FOR BUSINESS OWNERS / A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Could SEIS or EIS help your business raise investment?

Two UK schemes that may make investing in your business more attractive to eligible investors.

What are SEIS and EIS?

The Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme (SEIS) and Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS) offer tax reliefs to qualifying individuals who buy new shares in eligible companies. SEIS is aimed at younger businesses; EIS supports qualifying businesses raising capital for growth.

How could your business benefit?

The tax benefits available to investors may help you attract funding for your next stage, such as developing a product, hiring people or reaching new customers. The money comes from investors in exchange for shares: it is not a government grant or a loan.

Why this can appeal to investors

Eligible investors may claim Income Tax relief of 50% under SEIS or 30% under EIS, subject to the scheme rules and sufficient UK Income Tax liability. This is a potential benefit for investors, not a payment to your business.

How your practice can support you

- Talk through your plans, funding needs and whether equity investment is worth exploring.
- Help identify the information needed to assess the relevant scheme route.
- Review what you already have and identify preparation gaps.
- Coordinate specialist help with a business plan, pitch deck or Advance Assurance application.

Where needed, your practice can work with Oriel IPO on your behalf, while keeping your existing adviser relationship at the centre. Any service, fee and responsibility would be agreed with you first.

What is Advance Assurance?

It is HMRC's view on certain scheme conditions for a proposed investment, based on the information provided. It can help explain the scheme position to potential investors, but does not guarantee funding or an investor's tax relief.

Interested in exploring this?

Speak to your accountant or adviser about your growth plans and any documents you already have. You do not need to understand the schemes or have a finished fundraising pack to start the conversation.

Official guidance: HMRC SEIS HMRC EIS

General information only. Scheme eligibility needs checking and ongoing conditions apply. Neither fundraising nor HMRC approval is guaranteed. Guidance checked 28 October 2026.