



Updated 3/11/2021

## **Coronavirus Business Resource Guide**

If you are a business owner or employee of a business that has been affected by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), check here for information about your next steps.

In partnership with Stanislaus County, County Health Services Agency and the Valley Sierra Small Business Development Center, the City of Modesto has compiled a comprehensive list of local, state and government resources and benefits for businesses and employees affected by the emerging situation. Resources listed below include potentially available funding for working capital for small business, public health information links, workforce resources and how to help employees affected by Coronavirus.

### **CHECK THESE RESOURCES FOR CURRENT INFORMATION**

- 3/11/21: Rounds 3, 4, 5 and 6 of [California Small Business Covid Relief Grant](#) program update.

Rounds 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the California Small Business Covid Relief Grant Program. All rounds' grant awards are from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

- Round 3 is only for waitlisted business applicants from rounds 1 and 2.
- Round 4 is for non-profit cultural institutions - a new application is required and applications are open 3/16/21 through 3/23/21.
- Round 5 is for waitlisted businesses and non-profits and new eligible applicants. Applications will be open 3/25/21 through 3/31/21.
- Round 6 to be announced will be for waitlisted businesses and non-profit cultural institutions from all prior rounds and eligible new applicants.

- 2/17/21: **California \$9.6 billion household and small business stimulus package**

#### **Household Stimulus / Relief**

- Total Relief amount - \$9.5 Billion
  - Source funds is California tax except for \$400 Million in Federal Funds for childcare assistance.
- Low income family relief - \$600 per household or person
  - Households that qualified for Earned Income Tax Credit in 2020 with earnings below \$30,000
  - People who filed taxes with individual tax identification numbers who did not receive federal stimulus payments with income below \$75,000 are eligible for \$600 payments.
  - Benefits will go to households regardless of citizenship status. Undocumented families that did not receive Federal \$600 benefits who qualify for EITC and filed taxes with individual tax identification numbers are also eligible for another \$600 California benefit, bringing their total benefit potential to \$1,200.
  - People on the state's welfare program CalWORKS, disabled and elderly people in the SSI/SSP program, and people in the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants are also eligible for \$600 payments.
  - \$24 million to house agricultural workers who must quarantine from their families.

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- \$100 million in financial aid for low-income community college students carrying at least six units; \$20 million for engagement programs for students who have left or are at risk of leaving due to the pandemic.
- \$35 million for food banks and diapers.
- \$6 million in outreach and assistance services to UC, CSU and Community College students newly eligible for CalFresh federal food assistance program.

### **Small Business**

- Small business relief - \$2.1 Billion.
  - Grants from \$5,000 to \$25,000
  - Small businesses, nonprofit and cultural centers are eligible.
  - State tax exemption of first \$150,000 expenses paid by federal Paycheck Protection Plan Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
  - Two years of fee waivers for restaurants and bars licensed to serve alcohol and licensed barbers and cosmetologists.

### **Childcare**

- Allocation of \$400 Million in Federal funds to provide \$525 payment per enrolled child to all state-subsidized childcare and preschool providers.

### **California Budget Cuts Restoration**

- \$857 million in restored funding to University of California, California State University, state court system and other functions.

### **K-12 Schools**

- Nothing in this program. Separate discussions are ongoing about safe school reopening.

More information: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/02/17/governor-newsom-legislative-leaders-announce-immediate-action-agreement-for-relief-to-californians-experiencing-pandemic-hardship/>

- 1/28/21: Round 2 of the **California Small Business Relief Grant** program opens for applications on February 2, 2021 and ends on February 8, 2021. Grants for underserved and/or small businesses up to \$25,000 are available. Complete information is available on the [Small Business Relief Grant](#) web page.
- 1/11/21: The “Second Draw” of the Paycheck Protection Program PPP is open for applications starting January 11, 2021. Businesses are encouraged to connect with lenders and get their applications ready ASAP. Follow [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) for continuing information. Here is some timely information provided by a reputable advisor. This section is longer than usual for this resource document but may help answer some of your questions quickly to help you get your application ready:

### **Paycheck Protection Program Round 2 (PPP2)**

#### **Where To Apply**

- Applications for PPP are made through private financial institutions approved for lending by the SBA (*banks, credit unions, and financial technology companies*)

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- You will complete the entire application through these private lenders' application websites.
- You do **not** need to have an existing bank account in order to apply with a lender.
- Lenders may take some time to update their application websites for PPP2. Please check often to apply in time.
  - Feel free to search anticipated lenders on this [List of 2020 SBA Lenders](#).
- We have found that applying through Financial Technology ("*FinTech*") company lenders have been the most responsive to "micro" small businesses under 50 employees. These include but are not limited to companies such as:
  - Blue Vine: <https://www.bluevine.com/paycheck-protection-program/>
  - Cross River: <https://www.crossriversba.com/>
  - Fundbox: <https://fundbox.com/paycheck-protection-loan/>
  - Funding Circle: <https://www.fundingcircle.com/us/paycheck-protection-program-loans/>
  - Paypal: <https://www.loanbuilder.com/ppp-loan-support>

