

CARES Act Small Business Relief Programs Summary

The programs and initiatives in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that was just passed by Congress are intended to assist business owners with whatever needs they have right now. When implemented, there will be many new resources available for small businesses, as well as certain non-profits and other employers. This guide provides information about the major programs and initiatives that will soon be available from the Small Business Administration (SBA) to address these needs, as well as some additional tax provisions that are outside the scope of SBA.

RESOURCE BY



Struggling to get started? The following questions might help point you in the right direction.

DO YOU NEED

- **Capital to cover the cost of retaining employees?** Then the Paycheck Protection Program might be right for you.
- **A quick infusion of a smaller amount of cash to cover you right now?** You might want to look into an Emergency Economic Injury Grant.
- **To ease your fears about keeping up with payments on your current or potential SBA loan?** The Small Business Debt Relief Program could help.

To keep up to date on when these programs become available, please stay in contact with your Small Business Administration (SBA) NYC District Office.

Paycheck Protection Program

The program would provide cash-flow assistance through 100 percent federally guaranteed loans to employers who maintain their payroll during this emergency. If employers maintain their payroll, the loans would be forgiven, which would help workers remain employed, as well as help affected small businesses and our economy to snap-back quicker after the crisis. PPP has a host of attractive features, such as forgiveness of up to 8 weeks of payroll based on employee retention and salary levels, no SBA fees and at least six months of deferral with maximum deferrals of up to a year. Small businesses and other eligible entities will be able to apply if they were harmed by COVID-19 between February 15, 2020 and June 30, 2020. This program is would be retroactive to February 15, 2020, in order to help bring workers who may have already been laid off back onto payrolls. **Loans are available through June 30, 2020.**

QUESTION: WHAT TYPES OF BUSINESSES AND ENTITIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A PPP LOAN?

ANSWER:

- Businesses and entities must have been in operation on February 15, 2020.
- Small business concerns, as well as any business concern, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a 501(c)(19) veterans organization, or Tribal business concern described in section 31(b)(2)(C) that has fewer than 500 employees or fewer employees than established by the relevant industry code.
- Individuals who operate a sole proprietorship or as an independent contractor and eligible self-employed individuals.

- Any business concern that employs not more than 500 employees per physical location of the business concern and that is assigned a North American Industry Classification System code beginning with 72, for which the affiliation rules are waived. (SEE NEXT PAGE)
- Affiliation rules are also waived for any business concern operating as a franchise that is assigned a franchise identifier code by the Administration, and company that receives funding through a Small Business Investment Company.

QUESTION: WHAT ARE AFFILIATION RULES?

ANSWER: They become important when SBA is deciding whether a business's affiliations preclude them from being considered "small." Generally, affiliation exists when one business controls or has the power to control another or when a third party (or parties) controls or has the power to control both businesses. Please see this resource for more on these rules and how they can impact your business's eligibility.

QUESTION: HOW IS THE LOAN SIZE DETERMINED?

ANSWER: Depending on your business's situation, the loan size will be calculated in different ways (see below). The maximum loan size is always \$10 million.

- **If you were in business February 15, 2019 – June 30, 2019:** Your max loan is equal to 250 percent of your average monthly payroll costs during that time period. If your business employs seasonal workers, you can opt to choose March 1, 2019 as your time period start date.
- **If you were not in business between February 15, 2019 – June 30, 2019:** Your max loan is equal to 250 percent of your average monthly payroll costs between January 1, 2020 and February 29, 2020.
- **If you took out an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) between February 15, 2020 and June 30, 2020** and you want to refinance that loan into a PPP loan, you would add the outstanding loan amount to the payroll sum.

QUESTION: WHAT COSTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYROLL?

ANSWER:

- Compensation (salary, wage, commission, or similar compensation, payment of cash tip or equivalent)
- Payment for vacation, parental, family, medical, or sick leave
- Allowance for dismissal or separation
- Payment required for the provisions of group health care benefits, including insurance premiums
- Payment of any retirement benefit
- Payment of State or local tax assessed on the compensation of employees

QUESTION: WHAT COSTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PAYROLL?

ANSWER:

- Employee/owner compensation over \$100,000
- Taxes imposed or withheld under chapters 21, 22, and 24 of the IRS code
- Compensation of employees whose principal place of residence is outside of the U.S
- Qualified sick and family leave for which a credit is allowed under sections 7001 and 7003 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act

QUESTION: WHAT ARE ALLOWABLE USES OF LOAN PROCEEDS?

