

PRESS RELEASE

SELF-EMPLOYED ASSISTANCE SCHEME Who is eligible and how to apply?

The **Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA)** informs eligible self-employed individuals, who are in business, or tradespersons operating in the informal sector, that the facilities to file an application for a financial support under the <u>Self-Employed Assistance Scheme</u> (SEAS) are available on its website: www.mra.mu

Eligible self-employed individuals and tradespersons will receive a financial support of Rs. 5,100 for the period 16 March 2020 to 15 April 2020. All payments will be credited to the applicant's bank account.

Pre-requisite to join the scheme

- Self-employed individual who is in business, or a tradesperson operating in the informal sector, e.g. a mason, a cabinet maker, a plumber, a hairdresser or an artist is entitled to join the assistance scheme provided he is a Mauritian national above 18 years of age and who has been in business for the last 3 months.
- 2. The following individuals are **<u>NOT</u>** eligible to the assistance:
 - an individual who is an employee, whether full-time or part-time;
 - a person who is eligible to receive basic retirement pension;
 - an individual who receives monthly social benefits;
 - an individual pursuing higher study on a full-time basis;
 - a person who is a dependent spouse;
 - a person who was unemployed at the beginning of March 2020;
 - an individual who forms part of a household having total monthly income (including passive income, e.g. rent, dividends, interests or profits) exceeding Rs. 50,000;
 - an individual who is in a business where he earns only passive income, e.g. rent; and
 - a fisherman.

Go to Page 2 for a Step-by-step Guide on how to APPLY

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Step-by-step Guide to fill in the Self-Employed Assistance Scheme

- 1. Go to MRA website on www.mra.mu
 - Click on 'Self Employed Assistance Scheme'
 - Click 'Application Form'

2. On screen will appear:

- Details relating to the Self-Employed Assistance Scheme, please read them carefully.
- Scroll down and Click on 'Click here to apply for Self-Employed Assistance Scheme'

You will be re-directed to an application page.

- 3. Insert your National Identity Number
- 4. Insert the Card Control Number (which is written on the back of your ID card at the bottom, right-hand side)
- 5. Insert your Mobile Number
- 6. For security purposes, you will need to do a verification exercise (just to prove that you are not a robot)
- 7. Click 'Login'
- 8. You will get a one-time password via text message on the mobile number you inserted in step 5.
 - On the screen, where it is written 'one-time password', insert the figures that you have received on your mobile.
 - Click 'next'
- 9. A page will appear wherein your NID, Surname and Other Names are prefilled
 - Insert the amount of 'estimated monthly income'
 - Where it is written "married" click the drop-down arrow to select 'yes' or 'no'
 - Fill in your residential address region, street, postal address (use drop-down arrow)

BUSINESS DETAILS

- Insert your Profession, for e.g. hairdresser, bricklayer (mason), cake seller ... in the field :" OCCUPATION"
- Insert your *Place of Business*, that is, where you are working
- Insert the Start Date of Business use drop-down arrow

BANK DETAILS

- Insert the name of your *Bank*
- Insert your Bank Account Number
- Insert the name of the holder of the Bank Account (should be the applicant's name)

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CONTACT DETAILS

- Phone number and email are not compulsory fields
- Mobile Number is a compulsory field

There are three rows which you need to certify if correct, by clicking on the check-box next to each row.

Ensure that you have correctly filled-in the form. Verify again that the bank account number provided is in the name of the APPLICANT.

10. Final step: Click 'Apply'

All fields where you find a * sign, are mandatory fields that need to be filled-in.

Kindly note that MRA's helpdesk, 207 6000, is available for any queries.

Application to join the scheme cannot be entertained via telephone for the sake of confidentiality.

All applications should be made **ONLINE**.

As a consequence of the lockdown in the fight against Covid-19, the head-office of the MRA at Ehram Court, Cnr S. Virgil Naz & Mgr Gonin Streets, Port Louis, is closed to the public. However, a team of MRA officers is working from their workplace and from home to ensure a smooth running of the core services.

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