



SSP briefing

Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) is a fixed weekly sum, currently £95.85, which will be paid **by your employer** if you are too sick to work.

To be eligible for SSP, you must:

- be classed as an employee and have done some work for your employer
- earn an average of at least £120 per week
- have been ill, self-isolating or 'shielding' for at least 4 days in a row (including non-working days)

You cannot get SSP if you:

- are self-employed
- are receiving Statutory Maternity Pay
- are sick after having received 28 weeks SSP
- have a continuous series of linked sick periods lasting over three years
- if you're self-isolating after entering or returning to the UK and do not need to self-isolate for any other reason

For regular bouts of sickness to be classed as linked, the periods must last four or more days each time and be eight weeks or less apart. If you're off sick for more than seven days in one go, your employer has the right to request a sick note (or fit note).

If you're eligible, SSP is paid from

- The first day, if you're off work for COVID related reasons
- The fourth day, for non-COVID related sickness

Sean Kelly, 20 February 2021