





Appendix A: National Response



What businesses can do now

-  Reopen your business safely during coronavirus (COVID-19):
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>
 -  Find out what financial support scheme you may be eligible for:
<https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder>
 -  Find out how to apply for a grant if you're self-employed:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme>
-  Business can stay up to date with GOV.UK by signing up to get emails when government add new coronavirus business support information:
<https://www.gov.uk/email-signup?topic=/coronavirus-taxon/businesses-and-self-employed-people>



Proposed changes to law

On 9 September, the UK Internal Market Bill aimed at protecting jobs and trade across the whole of the United Kingdom after the Transition Period ends, was introduced to Parliament. This new Bill will guarantee companies can trade unhindered in every part of the UK after the Transition Period ends and EU law falls away.



Post-18 education and training

From April 2021 in England, adults without an A-Level or equivalent qualification will be offered a free, fully-funded college course – providing them with skills valued by employers, and the opportunity to study at a time and location that suits them. This offer will be paid for through the National Skills Fund. A full list of available courses will be set out shortly.

Higher education loans will also be made more flexible, allowing adults and young people to space out their study across their lifetimes, take more high-quality vocational courses in further education colleges and universities, and to support people to retrain for jobs of the future.

These reforms will be backed by continued investment in college buildings and facilities – including over £1.5 billion in capital funding. More details will be set out in a further education white paper later this year.

Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) Employment Support Programmes – October 2020



Provision	Background	Eligibility	Support available
Job Support / Job Search Help	Digital Support due to be launched between October 2020 and January 2021 day 1 support for those who are job ready to help them move into work.	No age restriction – unemployed for less than 3 months	Voluntary, light touch, digital support to move customers into work via online delivery. one-to-one support
JETS: Job Entry Targeted Support	JETS provision is a new offer which is distinct and separate from the core Work and Health Programme (WHP), to provide light-touch employment support due to the increase in unemployment arising from the impact of COVID-19.	Out of work for at least 13-weeks. For all customers without health conditions that do not meet the criteria for Work and Health Programme (WHP) or Intensive Personalised Employment Support (IPES). Intensive Work Search Regime (IWSR) group/ Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) New Style ¹ .	6-months support to help find sustainable employment. Assessment of support needed. IT Skills, CV Writing, Job Search, Interview Support, Confidence, Self-Belief, Motivation, Signposting for other support or provision.

¹ New Style Jobseeker's Allowance: If you're unemployed or work less than 16 hours a week you may be able to get New Style Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). New Style JSA is a fortnightly payment that can be claimed on its own or at the same time as Universal Credit. New Style JSA is a contribution-based benefit. Normally this means you may be able to get it if you've paid or been credited with enough National Insurance (NI) contributions in the two full tax years before the year you're claiming in. If you qualify, you get New Style JSA for up to 182 days. After this your work coach will talk to you about your options. If you qualify for both New Style JSA and Universal Credit, any New Style JSA you receive will be taken into account as income for Universal Credit.

Provision	Background	Eligibility	Support available
Kickstart	Government initiative to support young people back into work following the COVID-19 pandemic. 100% of wages are subsidised at National Minimum Wage (NMW) for up to 25 hours.	Must be 16-24. Receiving Universal Credit and at risk of Long-Term unemployment	High quality 26 weeks' work placement. Support/Training to develop skills and experience to find long term work after completing the scheme, including career advice and setting goals support with CV and interview preparation.
SWAPS: Sector (Based) Work Academy Programme	Previously known as Sector Based Work Academy – pre employment training programme guided by local labour market.	Open to any benefit claimant who is close to the labour market.	Training/work experience for up to 6 weeks in a particular industry or area of work. A guaranteed job interview or support with an employer's recruitment processes.
NEA: New Enterprise Allowance	The New Enterprise Allowance (NEA) scheme aims to support claimants to start their own business.	Aged 18+ claiming benefits. Not working. In Intensive Work Search Regime (ISWR), Work Prep, Work Focused Interviews (WFI) for Universal Credit (UC ²).	Mentor support to create a business plan. NEA payments of £65 per week for the first 13 weeks of trading and £33 per week for the next 13-weeks. Continued support during trading.
WHP: Work and Health Programme	WHP offers more intensive tailored support than can be provided by the standard Jobcentre Plus offer, or through other available services and provision.	18+ have a health condition or are in a disadvantaged group.	Intensive support for up to 15 months to support them into sustainable employment. 6 months 'in work support'.
IPES: Intensive Personalised Employment Support	This provision is for disabled people who have complex issues and are considered by their work coach to be at least 12 months away from the labour market.	18+ have one or multiple health conditions and agreed suitable by Disability Employment Adviser (DEA).	Intensive support for up to 15 months to support them into sustainable employment. 6 months 'in work support'.

² Universal Credit is a payment to help with your living costs. Its paid monthly.