

COVID-19: ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

(USA)

Last updated: March 28, 2020

RELIEF/LOAN ASSISTANCE

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA) – FEDERAL RESOURCE

1. SBA Economic Injury Loan Program

- a. The SBA is offering low interest loans of up to **\$2 mil** to small business with an interest rate of **3.75%**. Loan repayments vary per applicant with a maximum of **30 years**
 - i. As of March 23, businesses in every state plus American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands can apply
 - ii. The loan can be used to cover accounts payable, debts, payroll and any other bills that COVID-19 has affected businesses' ability to pay.
 - iii. These loans can be deferred for up to 4 years.
 - iv. The loan can be used to cover accounts payable, debts, payroll, and any other bills that COVID-19 has affected businesses' ability to pay.
 - v. These loans can be deferred for up to 4 years
 - vi. Borrowers can receive a **\$10,000** emergency grant cash advance that can be forgiven if spent on paid leave, maintaining payroll, increased costs due to supply chain disruption, mortgage or lease payments. This grant can be accessed even if the business is denied a loan
 - vii. Businesses can apply online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>

2. Paycheck Protection Loan

- a. The SBA will guarantee loans with terms of up to **10 years** and interest rates of up to **4%** to businesses with **fewer than 500 employees**

- b. Businesses can qualify for loans of up to **\$10 mil** and the loans are provided by lenders including banks and credit unions
- c. Eligible businesses can get loan deferment for six months to a year, and the loan may be forgiven if the business maintains its payroll for **8 weeks** at employees' normal salary levels
- d. To apply, go to your financial provider to see if they will support this loan

Source: sba.gov (<https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>)

STATE-LEVEL RESOURCES

1. CALIFORNIA

a. San Francisco COVID-19 Small Business Resiliency Fund

- i. The San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) has created a **fund** for small business owners to access up to **\$10,000** for employee salaries and rent.
- ii. The following **requirements** hold:
 - 1. Have at least 1 employee and no more than 5 employees
 - 2. Demonstrate a loss of revenue of 25% or more
 - 3. Have less than \$2,500,000 in gross receipts
 - 4. Be engaged in activities that are regulated by the City and County of San Francisco and have a license/permit associated to that regulation
- iii. Application forms are available here
<https://oewd.org/file/17350>

Source: oewd.org (<https://oewd.org/covid-19-small-business-resiliency-fund>)

b. Los Angeles City Small Business Emergency Microloan Program

- i. Businesses and microenterprises in the City of LA can apply for an **emergency microloan** of between **\$5,000 to \$20,000**
- ii. Loans with repayment terms of **six months to one year** carry **0% interest**, while a term of up to **5 years** will be from **3% to 5%**

- iii. Eligibility and online application can be found here:
<https://ewddlacity.com/index.php/microloan-program>

Source: ewddlacity.com (<https://ewddlacity.com/index.php/microloan-program>)

2. COLORADO

a. Denver Small Business Emergency Relief

- i. For the City and County of Denver, **\$7,500** in cash grants, distributed monthly, is available to small business most impacted by COVID-19
- ii. First applications are due March 31
- iii. The program is still undergoing finalisation, but to provide information and apply, go online to:
<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/environmental-health/news/coronavirus-info/support-services/small-business-emergency-relief-program-form.html>

Source: denvergov.org

(<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/environmental-health/news/coronavirus-info/support-services.html#business>)

3. ILLINOIS

a. Chicago Small Business Resiliency Fund

- i. A \$100 mil fund has been created to support local, small business in Chicago, enabling up to **\$50,000** to be lent at a **“low-interest”** for up to **five years**
- ii. 50% of loan proceeds should be applied toward **payroll** and **commitment to retain the workforce at 50% pre-COVID-19 levels.**
- iii. Eligibility requirements are as follows:
 - 1. Suffered more than **25% revenue decrease due to COVID-19**
 - 2. Employ **fewer than 50 employees** and have **gross revenues of less than \$3 mil in 2019**
 - 3. Provide a City business address or City business license
 - 4. No pre-existing tax liens or legal judgments
- iv. Interest forms are to be filled online
(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COVID19Chicago>), following which a representative will contact the business.

