

COVID-19

Government, Revenue & Bank Supports

UPDATED 05.05.20

1. Employee Supports (further details [here](#))

Regulation	Amount	Period	Description										
Temporary layoff	€350/week €203/week	Up to 12 weeks From 12 weeks onwards	<p>Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment - applicable to all employees whose employer is unable to continue to pay them on a temporary basis.</p> <p>Job Seekers Benefit needs to be applied for following the initial 12 weeks of an employee being laid off.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Jobseeker's Benefit Rates</th> <th>Rate from January 2020</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Full weekly payment</td> <td>€203</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extra payment for qualified adult</td> <td>€134.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extra payment for qualified child under 12</td> <td>€36.00 (full-rate), €18.00 (half rate)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extra payment for qualified child 12 and over</td> <td>€40.00 (full rate), €20.00 (half rate)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Jobseeker's Benefit Rates	Rate from January 2020	Full weekly payment	€203	Extra payment for qualified adult	€134.70	Extra payment for qualified child under 12	€36.00 (full-rate), €18.00 (half rate)	Extra payment for qualified child 12 and over	€40.00 (full rate), €20.00 (half rate)
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Short-time	Portion of the full Job Seekers Benefit, i.e. claiming for 2 days out of 5 would be €81/week	Paid for a maximum of 234 days	Employees on short-time can claim a portion of Jobseeker's Benefit (€203/week) for the days they don't work provided they are reduced to working no more than 3 days in the week.										
COVID-19 Emergency unemployment payment	€350/week	12 weeks	Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment - applicable to all employees whose employer is unable to continue to pay them on a temporary basis.										
COVID-10 Income Support for self-employed	Self-employed who qualify will be paid the COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment of €350 rather than through the Revenue scheme. They will be eligible on a similar basis as the Revenue scheme for employees.												
Regular unemployment payment	€203/week	12 months, means tested thereafter	Job Seekers Benefit of €203/week. Job Seekers Allowance may be applied for after 12 months which is means tested										

Sick leave	<p>€305/week for 2 weeks plus company top up – no reduction in employee standard earnings</p> <p>€203/week after initial 2 weeks, with company top falling short of remaining €147</p>	6 day waiting period removed by the Government.	<p>To receive the enhanced payment, the employee must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> self-isolating on the instruction of a doctor or diagnosed with COVID-19 be absent from work and confined to their home or a medical facility
Redundancy	Statutory redundancy payment is up to €600/week		

Note: For those workers who have been **laid off without pay, there is no need to visit an Intreo Centre**. The DEASP is introducing a new support payment for the self-employed who have lost business and to those who have lost employment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the **COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment**. This support pays a flat rate of €203 per week for a six-week period. Applications can be made using this [one-page application form](#).

