

## ARE YOU A SOLE PROPRIETOR? WHAT COVID – 19 GOVERNMENT BENEFITS ARE THERE FOR ME?

Most Covid – 19 Government benefits only refer to SMME's and does not mention sole proprietors.

When applying for SMME debt relief, it will not allow you to apply online as the company CIPC registration number is a required field. We are still waiting for clarity on whether this would be opened to sole proprietors.

If you are a sole proprietor and you employ one or more staff member, you need to register as an employer for PAYE and UIF. If you are registered and not in a position to pay salaries to your employees as a result of Covid – 19, you would qualify for the UIF Disaster Benefit for those employees.

There was also a further announcement relating to deferral of PAYE and provisional tax payments, but this announcement makes no mention of businesses trading as sole proprietors. We are still waiting for clarity on whether this will only benefit companies.

- The only potential relief that refers to sole proprietors is the R1 Billion fund from the Ruperts where it categorically states that the fund will have distinct and separate financing programs available for both sole proprietors and formalised SMME's.
- The Edge Group of Companies stays committed to the growth and survival of both SMME's and sole proprietors and we will keep you updated on any new developments.
  - Please contact stefan@edgexec.co.za for additional information or advice relating to Covid 19 Government benefits.