

## Covid-19 – Self-Employment Income Support Scheme

The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) will support self-employed individuals (including members of partnerships) during the Covid-19 crisis.

The scheme will provide a **taxable grant** to self-employed individuals or partners, worth 80% of their profits up to a cap of £2,500 per month.

HMRC will use the average profits from tax returns in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 to calculate the size of the grant. The scheme will be open to those where the **majority of their income comes from self-employment** and who have **profits of less than £50,000**. The scheme will be open for an initial three months.

### Eligibility criteria:

- Be self-employed or a member of partnership;
- Have lost trading/partnership trading profits due to COVID-19;
- File a tax return for 2018-19 as self-employed or a member of a trading partnership.
  - Those who have not yet filed for 2018-19 will have an additional 4 weeks from this announcement to do so;
- Have traded in 2019-20; be currently trading at the point of application (or would be except for COVID 19) and intend to continue to trade in the tax year 2020-21
- Have trading profits of less than £50,000 **and** more than half of your total income come from self-employment. **This can be with reference to at least one of the following conditions:**
  - Your trading profits and total income in 2018/19
  - Your average trading profits and total income across up to the three years between 2016-17, 2017-18, and 2018-19.

### Access to the scheme

**Individuals should not contact HMRC now.** HMRC will use existing information to check potential eligibility and invite applications once the scheme is operational. HMRC will then pay the grant directly to eligible claimants' bank account.

### Timing of payments

Grants are expected to start to be paid by the beginning of June 2020. In the interim the self-employed will still be eligible for other government support, including more generous universal credit and business continuity loans.