

Employment Subsidy Scheme - second call

Open to all sectors of the economy*

Contact

Liam Diamond

Tax Partner & Inward
Investment Leader
liam.f.diamond@ie.pwc.com
+ 353 1 792 6579

Joan Callaghan

Director - Grant Services
joan.callaghan@ie.pwc.com
+ 353 1 792 8623

Ruth Ní Dhondúin

Tax Manager
ruth.ni.dhonduin@ie.pwc.com
+353 1 792 6854



The Irish Government has announced details of a second broader call for applications under the Employment Subsidy Scheme.

The scheme provides grant support towards the retention of “at risk” jobs. In total, the Government intends to inject €135m into Irish based businesses through this scheme by November 2010.

The scheme will continue to be managed by Enterprise Ireland and is open to both Irish and foreign owned businesses in Ireland.

The deadline for applications is **2pm, 23 December 2009.**

What's new?

Significant changes have been made to the qualifying criteria under the second call for applications:

- * the scheme is now open to businesses from all sectors of the economy (the only exclusions are companies involved in fisheries and the primary production of agricultural products)
- there is no requirement for companies to be exporting
- employees working an average of 21 hours or more per week can be included.



Summary of qualifying criteria

Your business may be eligible to apply for grant funding under this scheme if it meets the following key criteria:

- employs 10 or more people
- will remain viable and commit to retaining a number of employees until November 2010
- commenced financial difficulty post 1 July 2008, and
- is having to consider reductions in staff numbers.

What type of assistance is available?

Employment subsidies may be awarded up to a maximum of €9,100 per full-time person (working an average 35 hour week) over a 12 month period to November 2010.

Employment subsidies may also be awarded of up to €6,370 per person working at least 21 hours per week but less than 35 hours week over a 12 month period to November 2010 to allow for reduced working hours arrangements.

The maximum total support an enterprise can receive is €500,000.

Certain restrictions may also apply where a business is in receipt of other grant funding, although the receipt of such grants does not necessarily preclude a business from applying for the scheme, depending on the level of funding in place. The scheme is also not restricted to businesses currently qualifying for other grant aid.

How do I apply?

The on-line application form and full details of the scheme can be found on www.employmentsubsidy.ie

This is a competitive scheme and applications will be scored on certain assessment areas, such as:

- ratio of supported jobs to committed jobs
- restructuring plans
- viability of the business in the medium term.

The closing deadline for applications is **2pm, 23 December 2009**.

Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted by this date. No applications or additional information provided after this date will be considered.

How PwC can help?

PwC can help you to:

- answer any queries you may have in relation to the process
- identify your eligibility for the new fund and other grant support
- assist you with the application and relevant documentation required
- apply for a tax clearance certificate from Revenue and provide an auditors' certificate required for drawing down claims.

If you would like to discuss our Grants Services or arrange for a meeting, please contact:

Liam Diamond
liam.f.diamond@ie.pwc.com
+ 353 1 792 6579

Joan Callaghan
joan.callaghan@ie.pwc.com
+ 353 1 792 8623

Ruth Ní Dhondúin
ruth.ni.dhonduin@ie.pwc.com
+353 1 792 6854

pwc.com/ie

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