

Summary of Government Financial Support France

April 2022





France

Financing Facility Support

What Help Is Available?	What Does the Help Entail?	Which Companies Are Eligible?	What Is the Criteria (If Any) for Applying?	How to Apply	Availability?
Exceptional State Guarantee of €300 Billion for Loans to Businesses ("Prêt garanti par l'Etat") More information can be found here.	 The state has provided a guarantee of up to €300 billion (in principal, interest and ancillary costs, including guarantee fees) for all new loans granted by credit establishments and financing entities or via crowdfunding intermediaries (crowd lending) between 16 March 2020 and 30 June 2022. The guarantee can cover several loans to the same borrower. If this is the case, the borrower will enter into force in chronological order. 	It is available to all legal entities and physical persons having an economic activity and registered with the SIRENE. It is not available, however, to: Businesses subject to insolvency proceedings as at 31 December 2019 (unless a recovery or safeguard plan is in place prior to the granting of the loan). Credit establishments. Financing entities. Real estate civil companies (with a number of exceptions, in particular with respect to real estate civil companies at least 95% owned by real estate collective investment schemes (OPCIs), real estate investment companies (SCPIs), professional real estate collective investment schemes (OPCIs) or listed real estate investment companies (SIICs)). There is a limit to the amount of the aggregate loans that can be granted, depending on the date the company was incorporated (before or after 1 January 2019): For companies incorporated after 2019, the maximum amount corresponds to the estimated employment costs	 The loan must: Provide a minimum grace period of 12 months and an option for the borrower at the end of this period to amortise it for an additional period of up to five years (with possible exceptions for companies with a large number of employees (5,000 or more) or turnover (greater than €1.5 billion)). Be unsecured (with some exceptions for large companies. Eligibility is subject to the aggregate loan and other credit facilities granted earlier to the borrower not having fallen below their level (i) as of 16 March 2020 if the loan was granted before 1 January 2021, (ii) as of 31 December 2020 if the loan was granted between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021 or (iii) as of 31 December 2021 if the loan is granted from 1 January 2022 onwards (not taking into account scheduled repayments under such loans/facilities). The fee payable varies according to the (ultimate) length of the loan, the number of employees and the size of the business: For businesses (i) employing more than 250 persons or (ii) with a turnover of more than €50 million and a balance sheet greater than €43 million: 	 The guarantees will be issued and managed by Bpifrance Financement SA on behalf of the government. In most cases, the guarantee is granted automatically, once notified to Bpifrance. For large companies (i.e. companies employing 5,000 persons or more or with a turnover greater than €1.5 billion), a case-by-case review will be performed by the Minister of Economy. 	Available until 30 June 2022.



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	for the first two years or, if more favourable, 25% of their 2019 turnover. For companies incorporated before 2019, the maximum amount corresponds to 25% of their turnover for 2019 save for the following specific businesses: Innovative businesses (complying with certain criteria) benefit from a maximum, if more favourable, of twice the amount of employment costs borne in 2019. For companies incorporated, at the date of the grant of loan, under a French industry classification (NAF) code, the maximum amount corresponds to the three best months of turnover for 2019 or of the last available year if the company is carrying out one of the following: travel, restaurant, libraries, museums, lodging). For companies that sell parts intended for the manufacture of aircraft or of major equipment mounted on aircraft, thereby generating at least 15% of their turnover of the last financial year, the 25% threshold is increased by an amount corresponding to the value of two years of stock (the higher value between	 - 1% for the next three following years. • A period of two months must lapse before a call under the guarantee (with possible exceptions when the state guarantee is authorised by a decision of the European Commission). • The guarantee will only cover part of the loan: 90% for businesses that employ less than 5,000 persons and have a turnover of less than €1.5 billion. 80% for businesses with a turnover greater than €1.5 billion but less than €5 billion. 70% for others (with possible exceptions for large companies). • Companies requesting a guaranteed loan must not: Pay dividends for the year in which the loan is granted to their shareholders in France or abroad. Proceed with share buybacks during the year in which the loan is granted. Have their headquarters or a subsidiary without economic substance in a state or non-cooperative territory in tax matters. This commitment is applicable as of 27 March 2020. 		