Source: chicago.gov

(https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/mayor/press_room/press_releases/2020/march/SmallBusinessReliefPackage.html)

4. MICHIGAN

a. Michigan Small Business Relief Program

- i. The State of Michigan as both **grants and loans** available to small businesses starting on or around April 1
- ii. Grants are available for up to **\$10,000** to cover working capital
- iii. Loans are available in amounts from **\$50,000 to \$200,000** at a **0.25%** interest rate per annum
- iv. Eligibility Requirements:
 1. Companies with **50 or fewer** employees for grants, **100 or fewer** for loans
 2. Needs to demonstrate income loss as a result of COVID-19
 3. Needs working capital to support various expenses that occur in the ordinary course of business (i.e. payroll, rent, utility etc.)
- v. Applications are **not available yet**

Source: michiganbusiness.org (<https://www.michiganbusiness.org/covid19/>)

5. NEW YORK

a. New York City Employee Retention Grant Program

- i. Small businesses with **one to four employees** can apply for a grant of up to **\$27,000** that covers **40% of payroll costs** over the course of **two months**
- ii. Eligibility requirements:
 1. Be located within the five boroughs of New York City
 2. Demonstrate that the COVID-19 outbreak caused at least a 25% decrease in revenue
 3. Have been in operation for at least 6 months
 4. Have no outstanding tax liens or legal judgements
- iii. Application can be done online at SBS connect, visit <https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/nyc-employee-retention-grant-program>

b. New York City Small Business Continuity Fund

- i. Small businesses with **fewer than 100 employees** can get up to **\$75,000** in **interest-free loans** to cover revenue losses
- ii. Eligibility Requirements:
 1. Be located within the five boroughs of New York City
 2. Demonstrate that the COVID-19 outbreak caused at least a 25% decrease in revenue
 3. Have been in operation for at least 6 months
 4. Have no outstanding tax liens or legal judgements
- iii. Application interest forms available online, official application **not available yet**:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZL5N8XL>

Source: nyc.gov (<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/sbs/businesses/covid19-business-outreach.page>)

6. FLORIDA

a. Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program

- i. Loans of up to **\$50,000 - \$100,000 in special cases** – are available to small businesses with **fewer than 50 employees**[®] affected by COVID-19 in all Florida counties
- ii. The loan term is **one year** and is **interest free for that year**, after which a **12% interest rate** will apply on the remaining balance
- iii. Eligibility requirements:
 1. Must demonstrate economic injury as a result of COVID-19
 2. Must be established in Florida prior to March 9, 2020
 3. Must be a small business
- iv. Applications must be submitted online by May 8, 2020 at:
<https://deosera.force.com/RebuildFloridaBusinessLoanFund/s/>

Source: floridajobs.org (<https://deosera.force.com/RebuildFloridaBusinessLoanFund/s/>)

LENDER AND CORPORATE SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

For information on possible lending programs from your bank, check the American Bankers Association (ABA) website for a list of COVID-19 related relief information.

<https://www.aba.com/about-us/press-room/industry-response-coronavirus>

FACEBOOK SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS PROGRAM

Facebook has committed \$100 mil in cash grants and Facebook advertising credits available for small business in the 30 countries Facebook operates in. More information will be released soon and you can sign up to receive information at:

<https://www.facebook.com/business/boost/grant>

AMAZON NEIGHBOURHOOD SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF FUND

Businesses with 50 employees or less in Bellevue, Washington and the South Lake Union and Regrade neighbourhoods of Seattle can apply for a grant from Amazon's \$5 mil fund. More information will be released soon, and you can sign up to receive information at:

<https://amazonsmallbusinessrelief.force.com/SelfRegisterPage>

LOCAL ASSISTANCE

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA) – FEDERAL RESOURCE

1. **SBA Local Assistance**
 - a. The SBA offers business consultancy services for those affected by COVID-19 to help counsel, mentor, and train small businesses for the way forward
 - b. Businesses can search for assistance online:
<https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance>

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)

1. **FEMA Emergency Planning Exercises**
 - a. The FEMA offers various tabletop exercises for emergency planning that may help small businesses navigate through these uncertain times and prepare for further uncertainty.

- b. The exercises can be found online:

<https://www.fema.gov/emergency-planning-exercises>

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1. Chamber of Commerce Online Articles

- a. The Chamber of Commerce has numerous articles on their website with valuable information on how businesses can alter their activity and navigate through the current economic climate.
- b. State-level Chambers may offer further assistance to small businesses, each chamber location and contact information can be found online, along with the articles, here:

<https://www.uschamber.com/co/small-business-coronavirus>

