



## Press release

Date: 25.09.2020

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# Coronavirus: 2021 budget – subsequent notifications of CHF 1.4 billion for measures to counter impact of COVID-19 pandemic

**The Federal Council and Parliament have adopted various measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in recent weeks, resulting in a need for additional funds of CHF 1.4 billion in the 2021 budget. During its meeting on September 25, 2020, the Federal Council approved a corresponding subsequent notification for the 2021 budget.**

The Federal Council had approved the 2021 budget on August 19, 2020. In addition, it has now approved further expenditure of CHF 1.4 billion to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Taking the subsequent notifications into account, the Confederation's budgeted expenditure for 2021 is CHF 78.3 billion. This corresponds to expenditure growth of 3.9% relative to the 2020 budget, due almost exclusively to COVID-19-related expenditure. The estimated deficit in the ordinary budget is now CHF 2.5 billion. The debt brake requirements are nevertheless met.

Given the continuing restrictions and the still uncertain outlook, further support measures to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic are planned for 2021. In terms of amount, the most significant subsequent notifications relate to support for public transportation (regional passenger and rail freight traffic; 514 mn), the recapitalization of Skyguide (250 mn), financial assistance in the cultural arena (130 mn) and measures to compensate for loss of earnings (COVID-19 loss of earnings compensation; 490 mn). Furthermore, there are subsequent notifications in the seven to eight-figure range concerning the procurement of medicines, export promotion and commercial rents.

The only subsequent notification that is not related to COVID-19 concerns loans to supervisory organisations in the area of financial market supervision, for which CHF 1 million is to be set aside in the 2021 budget.

**Expenditure to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in the 2021 budget (dispatch)**

- Cover for losses on COVID-19 sureties: 1,000 mn
- COVID-19 tests: 289 mn
- Loans to professional leagues (or professional clubs, sport): 175 mn
- Non-repayable sport contributions: 100 mn
- Media support: 17.5 mn

**Additional expenditure (subsequent notifications) to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in the 2021 budget**

- Measures to compensate for loss of earnings for the self-employed: 490 mn
- Public transportation: 514 mn
- Financial stabilization of Skyguide: 250 mn
- Cultural arena measures: 130 mn
- Hardship compensation for landlords (commercial rents): 20 mn
- Medicines: 4 mn
- Export promotion: 2.6 mn
- Ethanol storage: 0.5 mn

**Further details:**

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