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		twice the 2019 stock or twice the average of the 2018 and 2019 stocks). For companies that acquire parts from the companies hereinabove, the 25% threshold is increased by an amount corresponding to the value of the stock they intend to purchase from them until 31 December 2021. For loans granted to companies with more than 4,999 employees or with a turnover of €1.5 billion or more (both criteria as at 16 March 2020), the decision will be taken on a case-by-case basis.			
State-guaranteed Equity Loans and Subordinated Bonds (prêts participatifs et obligations subordonnées garantis par l'Etat)	The state has provided a guarantee to alternative investment funds (fonds d'investissement alternatif) (AIF) investing either in equity loans granted to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and intermediate-sized enterprises (ETIs) by credit establishments and financing entities or in subordinated bonds issued by SMEs and ETIs between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2023.	It is available to SMEs and ETIs (between 10 and 4,999 employees and a turnover not exceeding €1.5 billion or a balance sheet not exceeding €2 billion) registered with the SIRENE, which: Had a turnover for the year 2019 of at least €2 million. Have the capacity to meet their financial commitments (such capacity being assessed by a credit rating and financial indicators defined in the guarantee agreement between the French State and the AIF). It is not available, however, to: Real estate civil companies, credit establishments or financing entities.	 The AIF's purpose must be to invest exclusively in either equity loans or subordinated bonds (non-cumulative). The equity loans or the subordinated bond issue must provide for a minimum grace period of at least four years. The equity loans/subordinated bonds must have a maturity of eight years. The borrower/issuer must allocate the sums borrowed in accordance with a business plan or an investment plan. The borrower/issuer must not use the sums borrowed to pay debts existing at the date of granting/issuing of the equity loans/subordinated bonds. Without prejudice to the mobilisation of debt related to equity loans within the framework of the monetary policy operations of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB), the credit establishment or the financing entity that granted the equity loan or any entity belonging to the same group as that 	The AIF shall file an application with the Directorate General of the Treasury (Direction Générale du Trésor). The guarantee is granted by the Minister of Economy upon signature of an agreement between the French state and the AIF.	Available now and until 31 December 2023.



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	Businesses subjetinsolvency process 31 December 20's recovery or safegy in place prior to the of the equity loan issue of the suboloonds). Companies that heal ready benefited aid measures autunder section 3.1 European Common Communication of Temporary Frame State aid measures support the econcurrent COVID-19 The maximum amous equity loans and the subordinated bonds or issued by the san borrower/issuer variaccording to the size date of creation of the For SMEs (between 249 employees a turnover not exceed million): For SMEs (between 249 employees a turnover not exceed million): Innovative busity (complying with criteria) or component of complying with criteria) or component from maximum, if me favourable, set amount of the ecosts borne in 2 costs borne in 2	retain a credit exposure to the borrower at least 10% of that equity loan. The management company of the AIF, of delegates, or another investment fund managed by that management company its delegates must retain a credit exposit to the issuer of at least 10% of the subordinated bonds, which will not be covered by the state guarantee. In case of liquidation (whether amicable judicial) or sale of the business ordered during a recovery procedure, the subordinated bonds will only be redeem after all other preferred or unsecured creditors have been paid in full. In case of a recovery (plan de redressement) or safeguard plan (plan of sauvegarde) of the issuer, the redemption the subordinated bonds will be suspend for the duration of the plan. The guarantee will only cover 30% of the outstanding principal amount of the equiloans/subordinated bonds in which the Alas invested. The guarantee fee, which is due annuall the AIF, varies according to the size of the borrower/issuer: 0.9% of the outstanding principal amount of the equity loans/subordinated bonds granted to or issued by ETIs.	of or its or or or ed on of ed e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	



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		 For ETIs (between 250 and 4,999 employees and a turnover not exceeding €1.5 billion or a balance sheet not exceeding €2 billion): 			
		 8.4% of their turnover for the year 2019. 			
		 Innovative businesses (complying with certain criteria) or companies created after 1 January 2019 benefit from a maximum, if more favourable, set at the amount of two-thirds of the employment costs borne in 2019. 			
		Borrowers/issuers who have already benefitted from state-guaranteed loans (prêts garantis par l'Etat) whose outstanding principal amount combined with the amount of the equity loans/subordinated bonds represents more than 25% of their turnover for the year 2019 (or for the innovative companies, more than twice the amount of employment costs borne in 2019) must comply with additional criteria: their debt-to-equity ratio is less than five (with state-guaranteed equity loans and subordinated bonds being included in the debt).			
		The total amount of state-guaranteed equity loans and subordinated bonds does not exceed half			



