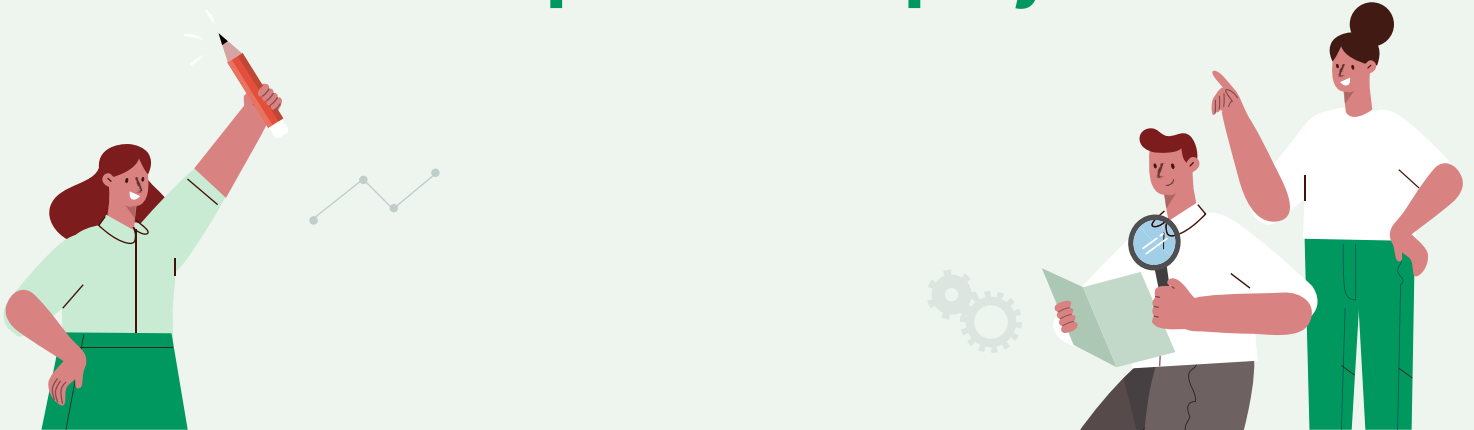


# Project to Support Youth and Workers in Blind Spot for Employment



As the COVID-19 is wreaking havoc, the number of people who have lost jobs or have been temporarily laid off due to business suspensions is rising. In order to lend economic support to those mired in economic difficulties, the national and local governments are implementing various types of policies and programs, including youth support projects, policies to help the livelihood of employees experiencing temporary layoffs, and measures to support workers in special types of jobs, freelancers, artists, and performers.

## 01 Youth Support Projects Implemented by Seoul Metropolitan Government



### Emergency allowance to care for youths who lost part-time positions

In March and April, Seoul Metropolitan Government will pay a youth allowance of KRW 500,000 a month to the young adults of Seoul between 19 and 34 years of age who have lost part-time jobs involuntarily due to the spread of COVID-19 from January 20 to March 20, 2020. As the number of applicants rose above expected levels, the scale of support was expanded.



### Youth freelancer support project to overcome the coronavirus crisis

The city government is collecting project ideas to help young freelancers experiencing financial difficulties due to the coronavirus as well. Businesses whose president is between 19 and 39 of age with offices in Seoul can submit project proposals. Given the risk of coronavirus infection, applications will only be accepted online.

## 02 Support for Workers Having Economic Difficulties

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### Support of living expenses for workers in a temporary layoff

For workers who came into a leave of absence as the COVID-19 alert level was raised to the highest level, employment and livelihood stabilization projects have been implemented. Incheon Metropolitan City, Jeollabuk-do, and Changwon city of Gyeongsangnam-do are accepting applications for livelihood grants from workers who are temporarily laid off.



### Support for workers in special types of jobs and freelancers

As people are increasingly avoiding personal contacts due to the coronavirus, special types of jobs like instructors with home-study materials and freelancers are declining. In particular, those engaged in tourism, tourist accommodation, and tourist transport businesses were hit hard as these sectors require direct contact with customers. Hence, the local governments prepared additional support measures for workers who were mired in blind spots for employment. The amount of the grants vary depending on the region.

## 03 Support for Artists and Cultural Professionals

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Amid the coronavirus pandemic, arts communities are experiencing unprecedented challenges. When the COVID-19 alert level was raised to “serious,” and intensive social distancing was enacted, the arts community was plunged into a panic. With growing fears of infection, guests shunned theaters and halls, and national public performance centers announced events cancellations or postponement.

Naturally, private sector performance centers and production companies were also affected, resulting in the unprecedented shutdown of musical theater.

Continuous cancellations of cultural events have brought serious economic challenges to professionals engaged in arts and culture as well as related organizations. Hence, the national and local governments prepared various measures and policies to help them rise again following the pandemic.

Daegu Metropolitan City, Incheon Metropolitan City, other local governments, and the national government have decided to provide economic support to artists. Seoul Metropolitan Government is supporting the cost of planning and production for performances canceled due to the coronavirus (KRW 20 million per performing team). In addition, the city government is covering the cost of production and performance, and livestream performance broadcasting expenses to support ten teams, artists, and arts organizations suffering from cancellations due to social distancing.

Gwangju Metropolitan City is operating “YouTube Home Theater” as an art project to overcome the coronavirus pandemic. Virtual performances in the theaters of Gwangju Culture & Art Center and livestream shows by municipal arts institutions, and Korean traditional music concerts are broadcast online live via YouTube.

