this only applies to England

Scotland

- 75% rates relief for retails, hospitality and leisure with rateable value less than £69000 and 1.6% rates relief for all properties

Wales

- Retail, leisure and hospitality businesses with a rateable value of £51000 or less will receive 100% rates relief. Rateable value between £51000 and £100000 will receive £5000 reduction