

Restart Covid-19 Regeneration Measure

Objectives

Supporting businesses which due to Covid-19 had to terminate operations

Businesses which due to the effect of the pandemic had to terminate operations, or had a severe downturn, may be supported to access advisory services and approved a kick-start grant to help them restart operations.

Eligible Businesses

- Businesses that ceased operations due to the economic disruptions, or experienced a severe downturn, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic between 1st June 2020 and 30th September 2021
- Self-employed persons, micro, small or medium-sized enterprises
- Applicants engaged in activities specifically excluded under the de minimis Regulation are not eligible.

Maximum Support

A maximum grant of € 10,000 may be awarded:

- Advisory Stage – up to € 5,000 @ 100% aid intensity
- Implementation Phase – up to € 5,000 @ 100% aid intensity

ReStart is a de minimis measure - total amount of de minimis aid granted to a single undertaking shall not exceed the amount of €200,000 (or €100,000 in the case of single undertakings performing road freight transport for hire or reward) over any period of three consecutive fiscal years.

Advisory Stage

Criteria

Advisory hourly rate – up to € 120/hour including VAT.

Only costs related to a Qualifying Advisory Service can be financed at this stage of the approved project – Restarting Operations

Beneficiaries are to complete the Advisory Stage within three (3) months of the Corporation's approval.

Advisory Stage

Qualifying Advisors

The advisory service must be provided by an individual or a team led by an individual who can demonstrate previous experience in advising and supporting businesses start or restructure operations and who meets one of the following criteria:

- a. holds a post graduate university degree in a scientific, technical or behavioural science area (such as engineering, information technology, industrial psychology and economics);
- b. is a warranted accountant;
- c. holds a post graduate degree in business studies, business administration or equivalent (as may be determined by the Corporation);
- d. has served a minimum of five (5) years in a CEO, COO, or top management position in a reputable organisation (as may be determined by the Corporation).

Advisory Stage

Advisors

The advisory service provider must agree to:

- an hourly charge-out rate that does not exceed (€120/hr) including VAT. *(A higher rate will result in the application being rejected)*
- maintain time sheets depicting the work done in favour of the Beneficiary
- compile a report highlighting the main recommendations and eligible costs that the Corporation may consider supporting during the Implementation phase.
- Provide the service within 3 months of the Corporation's approval

Advisory Stage

Applying for Advisory

(This application form will not be available online)

Applicants:

- should contact B1st to check eligibility and request an application form
- upon request, submit a written request providing a preliminary explanation
- following internal review, B1st will be advised to forward the application form (or otherwise)
- may select an advisor from a directory available through the Malta Chamber however, are not restricted to choose an advisor from this list.
- should consult with the advisor prior to filling in the application and obtain a quotation using the Quotations Template that will be provided by the Corporation

Advisory Stage

Internal Process

- Applications for ReStart will NOT be online
- Applicant calls to ask about eligibility
- B1st to request a preliminary outline explaining the nature of the termination of operations (or severe impact), and why they are considering restarting – (via the online query ticketing system)
- requests are to be forwarded to Marco Abela (or an appointed person) to determine an initial position for eligibility
- following internal review, (10 calendar days) if client qualifies, Marco will give go ahead to either B1st (or an appointed person) to send application to client.
- client can then submit application through portal

Approval

Submission and Approval

- Applications must be submitted through the client portal
- Submission period: 12th July 2021 to 31st October 2022
- The Corporation will review and evaluate all applications submitted and may seek further clarifications from both the applicant and the advisor directly.
- If approved a Letter of Approval covering the Advisory Stage shall be issued detailing the terms of the Grant.

Claim

- Following the completion of the Advisory Service, the Beneficiary shall submit all the documentation required to claim the approved costs as specified in the approval letter.
- The submission shall include a claim form on a template provided by the Corporation, fiscal documentation, timesheets, and an Advisory Report (template provided by the Corporation).
- The Corporation can process the claims as reimbursements or on request of the Beneficiary issue payment directly to the Advisory Service provider.
- The Summary Advisory Report shall highlight the main findings of the advisory, the recommendations and a list of eligible costs that should support the business to restart operations.

Application for Implementation Phase

- The outcome of the advisory and the recommendations for implementing the required changes communicated to the Corporation in the Advisory Report, can trigger the request for additional support to kick start the restart of a business activity.
- The Request for support will be embedded in the claim form.
- The Implementation Phase, must follow the advisory stage and be completed within 6 months of the second letter of approval.
- During this phase, the Beneficiary can receive financing on eligible costs incurred for the implementation of the recommendations highlighted by the advisory service.

Implementation Phase

Eligible Costs

- Eligible costs could include rent, marketing, recruitment services and other similar costs that are identified in collaboration with the advisor as required for restarting the business.
- Up to €500 from the €5,000 of this phase, can be utilised to finance additional advisory support required during the Implementation Phase.
- Only costs incurred after the Corporation evaluates the Advisory Report and issues a further Letter of Approval specifying the terms and conditions of any additional funding, shall be eligible.
- The Corporation can process the claims as reimbursements or on request of the Beneficiary issue payment directly to the supplier.

Implementation Phase

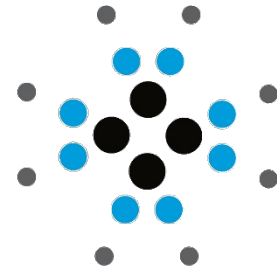
Ineligible Costs

- Costs related to assets or stocks
- Items or services procured from parties related to the beneficiary;
- items or services (excluding advisory approved under this scheme) procured from the advisory service provider or parties related to the provider;
- costs related to ongoing continuous or periodic activities;
- costs related to export activities;
- costs related to the undertaking's usual operating costs, such as routine tax consultancy services, regular legal services, or advertising.

Implementation Phase

Final Claim

The beneficiary will have the opportunity to claim any approved implementation costs within a period of six (6) months from the date the implementation costs are approved.



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THANK YOU

Official Incentive Guidelines can be downloaded from:

<http://support.maltaenterprise.com>

Disclaimer: this presentation is only intended for illustrative purposes and the content does not, in any way, replace the official incentive guidelines. Applicants should refer to the official incentive guidelines at all times.