

# One week to file your Self Assessment return

Time is running out for customers who still need to file their Self Assessment tax return and avoid a penalty, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has warned.

The deadline for submitting tax returns was 31 January 2022 but, this year, HMRC gave customers extra time to complete their 2020 to 2021 tax return. They have until 28 February to file their return to avoid a late filing penalty.

About 12.2 million customers are expected to file a tax return for 2020 to 2021 tax year and more than 10.2 million were received by 31 January.

About 1.5 million customers have just one week left to complete their late tax return.

HMRC has given customers until 1 April to pay their outstanding tax bill or set up a time to pay arrangement to avoid receiving a late payment penalty. Interest has been applied to all outstanding balances since 1 February.

The existing Time to Pay service allows any individual or business who needs it, the option to [spread their tax payments over time](#). Self Assessment taxpayers with up to £30,000 of tax debt can do this online once they have filed their return. Almost 100,000 customers have used this service since April last year, spreading the cost of their tax bill into manageable monthly instalments.

If customers owe more than £30,000, or need longer to pay, they should call the Self Assessment Payment Helpline on 0300 200 3822.

Myrtle Lloyd, HMRC's Director General for Customer Services, said:

There is one week left to complete your tax return if you haven't done so already. And for anyone who is worried about paying their tax bill, there is support available – search 'pay my Self Assessment' on GOV.UK.

From 22 February, customers will be able to make Self Assessment payments quickly and securely through the [HMRC app](#). Customers choosing to make secure Self Assessment payments through the HMRC app can either connect to their bank to make their payments or pay by Direct Debit, personal debit card or corporate or commercial credit or debit card.

A full list of the payment methods customers can use to [pay their Self Assessment tax bill](#) is available on GOV.UK.

The 2020/21 tax return covers earnings and payments during the pandemic. Customers will need to declare [if they received any grants or payments from the COVID-19 support schemes](#) up to 5 April 2021 on their Self Assessment, as these are taxable, including:

- Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)
- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- other COVID-19 grants and support payments such as self-isolation payments, local authority grants and those for the Eat Out to Help Out scheme

The £500 one-off payment for working households receiving tax credits should not be reported in Self Assessment.

It is important that customers [check and make any changes to their tax return](#) to make sure any Self-Employment Income Support Scheme or other COVID-19 support payments have been reported correctly in their Self Assessment.

HMRC urges everyone to be alert if they are contacted out of the blue by someone asking for money or personal information. Customers should always type in the full online address [www.gov.uk/hmrc](http://www.gov.uk/hmrc) to get the correct link for filing their Self Assessment return online securely and free of charge. HMRC sees high numbers of fraudsters emailing, calling or texting people claiming to be from the department. If anyone is in doubt, do not to reply directly to anything suspicious, but contact HMRC straight away and search [GOV.UK for 'HMRC scams'](#).

10.69 million Self Assessment customers have filed a 2020 to 2021 tax return to date.

The free [HMRC app](#) is available on either the App Store for iOS or the Google Play Store for Android. Customers will need their Government Gateway user ID and password to sign into their account for the first time.