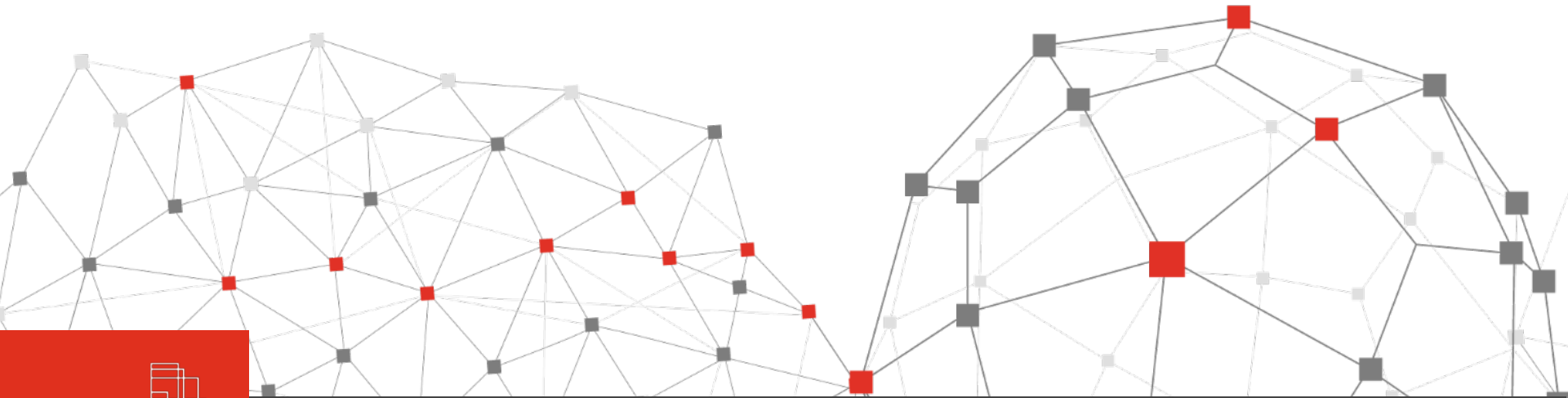


COVID-19

Financial Support during the Covid-19 crisis Factsheet for Swiss companies



To alleviate the economic consequences resulting from the coronavirus spread, the Swiss Federal Council agreed on a comprehensive package of measures.

Measures decided on 13 March were supplemented on 20 March by a second, more comprehensive package of measures totalling CHF 32 billion, making a total of over CHF 40 billion available.

The aim of the measures, which are aimed at various target groups, is to preserve jobs, safeguard wages and support the self-employed.

One of the key measures adopted is the provision of joint securities for the granting of bridging loans. The corresponding modalities were laid down on 25 March in the Ordinance on the Granting of Credit and Joint Securities in connection with the coronavirus.

What financial support can Swiss companies receive during the Covid-19 crisis?

Bridging loans

Federal guarantees for immediate loans for affected companies of up to 10% of turnover and a maximum of CHF 20 million

01

Short-time work

Simplification and extension of short-time work to, among others, temporary employees and apprentices

02

Payment deferrals

Interest free payment deferrals of social security contributions (AHV/IV/EO/ALV) and taxes (including direct federal tax, VAT)

03

Federal suppliers

Federal administrative units are instructed to pay invoices as soon as possible

04

Suspension of debt collection

From 19 March to and including 4 April 2020, collection of debt will not be enforced in Switzerland

