

Self-Isolation Payment Eligibility Guidance

Am I eligible for a payment?

NHS Test and Trace Criteria

Main payment

- Have you tested positive for Covid-19 and been contacted by NHS Test and Trace and been told to self-isolate? Or
- From 30.11.2021, are you suspected or confirmed as a contact of someone with the Omicron variant and been told by NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate? Or
- From 16.08.2021, are you over 18yrs and have you been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 and you are not double vaccinated?
- Do you have a valid NHS Test and Trace reference number?
- Have you responded to your notification from NHS Test and Trace and engaged by providing the legally required information?

Or

Parent/guardian payment

- Are you the parent or guardian of a child (under 15yrs) who has tested positive for Covid-19? Or
- Are you the parent or guardian of a child who is a contact of someone suspected or confirmed to have the Omicron variant? Or
- Are you the parent or guardian of a child (aged 18-25) with an education health plan, who has tested positive for Covid-19 or is a contact of someone who has tested positive?

AND

Main payment Work Status Criteria

- Are you employed or self-employed?
- Are you unable to work from home? **(This must be specifically due to self-isolating and not because you were already unable to work due to lockdown restrictions)**
- Will you lose income as a result of not being able to work from home? **(You must be expecting a reduction in your income while you are self-isolating – maybe you will only receive SSP or will lose out on overtime/additional hours or maybe you are self employed and won't receive any income at all)**

If you answer Yes to all questions above, you may be eligible for a payment if you fit either of the additional criteria below:

ARE YOU EITHER?

- In receipt of one of these benefits?
 - Universal Credit

- Working Tax Credit
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Housing Benefit
- Pension Credit

OR

- Is your income less than £57,400 (couple or single parents) or £39,200 (single person)?
- AND your capital below £10,000?

Siblings Discretionary Scheme

Do you have a child aged 16 or over who has tested positive and you are not eligible for a Government Test and Trace payment (detailed above) and the child has a sibling aged under 16 who has also been asked to self-isolate?

- You must fulfil all other Test & Trace criteria (unable to work from home, will have a loss of earnings etc)
- Your positive child is over 16
- The sibling self-isolating is under 16

A discretionary payment of £500 will be considered if the sibling later tests positive OR £150 if after 3 days the sibling tests negative and returns to the educational establishment

**** You must make your claim within 42 days of the start of your Self-Isolation period.**

How do I apply?

Visit East Suffolk Council Website and select Covid-19 support from the top tasks, followed by 'Self Isolation payment':

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits/east-suffolk-test-and-trace-payment-scheme/>

EVIDENCE AND INFORMATION:

To make your application you will need:

- Your National Insurance Number
- Your unique 8-digit Test and Trace reference number
- Proof of employment or self-employment
- A bank statement showing your address

How do I contact NHS Test and Trace?

If you have any enquiries or complaints regarding your Self-Isolation or test and trace registration, please call the 119.

Is there any other support available if I am not eligible for a payment?

Whether you meet the criteria or not set by Government, there is help available for those facing financial difficulty or needing support. The Suffolk Support and Advice Service helps people across the county access information or support relating to debt, benefits, housing or employment. You can contact the service on 0800 068 3131 between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday or visit the [Suffolk Support and Advice Service website](#).