

Government Job Retention Bonus

The Government has issued more details of the Job Retention Bonus – this is a payment of £1,000 which HMRC will make to the employer for each eligible employee.

The Bonus is available to employers in respect of each employee who (a) has been on furlough at some point; and (b) remains employed, and not under notice, on 31 January 2021.

HMRC will make a payment of £1,000 to the employer for each eligible employee. This is a bonus to the employer, and the employer does not have to pass it over to the employee.

To receive the bonus, the employer must meet the minimum income threshold for the scheme, meaning that the employer must pay the employee a total of at least £1,560 (gross) throughout the tax months:

- 6 November to 5 December 2020
- 6 December 2020 to 5 January 2021
- 6 January to 5 February 2021

The employer will need to present a claim for the bonus in a 6 week window between 15 February and 31 March 2021. There is no details on how to access the online claim system but guidance is anticipated by the end of January 2021.

The Government guidance can be accessed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-can-claim-the-job-retention-bonus-from-15-february-2021>

which also has a link to examples of employees who would meet the bonus financial threshold

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/find-an-example-of-employees-and-the-minimum-income-threshold-for-the-job-retention-bonus>