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		of the borrower/issuer's equity.			
		 At least one of the following criteria is met: 			
		 The 2020 turnover is more than 5% lower than the 2019 turnover 			
		- The employment costs borne in 2020 after deduction of the partial activity are more than 5% lower than the employment costs borne in 2020			
		 The total amount of investments made in 2020 is more than 10% lower than in 2019 			
		 The subcontracting expenses in 2020 are more than 10% lower than in 2019 			
		 The amount of orders booked and undelivered at 31 December 2020 is more than 10% lower than at 31 December 2019 			
		For those borrowers/issuers who have already benefitted from state-guaranteed loans (prêts garantis par l'Etat) whose outstanding principal amount combined with the amount of the equity loans/subordinated bonds represents more than			
		25% of their turnover for the year 2019 (or for the innovative companies, more than twice the amount of employment costs borne in 2019), the maximum			
		amount of the equity loans or of the subordinated bonds granted			



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		to or issued by a same borrower/issuer is as follows:			
		- For SMEs:			
		 10% of their turnover for the year 2019 			
		 Innovative businesses (complying with certain criteria) or companies created after 1 January 2019 benefit from a maximum, if more favourable, set at the amount of 80% of the employment costs borne in 2019 			
		- For ETIs:			
		 5% of their turnover for the year 2019 			
		- Innovative businesses (complying with certain criteria) or companies created after 1 January 2019 benefit from a maximum, if more favourable, set at the amount of 40% of the employment costs borne in 2019			
State Equity Loans (prêts participatifs) for Very Small and Small Enterprises	Until 30 June 2022, the state is entitled to grant equity loans (<i>prêts participatifs</i>) to very small and small enterprises that have not benefitted from a state guaranteed loan or for which the amount of such loan was insufficient.	It is available to very small-sized entities and small-sized entities (less than 50 employees) having an economic activity and registered with the SIRENE, which: Have been refused a state-guaranteed loan (including after a mediation process) or have been granted such a loan but for an insufficient amount	 Equity loans provide for a grace period of 12 months and must be repaid within seven years at the latest. The rate of interest applicable to equity loans is at least 3.5% per annum. 	By application to the CODEFI (Departmental Committee for the Examination of Business Financing Problems). Applicants shall receive an answer no later than 15 days after the application. The decision to grant the loan will be taken by the Minister of Economy after	Available until 31 December 2023.



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		 Evidence real prospects for operational recovery Are up to date with their social security and tax obligations or, as relevant, have obtained a tax and social security liabilities clearance plan It is not available to: Businesses subject to insolvency proceedings as at 31 December 2019 (unless a recovery or safeguard plan is in place prior to the granting of the loan) Real estate civil companies. The maximum amount of the equity loan varies according to the business sector: €20,000 for enterprises active in the agricultural sector €30,000 for enterprises active in the fisheries or aquaculture sector 		receiving the opinion of the CODEFI. • Equity loans will be granted and managed by Bpifrance Financement SA on behalf of the state.	
Subsidised and Repayable Advances Loans to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) ("Prêts à taux bonifié" and "avances remboursables")	 Until 30 June 2022, the state is entitled to grant repayable advances and subsidised loans for an aggregate amount of €500 million to SMEs that have not benefitted from a state-guaranteed loan or for which the amount of such loan was insufficient. The financial support will be in the form of a repayable advance (up to the limit of €2.3 million) or a subsidised loan. 	 €100,000 for the other enterprises Small-sized entities and medium-sized entities that: Have been refused a state-guaranteed loan (including after a mediation process) Evidence real prospects for operational recovery Were not subject to insolvency proceedings as at 31 December 2019 (unless a recovery or safeguard plan is 	Repayable advances must be repaid within 10 years at the latest and the maximum grace period is three years. The purpose, duration and grace period of the subsidised loans are yet be confirmed. The interest rates applicable to repayable advances and subsidised loans are yet to be confirmed. -	By application to the CODEFI (Departmental Committee for the Examination of Business Financing Problems). The decision will be taken on a case-by-case basis by the Minister of Economy, after obtaining the opinion of the CODEFI. The repayable advances and	Available until 30 June 2022.



