GUIDE TO:
CORONAVIRUS BUSINESS INTERRUPTION LOAN SCHEME (CBILS)

WHO CAN ACCESS CBILS?
The scheme is available for SMEs through more than 40 accredited lenders across the UK.

HOW TO APPLY?
1) Find a lender from the list of accredited lenders.
2) Approach a lender via the lender’s website.
3) The lender will make a decision whether to offer you finance.

NOTE:
• Under the scheme, lenders will not take personal guarantees of any form for facilities below £250,000.
• For lending above £250,000, personal guarantees may still be required¹, at a lender’s discretion, but:
  o they exclude the Principal Private Residence (PPR); and
  o recoveries under these are capped at a maximum of 20% of the outstanding balance of the CBILS facility after the proceeds of business assets have been applied
• If one lender turns you down, you can still approach other lenders within the scheme.
• A number of private lenders are also making funds available to small businesses impacted by COVID-19, including £5 billion from NatWest.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
• Be UK based business activity; and
• Have an annual turnover of no more than £45 million; and
• Have a borrowing proposal which the lender would consider viable, were it not for the COVID-19 pandemic; and
• Be able to self-certify that the business has been adversely impacted by the coronavirus.
• Not have been classed as a ‘business in difficulty’² on 31 December 2019, if applying to borrow £30,000 or more.

Please note that the lenders will need further information to confirm eligibility. To check if you are eligible please use this Eligibility Checklist.

¹ According to CBILS for SMES
² For further information on this definition please see the following link: https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-scheme-cbils-2/cbils-faqs-for-smes/#f18
WHAT DO YOU NEED IN ORDER TO APPLY?

In order to apply for a business loan, the lenders will require the following:

DETAILS OF THE LOAN

- The amount you would like to borrow
- What the money is for (the lenders will check its business suitability and purpose)
- The period over which you will make the repayments (the lenders 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 might include the following:

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

If you do not have everything listed above, a CBILS loan could still be an option to provide finance to support your business.

**NOTE:** For many businesses approaching their existing lenders for a smaller facility, the process may be automated and therefore may not require the same level of documentation.

EXCEPTIONS

There are some exceptions applicable and they include the following:

- Banks, Insurers and reinsurers (but not insurance brokers)
- Public-sector organisations
- State-funded primary and secondary schools

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please visit the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) for SMEs here. Further details of other government measures to support people and businesses can be found on Business Support website.

**PLEASE NOTE: FOR THE LATEST REGULARLY UPDATED GUIDANCE VISIT THE BUSINESS FINANCE GUIDE WEBSITE.**