ANSWER:

- Payroll costs (as noted above)
- Costs related to the continuation of group health care benefits during periods of paid sick, medical, or family leave, and insurance premiums
- Employee salaries, commissions, or similar compensations (see exclusions above)
- Payments of interest on any mortgage obligation (which shall not include any prepayment of or payment of principal on a mortgage obligation)
- Rent (including rent under a lease agreement)
- Utilities
- Interest on any other debt obligations that were incurred before the covered period

QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE LOAN TERM, INTEREST RATE, AND FEES?

ANSWER: The maximum term is 10 years, the maximum interest rate is 4 percent, zero loan fees, zero prepayment fee (SBA will establish application fees caps for lenders that charge).

QUESTION: HOW IS THE FORGIVENESS AMOUNT CALCULATED?

ANSWER: Forgiveness on a covered loan is equal to the sum of the following payroll costs incurred during the covered 8 week period compared to the previous year or time period, proportionate to maintaining employees and wages (excluding compensation over \$100,000): (SEE NEXT PAGE)

Payroll costs plus any payment of interest on any covered mortgage obligation (not including any prepayment or payment of principal on a covered mortgage obligation) plus any payment on any covered rent obligation plus and any covered utility payment.

QUESTION: HOW DO I GET FORGIVENESS ON MY PPP LOAN?

ANSWER: You must apply through your lender for forgiveness on your loan. In this application, you must include:

- Documentation verifying the number of employees on payroll and pay rates, including IRS payroll tax filings and State income, payroll and unemployment insurance filing.
- Documentation verifying payments on covered mortgage obligations, lease obligations, and utilities.
- Certification from a representative of your business or organization that is authorized to certify that the documentation provided is true and that the amount that is being forgiven was used in accordance with the program's guidelines for use.

QUESTION: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE FORGIVENESS PERIOD?

ANSWER: Any loan amounts not forgiven at the end of one year is carried forward as an ongoing loan with max terms of 10 years, at 4% max interest. Principal and interest will continue to be deferred, for a total of 6 months to a year after disbursement of the loan. The clock does not start again.

QUESTION: CAN I GET MORE THAN ONE PPP LOAN?

ANSWER: No, an entity is limited to one PPP loan. Each loan will be registered under a Taxpayer Identification Number at SBA to prevent multiple loans to the same entity.

QUESTION: WHAT KIND OF LENDER CAN I GET A PPP LOAN FROM?

ANSWER: All current SBA 7(a) lenders (see more about 7(a) here) are eligible lenders for PPP. The Department of Treasury will also be in charge of authorizing new lenders, including non-bank lenders, to help meet the needs of small business owners.

QUESTION: HOW DOES THE PPP LOAN COORDINATE WITH SBA'S EXISTING LOANS?

ANSWER: Borrowers may apply for PPP loans and other SBA financial assistance, including Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs), 7(a) loans, 504 loans, and microloans, and also receive investment capital from Small Business Investment Corporations (SBICs).

QUESTION: HOW DOES THE PPP LOAN WORK WITH THE TEMPORARY EMERGENCY ECONOMIC INJURY GRANTS AND THE SMALL BUSINESS DEBT RELIEF PROGRAM?

ANSWER: Emergency Economic Injury Grant recipients and those who receive loan payment relief through the Small Business Debt Relief Program may apply for and take out a PPP loan. Refer to those sections for more information.

To keep up to date on when these programs become available, please stay in contact with your Small Business Administration (SBA) NYC District Office.

Economic Injury Disaster Loans & Emergency Economic Injury Grants

These grants provide an emergency advance of up to \$10,000 to small businesses and private non-profits harmed by COVID-19 within three days of applying for an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). To access the advance, you must first apply for an EIDL and then request the advance. The advance does not need to be repaid under any circumstance, and may be used to keep employees on payroll, to pay for sick leave, meet increased production costs due to supply chain disruptions, or pay business obligations, including debts, rent and mortgage payments.

QUESTION: ARE BUSINESSES AND PRIVATE NON-PROFITS IN MY STATE ELIGIBLE FOR AN EIDL RELATED TO COVID-19?

ANSWER: Yes, those suffering substantial economic injury in all 50 states, DC, and the territories may apply for an EIDL.

