



Press Release – 316/04/2020

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## New online compensation process for loss of earnings due to coronavirus

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To provide protection from fraudsters applications to be made only via [www.ifsq-online.de](http://www.ifsq-online.de)

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### An announcement from the Ministry of Health, Employment and Social Affairs:

Compensation for loss of earnings due to coronavirus can be applied for online from Monday, 27 April 2020. Using the online application form employers and the self-employed are able to submit all the information required and upload supporting documents: all in a fast, simple and paperless way. The applications get sent digitally to the relevant authority in the respective state. The online process was developed by the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community and the North Rhine-Westphalia Ministry of Health. In addition to the online application system, the authorities are also being provided with software to assist them in efficiently processing the applications. This reduces processing time and speeds up the reimbursement.

Federal Minister of the Interior Horst Seehofer: “The state needs to be there for its people – and needs to be there in a fast, uncomplicated and non-bureaucratic way. The coronavirus crisis shows us in this regard how important it is to digitalise the administrative system at both national and state level. We are therefore working hard on doing this and are digitalising the services that are currently needed and in especially high demand.”

Health Minister Karl-Josef Laumann: “It makes me rather proud that despite all the challenges of the current crisis we in North Rhine-Westphalia have successfully taken on this project too. Taking the lead for ten states and working jointly with the Federal Ministry of the Interior, we got this new online process up and running in a very short time. Now it is particularly important that applicants use only our official website. By doing so they eliminate the risk of their details falling into the hands of

fraudsters via bogus sites, as has happened in the recent past in the case of some other state aid schemes.”

**Further information:**

Applications can be made by self-employed individuals and employers, who would pay out the compensation to their employees. Full details about claiming compensation and the application process are now available at [www.ifsq-online.de](http://www.ifsq-online.de). Applications can be made via the same website as of next week.

Anyone placed in quarantine or not allowed to work due to being infected themselves and therefore suffering a loss of earnings is able to obtain compensation for that loss pursuant to the Infection Protection Act (IfSG). Since 30 March this has also applied to people who as a result of schools or child day-care facilities being closed have to look after their children and are therefore unable to work. What is new is that this compensation can now be applied for online too.

Working in close consultation with nine other states the online system has been developed and provided under the leadership of the North Rhine-Westphalia Ministry of Health, Employment and Social Affairs and the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community. The states of Baden Württemberg, Bremen, Hesse, Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, Lower Saxony, Rhineland Palatinate, Saarland, Saxony-Anhalt and Schleswig Holstein will participate in it on a step-by-step basis.

The project is part of the digitalisation of administrative systems, which - in line with the Online Access Act - is being driven forward in cooperation between federal states and central government.

**Important advice:**

Always check the URL of the online application form and beware of bogus websites. Further tips on how you can protect yourself on the Internet can be found on the [information page](#) of the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) website

***If you have any questions, please contact the press office of the Ministry of Health, Employment and Social Affairs on 0211 855-3118.***

***This press release is also available online on the state government website [www.land.nrw](http://www.land.nrw)***