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		in place prior to the granting of the loan) • There is a limit to the amount of the subsidised loan that can be granted, depending on the date of the creation of the borrower (before or after 1 January 2019): • For companies created before 2019, the maximum amount corresponds to 25% of their turnover for 2019. Innovative businesses (complying with certain criteria) benefit from a maximum, if more favourable, set at twice the amount of employment costs borne in 2019. • For companies created from 2019 onwards, the maximum amount corresponds to the estimated employment costs for the first two years. • The amount of the repayable advance is limited to €2.3 million.		subsidised loans will be granted and managed by Bpifrance Financement SA on behalf of the state.	
Public Reinsurance Mechanism for Short-term Outstanding Export Credit Insurance	To enable French exporting companies to continue to use credit insurance to secure international operations, the public reinsurance mechanism Cap Francexport will be extended.	Exports to EU countries and high-income OECD countries are now eligible.	Maximum amount of scheme is €5 billion.		Available now.
French Solidarity Fund ("Fonds de solidarité") More information can be found here	The aid takes the form of direct grants to compensate eligible companies for lost sales. The form to apply for aid for losses in January 2022 and February 2022 remains online.	Intended to support small and micro-enterprises with support in the form of direct grants. It is now one of the most important schemes to support undertakings throughout the COVID-19.	 The aid is currently capped at €200,000 per month at group level. The solidarity fund is part of the limited amount of aid set by the temporary national framework and is, therefore, subject to a maximum of €800,000 to €1.8 million per company. 	The company can go to a platform open by the region in which it operates, found here. This assistance, instructed by the	Available now and until 30 April 2022.



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		The aid is granted to companies that: Are subject to closure (by an administrative decision); Are listed in protected sector; Have suffered significant turnover losse		regions can only be requested once. The aid will be paid by the DGFiP.	
Aid to Very Small Enterprises (VSEs) and Independent Workers ("Remise d'impôts directes, report du paiement des loyers et factures") More information can be found here	 Deferred payment of water, gas and electricity bills. The deferred payments will be spread evenly across the payment due dates for bills issued after the last day of the month following the date of the end of the state of health emergency. Payments will be spread over a minimum period of six months. With respect to commercial rent; prohibition to apply of financial penalties, damages, execution of an avoidance clause or penalty clause, or activation of guarantees or deposits for failure to pay rent or related service charges on these professional and commercial premises. This prohibition applies to rent and service charges due for payment from 12 March 2020 to two months after the date of the end of the state of health emergency. (currently scheduled for 31 July 2022). 	Businesses and self-employed individuals satisfying the solidarity fund eligibility conditions. Businesses continuing to operate through insolvency, court-ordered recovery or liquidation proceedings, following receipt of a certificate from one of the receivers appointed by the court that initiated the proceedings.	See previous column.	Businesses encountering difficulties paying their water, gas and electricity bills can immediately email or phone their water, gas and electricity suppliers to request an amicable deferral of payment.	Available now.
Aid in the Catering, Tourism, Wellbeing Events, Sport and Culture Sectors Increased Financial Capacity for Loans	 Increase of the financial capacity of loan for tourism (<i>Pret tourisme</i>) by the Bpifrance (increased globally to €1 billion) to finance assets, renovation, transfer of business or cash flow and working capital for an amount between €50,000 and €2 	VSE SME and medium-sized company in the catering, tourism, wellbeing events, sport and culture sectors. Excluded companies are those that are insolvent or under an insolvency procedure.	With regard to the loan for tourism, the investment must be 50% co-financed by other means either by contribution of the shareholders or a bank loan of at least two years or crowdfunding. Eligibility can be assessed on a dedicated "one-stop shop" platform found here .	Apply online here	Partly effective and covering a period until 2023.



