

Government announces COVID-19 Income Relief Payment

The Government has announced further measures of support for New Zealanders affected by COVID-19. The new scheme, named the COVID-19 Income Relief Payment, is aimed to support those who have lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19.

The temporary payments are an addition to other COVID-19 related government measures designed to cushion the economic impact and should support the recently unemployed to get back into work quickly and efficiently.

In order to receive the scheme, applicants must have lost their job between 1 March 2020 and 30 October 2020. The payments can be received for up to 12 weeks and there will also be an expectation that those receiving the payment are actively seeking work or retraining.

There is a payment rate for both full and part time workers and those who were self-employed or a student may also be eligible to receive the Income Relief Payment as long as they meet the other [eligibility criteria](#).

The payments will be non-taxable and are available to apply for online from 8 June 2020.

Resources:

New payment to support Kiwis through COVID <<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/new-payment-support-kiwis-through-covid>> 25 May 2020

COVID-19 Income Relief Payment <<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/income-relief-payment/index.html>>

COVID-19 Income Relief Payment – Q&A <<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2020-05/COVID-19%20Income%20Relief%20Payment%20Q%20and%20A%20FINAL.pdf>> 25 May 2020