05

Sector-specific support

Specific measures in areas such as culture, sport, tourism and health

06

01 Bridging loans

Information on the application process on p. 6

Provision of bridging loans guaranteed by Swiss Confederation



- Two loan programs: COVID-19-Credit and COVID-19-Credit Plus
- Credit volume amounts of up to 10% of turnover or a maximum of CHF 20 million (exceptions possible in cases of hardship)
- Annual interest rate adjustment according to market developments
- Duration of five years (extension of up to two years is possible in cases of hardship)
- **COVID-19-Credit:** Amounts of up to CHF 0.5 million are paid out immediately by banks and are 100% guaranteed by the Swiss Confederation, the interest rate is (min.) 0.0%, in addition, until 31.03.2022, there will be no consideration as debt when calculating the coverage of capital and reserves or over-indebtedness
- **COVID-19-Credit Plus:** Amounts in excess of CHF 0.5 million are 85% guaranteed by the Swiss Confederation and require a bank credit assessment, the interest rate for the guaranteed amount (85%) is (min.) 0.5%



- For all companies based in Switzerland up to a turnover of CHF 500 million:
 - Only for liquidity bridging purposes
 - Foundation of the company before 1 March 2020
 - Significant impact on sales due to the COVID 19 pandemic
 - No bankruptcy or probate proceedings or in liquidation
 - No applications have yet been submitted in the sports and cultural sector



- Submission of loan applications from 26 March to 31 July 2020

02 Short-time work

Extension and simplification of short-time working



- Extension to employees in (i) fixed-term employment relationships, (ii) persons in the service of an organisation for temporary work, (iii) apprentices, as well as (iv) employer-like employees, e.g. shareholders of a limited liability company, who work as salaried employees in the company (for these a flat rate of CHF 3,320 for a full-time position applies)
- Waiting period will be abolished, which means that employers will no longer have to contribute to the loss of working hours
- Simplification of processing and payments for short-time work (including the possibility of advance payment of due wages via KAE)
- Employees no longer have to reduce their overtime before they can receive compensation for short-time work, but still have the right to refuse short-time work
- Adjustments apply for 6 months from 17 March 2020



- Available for all companies affected by COVID-19



- Regular application process via the Cantonal Office for Economy and Labour/ Unemployment Insurance



- [Further information extension of short-time working](#)
- [Further information short-time work in general](#)

03 Payment deferrals

Extension of deadlines for taxes and social security contributions



- Interest-free deferral of payment of social security contributions (AHV/IV/EO/ALV)
- Application for adjustment of provisional contributions to AHV/IV/EO/ALV, possible in the event of a significant reduction in the wage bill
- Interest-free deferment of payment of taxes, duties and customs duties in the period from 20 March to 31 December 2020
- Interest-free deferral of payment of direct federal tax due in the period from 1 March 2020 to 31 December 2020
- Possibility to request an adjustment of the provisional tax bill of the state and municipal taxes for the year 2020 from the cantonal tax office



- Available for all companies



- Application to the respective responsible offices (AHV compensation fund, cantonal tax offices)



- [Further information payment deferral](#)

04 Federal suppliers

Accelerated payment of vendor invoices



- Administrative units of the Swiss Confederation are instructed to check accounts payable and to pay them out as quickly as possible, without taking advantage of payment deadlines
- Individual cantons also offer extension of payment deadlines. This also includes independent cantonal institutions and energy suppliers of cantons and municipalities



- For suppliers of federal administrative units



- Valid from now on



- [Further information federal suppliers](#)

05 Suspension of debt collection

Suspension of debt collection until 4 April 2020



- Temporary suspension of debt collection
- Debt collection is not cancelled, but only postponed



- Valid for all companies in Switzerland



- Valid in the period from 19 March to 4 April 2020
- If payment is not possible, companies should nevertheless contact their creditors without delay and try to agree a deferral or partial payment. Also check whether you can obtain a bridging loan



- [Further information debt collection](#)

06 Sector-specific support

In the area of culture, sport, tourism and health



Culture¹:

- Repayable interest-free loans up to a maximum of 30% of annual income (excl. public subsidies) for non-profit enterprises
- Up to 80% compensation for cancellation or postponement of events (does not include lost profits)

Sport²:

- Repayable unsecured loans (5 + 2 years maturity) for professional clubs

Tourism:

- Retroactive financing of investments by the Swiss Society for Hotel Credit SGH
- More flexible deferrals of federal loans granted by the cantons (a.o. for the mountain railway sector)

