

**Timely reminders & help
with tax, grants and payments**



Below are some important dates on tax, grants and payments, including where deadlines have been extended or a payment scheme offered to help businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see relevant Government online pages for [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#).

Self Assessment tax return deadlines

The last tax year started on 6 April 2020 and ended on 5 April 2021. You'll usually pay a penalty if you're late. You can appeal against a penalty if you have a reasonable excuse.

Self Assessment	Deadline
Register for Self Assessment if you're self-employed or a sole trader, not self-employed, or registering a partner or partnership.	5 October 2021
Paper tax returns	Midnight 31 October 2021
Online tax returns	Midnight 31 January 2022
Pay the tax you owe	Midnight 31 January 2022
If you make advance payments towards your bill (payments on account) there is usually a second payment deadline of 31 July.	

The deadlines are different in these circumstances:

- Submit your online return by 30 December if you want HMRC to automatically collect tax you owe from your wages and pension. You must be eligible.

- HMRC must receive a paper tax return by 31 January if you're a trustee of a registered pension scheme or a non-resident company. You cannot send a return online. HMRC might also email or write to you giving you a different deadline.
- Partnership returns if you have a company as a partner: if your partnership's accounting date is between 1 February and 5 April and one of your partners is a limited company, the deadline for online returns is 12 months from the accounting date. For paper returns it is 9 months from the accounting date.

[More information on self-assessment deadlines is on the government website.](#)

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) – aka the furlough scheme

The Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) for furloughed staff is due to close on 30 September 2021.

The government initially paid 80% of the wages of people who couldn't work, or whose employers could not afford to pay them due to the pandemic, up to £2,500 a month. In July 2021 this reduced to 70%. Since 1 August and until the scheme ends, employers will be expected to contribute 20% of employees' unworked earnings up to £625; the Government will contribute 60% up to £1,875. The overall cap is still £2,500 a month.

Claims for furlough days in July 2021 must be made by 16 August 2021. Claims for September must be submitted by 14 October 2021 and any amendments must be made by 28 October 2021.

To find out about claiming and to apply online [visit the Government website.](#)

Coronavirus Recovery Loan Scheme

The Recovery Loan Scheme (RLS) was introduced by the Government from the start of the new tax year on 6 April 2021. It aims to help UK businesses gain access to finance as they grow and recover from the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is open until 31 December 2021, subject to government review.

The scheme gives lenders a guarantee of 80% on eligible loans between £25,000 and £10 million, to give them confidence in continuing to provide finance to UK businesses.

The RLS is open to all businesses, including those who have already received support under the existing COVID-19 guaranteed loan schemes. It is initially available through [lenders accredited by the British Business Bank.](#)

Help to Grow

Help to Grow is a government initiative. There are two complementary programmes designed to help business people learn new skills, reach more customers and boost profits.

Help to Grow: Management is an Executive Development programme accredited by the Small Business Charter, with 1:1 business mentor support throughout. The 12-week practical curriculum has modules spanning financial management, strategies for growth and innovation, and approaches to digital adoption. You can book your space with a business school near you today.

Help to Grow: Digital is launching this autumn. It will offer businesses access to free and impartial advice on how technology can help their business. Eligible businesses will also be able to get a discount of up to 50% on the costs of approved software, worth up to £5,000.

You can [find out more about it here](#).

Fifth Self-employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) grant

The fifth SEISS grant - covering May 2021 to September 2021 - is now available. HMRC state you can claim the fifth grant if you think that your business profit will be impacted by coronavirus between 1 May 2021 and 30 September 2021. HMRC has, however, issued specific guidance on claiming this final payment.

To be eligible, an individual must be self-employed or a member of a partnership. They must have traded in the tax year 2019/2020 and submitted their tax return on or before 2 March 2021, and must also have traded in the tax year 2020/21.

Unlike previous SEISS grants the amount of the fifth grant available is determined by how much a self-employed individual's turnover is reduced.

The fifth grant is 80% of three months' average trading profits capped at £7,500 for those self-employed individuals whose turnover has reduced by 30% or more. Those with a turnover reduction of less than 30% will receive a grant based on 30% of three months' average trading profits, capped at £2,850.

Claims must be made by 30 September 2021 and most people will be invited to claim by HMRC. It is the taxpayer who must make the claim; an accountant or agent cannot submit the claim on their behalf, although they can help in calculating the figures.

Before making a claim taxpayers must:

- work out their turnover for a 12-month period starting from April 2020 to April 2021.
- find their turnover from either 2019/20 or 2018/19 to use as a reference year.

HMRC advises taxpayers will need to have both figures ready when they make their claim.

Claiming the fifth SEISS grant is not straightforward so please contact us for advice on determining your turnover figures or eligibility.

[Read more from the Government on the grant.](#)

We can help

There are often a range of solutions available depending on your circumstances. [Do get in touch](#) to discuss these in more detail.