

C19 BUSINESS NEWS UPDATE

Welcome to the latest news on business, Government supports and the economy.

Kickstart scheme launches in November!

KICKSTART SCHEME

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) has launched the Kickstart Scheme, designed to create new 6-month job placements for young people who are currently on Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment.

The £2 billion Kickstart Scheme is designed to create hundreds of thousands of new, fully subsidised jobs for young people across the country.

The 6-month placements are open to those aged 16-24 who are claiming Universal Credit and at risk of long-term unemployment. They will be available across a range of different sectors in England, Scotland and Wales. The first placements are likely to be available from November.

Employers will receive funding for 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum auto-enrolment pension contributions.

There will also be extra funding to support young people to build their experience and help them move into sustained employment after they have completed their Kickstart funded job.

If you are an employer looking to create jobs placements for young people, you can apply for funding as part of the scheme.

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kickstart-scheme-opens-for-employer-applications?utm_source=133521b4-1c77-4d36-b5d3-468ceba5e905&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Who can apply

You can submit your application online.

If you are applying for 30 or more job placements, you can apply directly.

If you are applying for less than 30 job placements, you must apply through a representative of a group of employers. They can submit an application on your behalf, using other employers to create 30 or more job placements in one application.

What you need to provide during the application

You will need:

- the Companies House reference number or Charity Commission number
- the organisation address and contact details
- details of the job placements and their location
- supporting information to show that the job placements are new jobs and meet the Kickstart Scheme criteria
- information about the support the organisation can give to develop employability skills of young people

After you have applied

Your application will be reviewed to check it meets the requirements of the Kickstart Scheme. It will then go to a panel for consideration. This is not a competitive process, but Kickstart will only provide funding when the job placements meet the criteria.

DWP aims to respond to applications within 1 month.

If your application is successful

If your application meets the requirements of the scheme, you will receive a letter with a grant agreement. This agreement will include what your company has agreed to provide, and how much funding you will receive from the Kickstart Scheme.

See: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-a-grant-through-the-kickstart-scheme?utm_source=93eb30ff-f514-4543-8914-d7cc65759d8b&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Kickstart employers guide



KICKSTART SCHEME

A GUIDE FOR EMPLOYERS

1 KICKSTART SCHEME

WHAT IS IT?

The Kickstart Scheme is a £2 billion fund to create hundreds of thousands of high-quality 6-month work placements for young people.

It was launched on the 29 July after the Chancellor announced the Kickstart Scheme as part of the Plan for Jobs.

Funding available for each job will cover the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus the associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer pension contributions. There will also be funding available to support young people to develop new skills and to help them move into sustained employment after they have completed their Kickstart funded job.

Through the scheme, you'll be able to access a large pool of young people with potential, ready for an opportunity.

We will initially prioritise young people aged between 16 and 24 who are ready for an opportunity and will be supported by new Jobcentre Plus work coaches to send in the scheme.

2 KICKSTART SCHEME

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

Employers from all industries and across the private, public and voluntary sectors can get involved.

See:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/913209/kickstart-scheme-employer-guide.pdf



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THE CORONAVIRUS JOB RETENTION SCHEME (CJRS) IS CHANGING

From 1 September, businesses that have put staff on furlough will have to pay 10% of their wages. This will rise to 20% the following month, before the scheme ends on 31 October.

The step by step guide for employers has been updated and can be seen here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-job-retention-scheme-step-by-step-guide-for-employers?utm_source=8b21f2f9-507f-4ee6-ab3f-8b31380a33e9&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

THE ‘EAT OUT TO HELP OUT’ SCHEME WHICH GAVE DINERS UP TO 50% OFF THEIR BILL ENDED ON THE 31ST AUGUST.

More than 83,000 business took part serving 64 million meals. That’s a staggering average of 771 meals per participating restaurant!

Details on how to make a claim can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-money-back-through-the-eat-out-to-help-out-scheme?utm_source=fbaa30f5-dff4-4abd-a61f-0c6866d7768d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Several chains and restaurants have pledged to offer some form of discount into September. A full list can be found on the BBC website which outlines the discounts regionally:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-53923027>

CHILD TRUST FUNDS

18-year olds now get a chance to access their Child Trust funds! Children born from September 2002 were given vouchers by the Government. The government initially put £250 into the tax-free account during a child's first year, then added another £250 when he or she reached the age of seven. For lower-income families, the payment was £500. with access to the money at 18. Parents, family and friends could also contribute to the account, up to set limits. The scheme was ended in January 2011.

See: <https://www.gov.uk/child-trust-funds>

SENDING FORMS TO COMPANIES HOUSE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Companies House have developed a service to upload certain forms digitally, instead of sending them on paper. This new service will not be available for Companies House documents you can already send online.

You must use their existing online services to:

- file accounts
- file confirmation statements
- make changes to a company
- close a company



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The new service allows an upload of insolvency, changes of constitution, Scottish limited and qualifying partnerships.

You must complete the document in advance. Save it to the device you are using in a PDF format so that it is ready to upload.

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sending-your-forms-to-companies-house-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak?utm_source=af51861e-389a-47f9-bfa2-1fa0e1c4f3ff&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

PROVIDING APPRENTICESHIPS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

The revised document sets out guidance for apprentices, employers, training providers and assessment organisations in response to the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19).

It outlines the changes that the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) is making to the apprenticeship programme during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. If you have or are thinking about taking on apprentices please see:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response?utm_source=28c187f3-adb2-493a-9ad5-d366d4df40fd&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

GUIDANCE FOR LANDLORDS, TENANTS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

This updated guidance provides advice to landlords and tenants on the provisions in the Coronavirus Act 2020, and further advice for landlords, tenants and local authorities more broadly about their rights and responsibilities during the COVID-19 outbreak. It covers rent, mortgage payments and possession proceedings, court action, repairs, maintenance and health and safety.

See: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-and-renting-guidance-for-landlords-tenants-and-local-authorities?utm_source=3d49c7b2-d44c-4f2e-a9b2-aa360c2bee45&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

CONTRACT CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

There are a wide range of contracts that have been affected due to the pandemic.

The statement outlined below replaces what was published by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) on 30 April 2020. The CMA's view remains that a consumer will generally be entitled to a refund when they have paid money in advance for services or goods that cannot be provided because of the coronavirus pandemic.

As the circumstances and public health measures relating to the pandemic have developed over time, CMA have updated the statement to cover additional issues. This now covers contracts that cannot go ahead due to lockdown laws, limited exceptions to full refunds, ongoing contracts, non-refundable payments and fees, credits and rebooking and payments for future services.



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It also outlines contracts that are partially affected by lockdown laws, changing terms in existing contracts during the pandemic, terms in new contracts which relate to the coronavirus and cancellation relating to Government guidance and cancellation under the standard terms and conditions of a contract.

This does sound a heavy read! but it is important you are aware the guidance exists and the relationship between businesses and customers. If you have any issues with contracts entered into and need expert advice please talk to us and we can recommend a local solicitor to help.

See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cma-to-investigate-concerns-about-cancellation-policies-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic/the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-consumer-contracts-cancellation-and-refunds>