Health:

- Hospitals and clinics will be given flexibility in working hours and rest periods over a period of 6 months from 21 March 2020



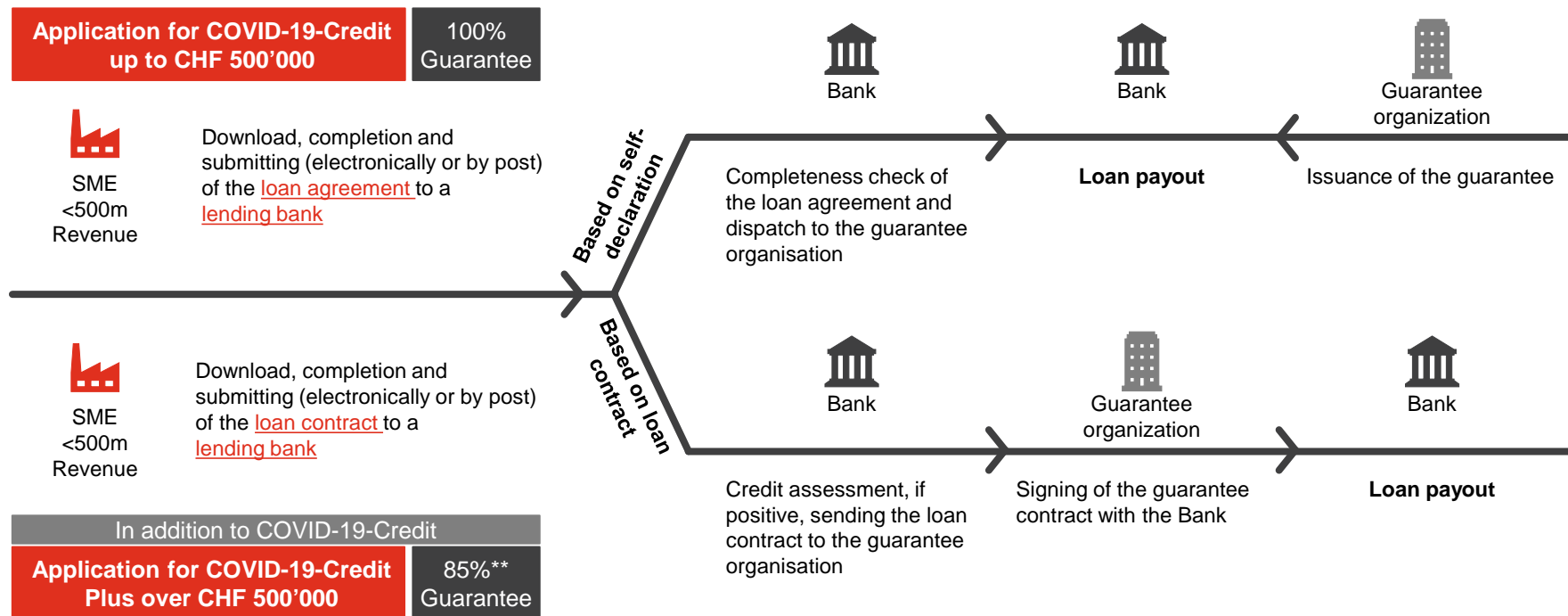
- ¹In the respective canton, valid from 21 March 2020 for a period of 2 months
- ²Federal Office for Sport (BASPO), valid from 20 March 2020 for a period of 6 months



- [Further information culture](#), [further information sport](#), [further information tourism](#), [further information health](#)

The application process for bridging loans in detail

Loans can be applied for at your house bank or at PostFinance*, the guarantees are issued by the four existing guarantee organizations



* Note: Only for existing PostFinance customers; ** For the remaining loan amount (15%) further loan collateral may be requested from the banks and individual interest rates may be agreed.

We would be delighted to support you!



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Many thanks.
Stay healthy!
#flattenthecurve

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