

Retrenched due to the lockdown?

A 5-step guide for making cents of your financial situation

Losing your job is one of the most stressful situations any of us can face – and now is certainly one of the most difficult times to be faced with this challenge, as the coronavirus crisis severely impacts the markets and the economy on a global scale.

What is crucial now is to turn all your attention to surviving financially until you can find a new job or income source.

Here is a 5-step guide to ensure you can manage your retrenchment well and use it as a stepping-stone to a better future.

1. Immediately take firm control of your financial situation

Firm control of your finances becomes crucial when you are retrenched. Discuss your new financial situation with your family and work together to draw up a new budget to carry you through until you find a new job or source of income. List your expenses, cut out all non-essential expenses and luxuries, and cut back on everything else.

Remember to let your creditors, your bank and your service providers know immediately of the change in your financial situation.

2. Claiming UIF

If UIF (Unemployment Insurance Fund) payments have been deducted from your salary, you may be able to claim a part of your previous salary income from the UIF, until you find other employment or until your benefits run out.

There are many rules that apply regarding who can claim and how much can be claimed, and the application and assessment processes can take time.

Fortunately, it is possible to apply for UIF benefits online – the only option during the lockdown.

Please visit <https://www.ufiling.co.za/uif/> to learn more about the online application process and to access their step-by-step user guide (<https://www.ufiling.co.za/docs/uFilingSystemUserGuide.pdf>).

You will also need your South African ID number, an e-mail address and a cellphone number.

3. Check your insurance

Check to see if you have income protection cover, retrenchment insurance, credit life insurance or another insurance policy that can help you financially.

In general, retrenchment insurance products pay out for up to six months after retrenchment.

If you have taken out a loan, there is a strong possibility that you have credit life insurance, which will assist in covering the cost of your debt while you are unemployed. Check with your credit providers about the terms of the cover.

4. Get back in the game

It can be easy to feel down and demotivated following a retrenchment, but you are well-advised to get back into the game as quickly as possible.

Create an action plan for looking for a new job and creating new sources of income.

Update your CV and cover letters, post your availability on job boards such as Career Junction; Careers24 or Bizcommunity and networking sites such as LinkedIn.

Investigate ways to earn an income working from home. Start by selling all your unwanted goods at a garage sale or on community bulletin boards, or through tech portals such as Facebook groups, Gumtree or OLX. Check out possible freelance jobs on micro job sites such as 5iver, or perhaps look at options such as Uber to make extra money. You could also consider renting out an extra room in your house through AirBnB.

In the meantime, grab the opportunity to improve your skills, by reading, completing online courses or even volunteering. If you have been thinking of starting your own business, get going immediately.

5. Get support

Retrenchment is a difficult experience and it is important to realise you are not alone. Reach out to your family for their crucial support, lean on the encouragement of friends and tap into the power of your social networks. Speak to your creditors and service providers and find out how they can assist you.

Remember also that your Interface Financial Coach is ready and able to help you navigate this difficult time and is just a click or a call away.

Don't wait! Simply click [here](#) now for confidential and professional assistance, whether telephonic or electronic financial coaching and support.

Yours in financial wellness

📞 **0861 635 766 or dial *134*928#**

Send a 'please call me' to 072 620 5699

✉ email: asknelson@kaelo.co.za

🌐 web: www.kaelo.co.za

Standard call rates apply



Contact Us

kaelolifestyle

family wellbeing: AskNelson



0861 635 766 or *134*928#

Send a 'please call me' to
072 620 5699



asknelson@kaelo.co.za



www.kaelo.co.za

Standard call rates apply