Eligibility questions
Please make sure you can answer YES to the following questions 1-4, and complete the checklist before applying to your lender:

1. Are you a sole trader, a partnership or an individual acting on behalf of a company or a company? □

2. Is your business based in the UK? □

3. Does your business (or group of businesses) have a turnover of no more than £45 million? □

   If your business is part of a group, controlled on either a legal or de facto basis, the maximum turnover applies to the group undertaking. More than one company within the group can be considered for a CBILS facility but only if the consolidated group turnover does not exceed the £45 million annual turnover threshold. The qualifying period is 12 months preceding application. If your business is part of a group, you may be required to provide additional information around the structure of your business.

   “Trading activity” means any trading or commercial activity that generates turnover (whether or not it is carried on with the intention of making a profit and whether or not turnover is generated by exports). This criterion will not apply if you are a further educational establishment, or a registered charity.

4. Does your business generate more than 50% of its turnover from trading or commercial activity in the UK? □

   Under £30,000, the facility cannot be used for certain activities outside of the UK. You will need to self-certify that the facility is not going to be used for: an advertising campaign outside the UK; the manufacture of a product which is only available to customers in an overseas market; the establishment of a representative office outside the UK; or the appointment of an overseas agent; the setting up or operation of a distribution network overseas; and directly to fulfill an export order.

Invoice or asset finance facilities under £30,000

5. Are you looking for an invoice or asset finance loan for export activity, for under £30,000? □

6. Do you have a Bounce Back Loan and if so, you are required to re-finance the whole of your BBLS loan amount with the CBILS loan you are intending to apply for, if eligible? □
Business in difficulty

Please be aware that from the 30 July 2020, criteria around the classifications of businesses in difficulty will be changing. Click here to view the criteria changes.

To be eligible for CBILS, you need to demonstrate that you were not a business in difficulty on 31 December 2019.

7. Was your business considered as a “business in difficulty” as at 31 December 2019 and what does that mean in practice?

What does this mean in practice?

A “business in difficulty” includes businesses that:

- Accumulated losses of more than half of their subscribed share capital (for limited companies) or more than half of their capital (for unlimited liability companies);

- Started, or had fulfilled the criteria to be put into, collective insolvency proceedings;

- Previously received rescue aid that was yet to be reimbursed (or, in the case of a guarantee, terminated);

- Received restructuring aid, and were still under a restructuring plan; or (where they do not meet the SME criteria) have fallen below solvency ratios for the previous two years.

- Has not been classified as an SME and has fallen below solvency ratios for the previous two years.

For the full definition of a Business in Difficulty please visit our FAQs page, which can be found here.

8. Have you received other CBILS loans that, if you were granted further CBILS finance, would put you over the scheme’s limit of £5 million?

9. Is your business:

Please choose one from list below

- A bank, an insurer or a reinsurer?

- A public-sector organisation?

- A state-funded primary or secondary school?

If you have answered YES to any questions numbered 7 - 9, you are not eligible for CBILS.

For further information and guidance for your business, you can access the government funded Business Support Helpline, who can help small businesses of all stages to find the right support and impartial advice, whether you are just starting out or growing your business.

Advisers provide tailored guidance and information on schemes and publicly funded business support programmes available in your local area and across England. The service is available via telephone, email, webchat and social media.

You can find more information here: https://www.gov.uk/business-support-helpline
Supporting documents
You will need to provide certain documents when you apply for a CIBLS-backed facility. These requirements vary from lender to lender, but are:

Can you provide this? Y for Yes
N for No

- Management accounts
- Business plan
- Historic accounts
- Details of business assets

(1) The above requirements will vary from lender to lender. You might still be eligible even if you do not have everything listed.

(2) For financing in smaller amounts, the process may be automated and so may not require the same level of documentation.

Having a viable business
If the lender believes the uncertainty of coronavirus will affect your business's performance over the short to medium term, it will use its normal commercial lending criteria to:

- Assess whether you have a viable business proposition, irrespective of any concerns over your short-to-medium term business performance, due to the impact of COVID-19.

Self-certification
The lender may also require you to self-certify that your business has been adversely impacted by the Coronavirus outbreak.
If you need more information
Here are some useful links for you to browse.

British Business Bank

- [Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS)](#) – general information
- [CBILS FAQs for businesses](#) – answers to SMEs’ common questions
- [Bounce Back Loan Scheme (BBLS)](#) – general information
- [BBLS FAQs for businesses](#) - answers to SMEs’ common questions
- [Other government loan schemes](#) – finance for businesses that aren’t eligible for CBILS
- [Business Finance Guide](#) – support for businesses facing financial challenges due to coronavirus

UK Finance

- [Support for businesses, customers, press and media](#) – up-to-date advice and guidance
  UK Government
- [Business support](#) – funding and support for businesses during the coronavirus outbreak
- [Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#) – information about the furlough scheme