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and Equity Funding More information here and here.	million with a deferred reimbursement of up to 24 months and by maturity up to 10 years. • Short-term urgency loans (fonds d'urgence) financed by regional authorities with a co-financing by the Banque des territoires for overseas territories and Corsica. • Loans by Caisse des Dépots (globally €500 million) and long-term loans by the Banque des territoires (globally €500 million) to complement bank loans with a view to repositioning the industry. • Equity investments by Bpifrance and Banque des territoires.	Excluded transaction: purely financial transaction, such as cash out, etc. Some of the loans and investments are industry specific (e.g. tourism or restaurants) or local. Eligibility can be assessed on a dedicated "one-stop shop" platform found here			
Aid to Airline Companies	The option to defer payment of civil aviation tax, solidarity tax on airline tickets, overseas air traffic terminal services charge, oceanic charge, and the metropolitan air traffic terminal services charge that would normally be due between 1 March and 31 December 2020, until after 1 January 2021. Payment of these taxes can be made over a period of up to 24 months (ending on 31 December 2022). The aim is to compensate damages that are directly linked to the COVID-19 outbreak and to reduce the pressure on airlines' cash flows.	Airlines with an operating licence in France.			
Loans to SME More information can be found here.	Loans without guarantee, without real collateral on the assets of the company or its manager, are: Prêt Rebond (bounce-back loan), a loan between €10,000 and €300,000, subsidised over a period of seven years with two years of deferral.	 12 months' minimum activity. All business sectors, except exclusions. Prêt Rebond: SMEs. To finance cash requirements linked to the economic situation. 	On the <i>Bpifrance</i> website or by telephone.		Available now.



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	 Prêt Atout (asset loan), up to €5 million for SMEs and €30 million for mid-sized companies, granted over a period of three to five years with deferred amortisation. 	Intangible investments: costs of upgrading to standards (environment, security, etc.), recruitment and prospecting costs, etc.			
		Tangible investments with low pledge value: equipment designed/produced by the company for its own needs (IT equipment, etc.).			
		 Prêt Atout: VSEs, SMEs and Midcaps. 			
		To finance cash shortage or an exceptional increase in WCR, linked to the economic situation.			



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Other Financial Support

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Long-term Partial Activity (French Version of Furlough)	 This is a specific partial activity system that intends to ensure the maintenance of employment in companies faced with a sustainable reduction in activity, which is not, however, likely to compromise their sustainability. It requires a commitment to not cut jobs against an improved partial activity allowance. 	Any company facing a sustainable reduction in its activity, whatever its size and sector of activity.	 This system allows: To reduce working hours by up to 40% of the legal duration. For a maximum of 24 months, consecutive or not, over a period of 36 consecutive months. The validation or approval by the DREETS (previously known as the DIRECCTE) is valid for six months and will or will not be renewed depending on the balance sheet carried out by the company. It provides the employees concerned with an hourly indemnity paid by the employer for each hour "off work" corresponding to 70% of the gross hourly remuneration (up to a limit of 70% of 4.5 minimum wage (SMIC). It provides a reimbursement from the state through an hourly allowance equal to: 70% of the gross hourly pay of each employee concerned (up to a limit of 70% of 4.5 minimum wage) for companies listed in the Normal Partial Activity section, until 31 January 2022 60% of the gross hourly pay of each employee concerned (up to a limit of 60% of 4.5 minimum wage) for every other company In practice, employees receive their entire remuneration at the level of the SMIC, 84% at the level of 1.15% of the SMIC. The rate of the allowance paid to the employee is 85% of the compensation paid to employees. 	It may be implemented by (i) a collective in-house agreement or (ii) a unilateral decision of the employer in application of an extended branch agreement, sent to the administration for validation or approval as of 30 July 2020 and until 30 June 2022.	Applications can be made until 30 December 2022.
Assistance to Employers: Social Charges Exemption of the Teleworking Allowance	Exemption from social security contributions of the lump-sum allowances paid monthly to teleworkers.	All companies	The lump sum allowance would be exempt from social security contributions up to:	Companies automatically benefit from this capped social charge exemption	Available now.



