

Information on Covid-19

Tuesday, November 17th, 2020

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How to benefit from State-guaranteed treasury loans?

The Government has implemented an unprecedented 300 billion euros scheme of guaranties to bolster bank financing for companies threatened by the impact of the Coronavirus outbreak.

Until June 30, 2021, companies of all sizes, whatever their legal form (especially merchants, craftspeople, farmers, liberal professions, microentrepreneurs, associations and foundations having an economic activity), with the exception of non-trading property companies, credit institutions and finance companies, can apply to their usual bank for a State-guaranteed loan to support their cashflow.

The amount of the loan may reach up to 3 months of the company's 2019 turnover, or 2 years of payroll for innovative companies or companies created since January 2019. No repayment will be required in the first year, and the company may choose to amortize the loan over a maximum period of 5 years.

The banks are committed to reviewing all applications and providing a quick response. They undertake to distribute the state-guaranteed loans on a massive scale, at cost price, to support the cashflow of companies and professionals without delay. Nonetheless, all companies, especially the largest, that would not meet their terms of payment obligations, will not have access to this State-guarantee for their bank loans.

Small and medium-sized companies will be able to benefit from bank rates between 1% and 2.5% depending on the number of years of repayment.

The State guarantee covers a percentage of the amount of capital, interest and accessories remaining due on the debt until the end of its term: from 90% to 70% depending on the size of the company

In addition, French banks are committed to spread the reimbursement of loans by firms to up to 6 months without additional charge.

How to benefit from State-guaranteed treasury loans?

For companies with less than 5000 employees and that accounted a turnover of less than 1.5 billion euros in France:

1. **The company contacts a banking partner to make a request for a loan.** The request may gather several loans. The cumulative amount for these loans must not exceed 25% of the company's turnover, or 2 years of payroll for innovative companies or companies created since January 2019.
2. **After assessing the situation of the company (eligibility criteria notably), the bank gives a pre-agreement for a loan.**
3. **The company logs onto the attestation-pge.bpifrance.fr platform to obtain its unique user ID to be communicated to the bank.** To do so, the company must provide its SIREN, the amount of the loan and the name of the bank branch. Within the first month of the process, the company will be given only a single user ID. In this regard, this request should be made after receiving the pre-agreement from the bank.
4. **Upon confirmation of the unique user ID by Bpifrance, the bank grants the loan.** In case of difficulty or refusal, the company may contact Bpifrance at the following email address: supportentrepriseattestationpge@bpifrance.fr

For companies with more than 5000 employees or that accounted a turnover of more than 1.5 billion euros in France:

1. **The company contacts a banking partner to make a request for a loan and is given a pre-agreement by the bank.**
2. **The company forward its request to the following email address: garantie.etat.grandesentreprises@bpifrance.fr.**
3. **At reception, the file is assessed for the State by the General Directorate of the Treasury assisted by Bpifrance Financement SA.**
4. **The State-guarantee is given by individual order of the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Finance.**
5. **Banks can then grant the loan to the firm.**

In addition, the measures implemented by Bpifrance remain: guarantee given to SMEs and mid-cap companies on confirmed credit lines for 12 to 18 months or on 3 to 7-year loans; a 6-month deferment as of March 16th, 2020. To benefit from these measures:

- Fill out [the online form](#),

- Or call the Bpifrance's "coronavirus" toll-free number: 0969 370 240.

For companies that cannot benefit from a State-guaranteed loan, the State may directly grant loans of up to €10,000 for companies with fewer than 10 employees and up to €50,000 for companies with 10 to 49 employees. For companies with more than 50 employees, the State may grant repayable advances. [Contact the relevant organisation](#).