

INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES MAY APPLY FOR COVID-19 TERS BENEFITS

Dear everyone

Yesterday, 15 May, the Minister of Labour gazetted an amendment to the Covid-19 TERS Directive. Amongst other changes, this amendment provides that an individual employee may apply for the TERS benefits, if –

1. the employee meets the requirement i.e. is a Contributor to the UIF and has lost income as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic;
2. no bargaining council or entity has concluded an MOA with the UIF; and
3. the employee's employer has failed or refused to apply for the TERS benefits.

What is quite confusing though, is that the TERS application portal currently only permits a person to register as either an Employer/Company or as a Bargaining Council. No provision is made for an individual employee to register to apply for the benefits. It's rather unfortunate that this amendment was published, without any direction as to how an individual employee might go about registering and applying for the benefits.

Our advice would be for such an employee to call the TERS Call Centre on **0800 030 007** or send an email enquiry to Covid19TersSupport@labour.gov.za

There are now 500 call centre agents taking a total of approximately 70 000 calls a day. 70% of the calls are attended to within 3 minutes, according to the Minister.

Please note that the portal is not yet open for TERS applications for the month of May. Applications for the period up until 30 April can still be submitted on-line.

Until the next update

STAY SAFE AND KEEP OTHERS SAFE