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			 €20/month for two days of home-working every week. €30/month for three days of home-working every week. €40/month for four days of home-working every week. €50/month for five days of home-working every week. When the amount paid by the employer exceeds these limits, exemption from social security contributions may be allowed, provided that the employee can prove the reality of the professional expenses 	(without providing supporting documents). If the amount paid exceeds the exemption, the allowance will only be granted if the employer can prove the reality of the professional expenses borne by the employee.	
Daily Allowance if Children Are to Be Kept at Home and for "Vulnerable" Workers More information can be found here.	Parents of children under 16 years old, parents of disabled children, employees deemed as vulnerable as a result of their health or people identified by the Health Insurance as having been in contact with an infected person who are unable to work from home can benefit from the first day of their work stoppage, and at the latest until the end of the isolation period, from: For employees in the private sector: partial activity scheme and, for employees infected or who have been in contact with an infected person, daily allowances For self-employed workers and public law contract workers: daily allowances. For civil servants: special leave of absence (ASA).	All parents that are: Employees of the private sector. Independent workers. Civil servants. In the event that both parents are unable to work from home and upon presentation of proof of either the closure of the class or the child's contact situation, this compensation may be paid to one parent per household. As of 27 September 2021, employees are deemed vulnerable because of their state of health if they are in one of the following situations: 65 years of age or older Have a history of cardiovascular disease: complicated hypertension (with cardiac, renal and vascular-cerebral	 One of the two parents of a (i) child under the age of 16 on the day of the start of the cessation or (ii) child with disabilities For employees, the parent must not be able to work from home. Employees deemed vulnerable because of their state of health (see the enumerated situations in the previous column) may benefit from partial activity if: They are assigned to a workstation likely to expose them to high viral densities They are not able to fully resort to working from home or benefit from the reinforced protection measures put in place by the employer. 	For employees in the private sector: partial activity scheme found here. For self-employed workers and public law contract workers: daily allowances after application on the platform found here.	This measure is retroactive: it covers all the stoppages concerned as of 1 September 2020.



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		of stroke or coronary artery disease, cardiac surgery, NYHA stage III or IV heart failure			
		 Have an uncontrolled diabetes or complications 			
		 Have a chronic respiratory pathology likely to decompensate during a viral infection (obstructive pulmonary disease, severe asthma, pulmonary fibrosis, sleep apnea syndrome, cystic fibrosis in particular) 			
		Have severe chronic renal insufficiency			
		Have an active cancer under treatment (excluding hormone therapy)			
		 Obesity (body mass index (BMI) > 30 kgm2); 			
		- Are suffering from congenital or acquired immunodepression, not severe (drug-induced: anticancer chemotherapy, immunosuppressive treatment, biotherapy and/or corticosteroid therapy at an immunosuppressive dose; uncontrolled HIV infection or with CD4 < 200/mm3; following a solid organ or			
		solid organ or haematopoietic stem cell transplant or linked			



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		to a haematological malignancy under treatment)			
		 have cirrhosis at least stage B of the Child Pugh score 			
		 Have a major sickle cell syndrome or a history of splenectomy 			
		 Are in the third trimester of pregnancy; 			
		 Have motor neuron disease, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, cerebral palsy, quadriplegia or hemiplegia, primary malignant brain tumour, progressive cerebellar disease, or a rare disease Are affected by trisomy 21. 			
Postponement of Direct Tax Payments	Possibility to request the postponement without penalty of the settlement of their next direct tax instalments (corporate tax instalment, payroll tax, etc.).	All companies experiencing difficulty as a result of COVID- 19.		Contact your local public accountant.	
Accelerated Refund of Tax Credits or VAT Credits	Companies that benefit from one or more tax credits refundable in 2020 can request the reimbursement of the balance of any available tax credit, after deduction, where applicable, from their corporate income tax due without having to wait for the filing of their tax return.			The online filing service.	



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	Request for reimbursement of VAT credit will be handled more quickly by the tax authorities.				
Credit Mediation More information can be found here.	Credit mediators of the Banque de France and the instituts d'émission en Outre-mer (for overseas territories) assist companies in negotiation of new schedules for repayment of loans.	All companies and businesses.	One can refer to the mediator through filling in a form and providing documentation.		

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