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Otago Business Association March 2021 News & Information



[COVID-19: Financial support](#)

See a summary of the range of financial support available to help small businesses, sole traders and contractors get through COVID-19 restrictions, including:

- an overview of what support is available at different alert levels
- eligibility criteria
- where to apply for the different kinds of support.

[Find out more](#)

[Wage subsidy scheme update](#)

Applications for the Wage Subsidy Scheme for employers and the self-employed opened at 1pm on Thursday 4 March. It's available for businesses nationwide.

[Apply at Work and Income](#)

[waiting for test results](#)

The Short-Term Absence Payment is available for businesses to pay employees who can't work from home and miss work while waiting for a COVID-19 test result.

[How to apply](#)



[New round of Resurgence Support Payments](#)

Applications open on 8 March 2021 for a new round of Resurgence Support Payments for eligible businesses affected by the current alert level change. Applications for businesses that were impacted by the change in alert levels from 14-21 February, are open and will close on 22 March 2021.

The payments are not a loan and don't need to be paid back.

[Payment details](#)

[Leave Support Scheme](#)

The COVID-19 Leave Support Scheme provides a payment to businesses to pay their workers who meet certain health criteria, eg they have COVID-19. This is also available if you're self-employed.

[Check eligibility](#)

[Cash flow loans](#)

Borrow up to \$10,000 – or more if you have employees – and pay no interest if you pay back the loan within two years.

[See eligibility criteria](#)

Got questions or need

19 Business Helpline

All New Zealand businesses, including sole traders, can get support and advice on:

- government financial support, eg low-interest loans, tax relief
- what different alert levels mean for your business
- business continuity
- finding free or subsidised expert help, eg a business mentor or advisor.

Employers can also get specific advice on people challenges, including staffing changes, employee wellness, and meeting your health and safety obligations.

North Island 0800 500 362 | South Island 0800 505 096

Give your business a Digital Boost

Join the thousands of Kiwi businesses who are taking up free online Digital Boost courses to help them do business smarter.

[Find out more](#)



Watch: Digital inspirations

See how other small businesses from around New Zealand have embraced the digital world, in our Digital Boost Spotlight Series videos.

[Watch now](#)



'Once you're digital you can reach anyone'

Frances Valentine talks about how a strong digital presence can take your business into the future, grow your

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Self-paced, free online courses to help you boost your digital knowledge, as well as the chance to talk to experts in live Q&A sessions.

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[Find the right digital tools](#)

The Right Tool is a free marketplace of apps and service to help you find the digital tools to:

- stay compliant
- manage staff, inventory or jobs
- plan and amplify your growth.

[Explore tools](#)



[A Kiwi business story.](#)

Former All Black Keven Mealamu describes how a strong web and social media presence created a community for his fitness business.

[Watch now](#)



[Protect your website](#)

Keep your business's digital data secure and take the time to learn how to:

- secure the data on your website
- update software and devices
- report a cyber-security incident.

[Get cyber smart](#)

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