2. Business Support (further detail [here](#))

Regulation	Amount	Period	Description												
<p>Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme</p> <p>Since 4 May 2020, the subsidy payment has moved to a system based on the previous weekly average take home pay for each employee. The previous weekly average take home pay is based on an employee's pay in January and February 2020.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Income thresholds</th> <th>Level of subsidy payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Previous average take home pay below €412 per week</td> <td>85% of the weekly average take home pay</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous average take home pay between €412 and €500 per week</td> <td>Flat rate subsidy of €350 per week</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous average take home pay between €500 and €586 per week</td> <td>70% of the weekly average take home pay, up to a maximum of €410</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous average take home pay between €586 and €960 per week</td> <td> <p>Subsidy is subject to 'tapering'. That means the level of subsidy is calculated by reference to the amount of any additional ('top up') payments made by the employer and its effect on the weekly average take home pay.</p> <p>Subsidy levels are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flat rate subsidy of €350 per week, where the employer pays a top up payment up to 60% of the employee's previous weekly take home pay Flat rate subsidy of €205 per week, where the employer pays a top up payment between 60% and 80% of the employee's previous weekly take home pay No subsidy is payable, where the employer pays a top up payment above 80% of the employee's previous weekly take home pay <p>Tapering is calculated by subtracting the gross 'top up' paid by the employer from the employee's previous average take home pay.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous average take home pay above €960 per week</td> <td> <p>Employee's whose average take home pay has fallen below €960 can now avail of the scheme, subject to the tapering rules (see above).</p> <p>No subsidy applies for employee's whose current pay is more than €960. This is the case regardless of the level of any reduction in pay.</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Income thresholds	Level of subsidy payment	Previous average take home pay below €412 per week	85% of the weekly average take home pay	Previous average take home pay between €412 and €500 per week	Flat rate subsidy of €350 per week	Previous average take home pay between €500 and €586 per week	70% of the weekly average take home pay, up to a maximum of €410	Previous average take home pay between €586 and €960 per week	<p>Subsidy is subject to 'tapering'. That means the level of subsidy is calculated by reference to the amount of any additional ('top up') payments made by the employer and its effect on the weekly average take home pay.</p> <p>Subsidy levels are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flat rate subsidy of €350 per week, where the employer pays a top up payment up to 60% of the employee's previous weekly take home pay Flat rate subsidy of €205 per week, where the employer pays a top up payment between 60% and 80% of the employee's previous weekly take home pay No subsidy is payable, where the employer pays a top up payment above 80% of the employee's previous weekly take home pay <p>Tapering is calculated by subtracting the gross 'top up' paid by the employer from the employee's previous average take home pay.</p>	Previous average take home pay above €960 per week	<p>Employee's whose average take home pay has fallen below €960 can now avail of the scheme, subject to the tapering rules (see above).</p> <p>No subsidy applies for employee's whose current pay is more than €960. This is the case regardless of the level of any reduction in pay.</p>	The scheme will run for 12 weeks from 26 March 2020.	<p>To be eligible:</p> <p>Employers have to retain employment contract and relationship for employees on temporary lay-off</p> <p>Employers would need to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> self-declare to Revenue that they have experienced significant negative economic disruption due to COVID-19, with a minimum of 25% decline in turnover, and an inability to pay normal wages and other outgoings, in accordance with guidance to be issued by Revenue. <p>It will allow employers to continue to pay their employees during the COVID-19 emergency. It aims to keep employees registered with their employers, so that they will be able to get back to work quickly after the pandemic.</p> <p>See here for Revenue guidance.</p>
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COVID-19 Emergency unemployment payment – employer fund for employers who do not qualify for 70% top up initiative	€350/week	Initial 12 week period	Refund scheme which incentivises employers to keep employees in employment. Where employers are forced to consider redundancy situations, the Government is asking employers to pay employees a minimum of the equivalent of the COVID emergency payment of €350 per week – the employer will then be able to claim refunds from the DEASP. Employers engaged with the scheme will be allowed to top up the payment provided by the State. Full details here
A three month commercial rates waiver for impacted businesses;		3 months	To provide clarity, commercial rates are being waived for a three month period beginning on 27 March for businesses that have been forced to close due to public health requirements. This measure will complement the tax, banking and SME measures also announced today.
A €10,000 restart grant for micro and small businesses based on a rates/waiver rebate from 2019	€10,000 for micro and small businesses		Details of the scheme will be further developed by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government together with the Department of Business Enterprise and Innovation and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.
A €2 billion Pandemic Stabilisation and Recovery Fund within the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF), which will make capital available to medium and large enterprises on commercial terms	A €2 billion for medium to large sized companies		More detail can be found on the ISIF website here .
A €2 billion COVID-19 Credit Guarantee Scheme ¹ to support lending to SMEs for terms ranging from 3 months to 6 years, which will be below market interest rates	€2 billion for SMEs	3 months to 6 years	It will provide an 80% guarantee on lending to SMEs until the end of this year, for terms between 3 months and 6 years. SMEs will be able to go directly to the banks in the Scheme, and the guarantee can be used for a wide range of lending products between €10,000 and €1 million that have a maximum term of 6 years or less.

¹ Implementing this scheme will require legislation, the drafting of which has been approved by Government.

<p>The 'warehousing' of tax liabilities for a period of twelve months after recommencement of trading during which time there will be no debt enforcement action taken by Revenue and no interest charge accruing in respect of the warehoused debt</p>		<p>12 months after the recommencement of trading</p>	<p>If you have concerns about your ability to pay your tax liabilities speak to the Revenue Commissioners, who have advised: "On an on-going basis, Revenue engages with viable businesses experiencing temporary cash flow or trading difficulties that affect the timely payment of tax. Revenue works very successfully with businesses that engage early to resolve their tax payment difficulties. Revenue will engage with any viable business that experiences temporary cashflow difficulties, including difficulties arising from exceptional circumstances such as the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak." See https://www.revenue.ie/en/Home.aspx</p>
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More detail on the new Government Supports announced on the 2nd May, can be found [here](#).

3. Banks

On the 18th March, the following measures have been agreed by the banks:

1. A **payment break up to 3 months for business and personal customers** affected by Covid-19. Customers wishing to avail of a payment break should contact their respective bank.
2. The banks say that Covid-19 application for a payment break **will not adversely impact the customer's credit record**.
3. Banks will also **defer court proceedings** for three months.
4. The banking system stands ready to provide working capital support.
5. See [here](#) for more detail.

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