QUESTION: WHAT IS AN EIDL AND WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

ANSWER: EIDLs are lower interest loans of up to \$2 million, with principal and interest deferment available for up to 4 years, that are available to pay for expenses that could have been met had the disaster not occurred, including payroll and other operating expenses.

QUESTION: WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR AN EMERGENCY ECONOMIC INJURY GRANT?

ANSWER: Those eligible for an EIDL and who have been in operation since January 31, 2020.

QUESTION: HOW LONG ARE EMERGENCY ECONOMIC INJURY GRANTS AVAILABLE?

ANSWER: January 31, 2020 – December 31, 2020. The grants are backdated to January 31, 2020 to allow those who have already applied for EIDLs to be eligible to also receive a grant.

QUESTION: IF I GET AN EIDL AND/OR AN EMERGENCY ECONOMIC INJURY GRANT, CAN I GET A PPP LOAN?

ANSWER: Whether you've already received an EIDL unrelated to COVID-19 or you receive a COVID-19 related EIDL and/or Emergency Grant between January 31, 2020 and June 30, 2020, you may also apply for a PPP loan. If you ultimately receive a PPP loan or refinance an EIDL into a PPP loan, any advance amount received under the Emergency Economic Injury Grant Program would be subtracted from the amount forgiven in the PPP.

QUESTION: HOW DO I KNOW IF MY BUSINESS IS A SMALL BUSINESS?

ANSWER: Please visit <https://www.sba.gov/size-standards/> to find out if your business meets SBA's small business size standards. You will need the 6-digit North American Industry Classification Code for your business and your business' 3-year average annual revenue.

QUESTION: HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOAN?

ANSWER: To apply for an EIDL online, please visit <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Your SBA District Office is an important resource when applying for SBA assistance.

To keep up to date on when these programs become available, please stay in contact with your Small Business Administration (SBA) NYC District Office.

Small Business Debt Relief Program

This program will provide immediate relief to small businesses with non-disaster SBA loans, in particular 7(a), 504, and microloans. Under it, SBA will cover all loan payments on these SBA loans, including principal, interest, and fees, for six months. This relief will also be available to new borrowers who take out loans within six months of the President signing the bill into law.

QUESTION: WHICH SBA LOANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DEBT RELIEF UNDER THIS PROGRAM?

ANSWER: 7(a) loans not made under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), 504 loans, and microloans. Disaster loans are not eligible.

QUESTION: HOW DOES DEBT RELIEF UNDER THIS PROGRAM WORK WITH A PPP LOAN?

ANSWER: Borrowers may separately apply for and take out a PPP loan, but debt relief under this program will not apply to a PPP loan.

QUESTION: HOW DO I KNOW IF I'M ELIGIBLE FOR A 7(A), 504, OR MICROLOAN?

ANSWER: In general, businesses must meet size standards, be based in the U.S., be able to repay, and have a sound business purpose. Each program has different requirements, see <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans> for more details.

QUESTION: WHAT IS A 7(A) LOAN AND HOW DO I APPLY?

ANSWER: 7(a) loans are an affordable loan product of up to \$5 million for borrowers who lack credit elsewhere and need access to versatile financing, providing short-term or long-term working capital and to purchase an existing business, refinance current business debt, or purchase furniture, fixtures and supplies. In the program, banks share a portion of the risk of the loan with SBA. There are many different types of 7(a) loans, you can visit this site to find the one that's best for you. You apply for a 7(a) loan with a bank or a mission-based lender. SBA has a free referral service tool called Lender Match to help find a lender near you.

QUESTION: WHAT IS A 504 LOAN AND HOW DO I APPLY?

ANSWER: The 504 Loan Program provides loans of up to \$5.5 million to approved small businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing used to acquire fixed assets for expansion or modernization. It is a good option if you need to purchase real estate, buildings, and machinery. You apply through a Certified Development Company, which is a nonprofit corporation that promotes economic development. SBA has a free referral service tool called Lender Match to help find a lender near you.

QUESTION: WHAT IS A MICROLOAN AND HOW DO I APPLY?

ANSWER: The Microloan Program provides loans up to \$50,000 to help small businesses and certain not-for-profit childcare centers to start up and expand. The average microloan is about \$13,000. These loans are delivered through mission-based lenders who are also able to provide business counseling. SBA has a free referral service tool called Lender Match to help find a microlender near you.

To keep up to date on when these programs become available, please stay in contact with your Small Business Administration (SBA) NYC District Office.