

## **Who will be eligible for the Test and Trace Support Payment?**

To be eligible for the £500 support payment, you must meet all of the following:

- Have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace because you've tested positive for coronavirus or have recently been in close contact with someone who has tested positive
- You comply with the notification from NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate
- You are employed or self-employed
- You are unable to work from home and will lose income as a result.
- You are currently receiving one of the following:
  - Working Tax Credit
  - Universal Credit
  - Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
  - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
  - Income Support
  - Housing Benefit
  - Pension Credit

## **What will I need to apply?**

- Your 8-character NHS Test and Trace Account ID (from your notification from NHS Test and Trace asking you to self-isolate)
- Your National Insurance Number
- Your bank account details
- A copy of your latest bank account statement (one issued within the last two months) which must show proof of earnings
- If you are employed: proof of your employment and earnings (such as payslips, your contract of employment or confirmation from your employer) and proof of reduction in earnings for your self-isolation period (for example, a letter from your employer)
- If you are self-employed: proof of self-employment. For example, your most recent set of accounts or self-assessment returns and your most recent business bank account statements (within the last two months)

## **How much is the payment?**

If you are required to self-isolate and meet the eligibility criteria you will be entitled to £500 support grant. This will be paid as a lump sum.

## **Will these payments be taxed?**

These payments will be subject to income tax. They will not be subject to National Insurance contributions.

## **How long will this be in place for?**

The scheme will run from 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to 31 January 2021. During this time, the Government will continue to review the scheme.

## **When will the scheme be open?**

You will be able to make an application to your District Council from the 12 October 2020. People who are required to self-isolate from 28 September will be able to apply and request that the

payment be backdated to 28 September 2020. This is the date that the Government is introducing the Test and Trace Support Payment. No claim can be backdated beyond the 28 September 2020.

**What is my self-isolation started before the 28<sup>th</sup> September but ends after the 28<sup>th</sup> September?**

You must have been advised **on or after** the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2020 to isolate in order to be eligible for this payment, not before that date.

**How many times can I apply – for example if I am required to isolate more than once?**

Someone can claim more than once (if they are told to self-isolate multiple times), as long as they meet the eligibility criteria for each individual claim and their periods of self-isolation do not overlap.

**Can I apply on behalf of someone else who is self-isolating?**

Applicants can apply on behalf of someone else; however, the £500 must be paid into a bank account in the name of the person for whom the application is being made. For example, if someone applied on behalf of a parent, the payment would be made into the parent's bank account.

**Is the support payment per household or per person?**

People in the same household can each make an individual application to receive the payment, if they each meet the eligibility criteria.

**Am I eligible if I self-isolated when I am on furlough?**

You will not be eligible for the support payment if your loss of income is only due to furlough. If you are on part time furlough and will lose income as a result of self-isolating you can apply.

**Can I get a payment for the time I am self-isolating whilst I wait for my test result?**

You will not be able to get a support payment if your test is negative. If your test is positive, you will be told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and receive a unique reference number which you can then use to apply.

**Is there a time limit on claiming the support payment?**

You can apply for the payment up to 14 days after your period of self-isolation ended.

**Can I apply if I am quarantining after returning to the UK**

The Test and Trace Support Payment scheme does not cover people who are self-isolating after returning to the UK from abroad, unless they have tested positive for coronavirus or have been told to stay at home and self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace.

**When will I get the payment?**

Payments to eligible individuals will be within three working days of the Council receiving evidence to support an application. Payments will be a single payment, to the bank account matching the bank statement they have provided.