



The Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS)



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The Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) supports small and medium-sized businesses, with an annual turnover of up to £45 million, to access loans, overdrafts, invoice finance and asset finance of up to £5 million for up to 6 years.

The government will also make a Business Interruption Payment to cover the first 12 months of interest payments and any lender-levied fees. This means smaller businesses will benefit from no upfront costs and lower initial repayments.

The government will provide lenders with a guarantee of 80% on each loan to give lenders further confidence in continuing to provide finance to small and medium-sized businesses.

The scheme is delivered through commercial lenders, backed by the government-owned British Business Bank.

There are [40 accredited lenders](#) able to offer the scheme, including all the major banks.

Eligibility

You're eligible if:

- your business is based in the UK
- your business has an annual turnover of up to £45 million
- your business has a borrowing proposal which the lender would consider viable, if not for the coronavirus pandemic
- you can self-certify that your business has been adversely impacted by coronavirus

Businesses with a turnover over £45 million may be entitled to other government support.

Exceptions

The following businesses are not eligible to apply:

- banks, insurers and reinsurers (but not insurance brokers)
- public-sector bodies
- further-education establishments, if they are grant-funded
- state-funded primary and secondary schools

How to apply

The full rules of the scheme and guidance on how to apply is available on the British Business Bank website.

It is advised that you in the first instance contact your main business bank, as most banks are only currently dealing with existing customers. If for any reason your bank will not offer a loan under the CBILS then there are other lenders on the panel you can approach.

What Lenders will need from you

When you apply for a business loan, most lenders will ask you for the following:

Details of the loan

- The amount you would like to borrow
- What the money is for – the lender will check that it's a suitable business purpose and the right type of finance for your needs
- The period over which you will make the repayments – the lender will assess whether the loan is affordable for you

Supporting Documents

You will need to provide certain evidence to show that you can afford to repay the loan. This is likely to include:

- Management accounts
- Cash flow forecast
- Business plan
- Historic accounts
- Details of assets

The above requirements will vary from lender to lender. If you do not have everything listed here, a CBILS loan could still be an option to provide finance to support your business. For many customers approaching their existing lenders for a smaller facility, the process may be automated and therefore may not require the same level of documentation.



0330 2233 660
SEMPAR.CO.UK
info@sempar.co.uk

Lymedale Business Centre
Hooters Hall Road, Lymedale Business Park
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST5 9QF

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