### When to Apply

- **Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**: first-draw PPP Loans from CDFIs
    - "Shortly thereafter" all lenders will be able to issue first draw PPP loans (*Look out for updates from our office*)
  - **Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**: second-draw PPP Loans from CDFIs
    - "Shortly thereafter" all lenders will be able to issue second draw PPP loans (*Look out for updates from our office*)
  - Loans will close on **Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, or when funds run out.**
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- As of December 8, 2020 1010 Tenth Street is closed to the public per the [California Public Health Stay at Home Order](#), until the order is ended.
  - As of December 1, 2020 the State of California is accepting registrations by small businesses for new-hire tax credits of \$1,000 per hire made between July 1, 2020 and November 30, 2020. Refer to program information for the [Main Street Small Business Tax Credit](#).
  - Starting October 26, 2020, applications are open for the [WorkSafe Stanislaus](#) COVID-19 Safe Reopening Assistance for Business program. The WORK Safe Stanislaus Reopening Assistance Program is a \$500,000 total award program that is designed to assist businesses that have been adversely affected by COVID-19 through reimbursement funds for Personal Protective Equipment and other related equipment/service that were necessary purchases to keep the business open and from laying off employees. This program is funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act and funds will be awarded on a first come, first served basis.
  - Effective 8/31/2020, [California Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) introduces new classification categories for severity of coronavirus spread, and updates restriction guidelines for all business and activity types by county. County by county guidance is available on the [California COVID-19 site](#).
  - [Stanislaus County website](#) for the most up-to-date information about how to prepare and understand how our region is being impacted.
    - Learn about [Stanislaus County \\$10 million business grant program](#) that is accepting applications starting July 31, 2020 at 8:00 am through August 28, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Grant funds are intended to be used for operational needs such as payroll, lease/mortgage payments, materials, supplies, and services.

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- Check out the [Stanislaus County Workforce Development SnapBack Assistance for Workers](#) program.
- For California business relief and related issues, go to <https://www.CABizRelief.org> and <https://business.ca.gov/coronavirus-2019/>
- Small Business Administration, for finance programs including the Paycheck Protection Program - <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>
  - **Lender search for PPP loans:** <https://www.sba.gov/paycheckprotection/find>
- Many COVID-19 business answers and resources are available at the California Association for Economic Development website
- Unemployed? Check out this job matching site: <https://onwardca.org/>

## FOR AFFECTED BUSINESSES

### Financing

- [City of Modesto Small Business Assistance Program](#) (SBAP), for business fee and tax deferral, and zero-interest forgivable emergency loans up to \$10,000. The application period ended at midnight, May 14, 2020.
- U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship - “The Small Business Owner’s Guide to the CARES Act” - <https://www.sbc.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/guide-to-the-cares-act>
- The U.S. Treasury Paycheck Protection Program - <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/PPP%20--%20Overview.pdf>

Applications closed on June 30, 2020.

- IRS Employee Retention Tax Credit - <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/employee-retention-credit> this program can provide fast assistance to employers whose businesses are impacted by COVID-19. Offering tax credits up to 50% on certain taxes, and retroactive to March 12, 2020. If you have already overpaid employment taxes, you may be able to get a credit very quickly. If you have received a PPP loan, your business is ineligible.
- The [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) announced the availability of low-interest federal disaster loans (up to \$2 Million) for working capital to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus. These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can’t be paid because of the disaster’s impact. A March 13, 2020 webinar hosted by the SBA, the Small Business Majority, America’s Small Business Development Centers, and the California Employment Development Department covers useful information and resources for business. [Access the webinar presentation slides](#) or [View the on-demand webinar](#).

### **SBA Loans will be based on the existing SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)**

- The SBA administers the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program to lessen the economic burden on small businesses.
- This program provides relief from economic injury caused directly by the disaster and permits the business to maintain a reasonable working capital position during the period affected by the disaster:

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- Small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives who suffered substantial economic injury may be eligible for the EIDL Program.
- Substantial economic injury is the inability of a business to meet its obligations to pay its operating expenses.
- These loans help meet financial obligations a business could meet if the interruption to business did not occur.
- SBA is allowing businesses to forecast economic losses due to events that bring in high revenues being canceled due to the COVID-19.

### Loan Criteria

- Some criteria from the traditional SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program will apply for COVID-19 loans:
- The SBA only provides EIDL assistance to businesses that SBA determines are unable to obtain credit elsewhere.
- The loan amount will be based on the business' actual economic injury and financial needs.
- The interest rate on EIDLs cannot exceed 4 percent per year, and are currently set at:
  - 3.75% for small businesses
  - 2.75% for nonprofits
  - The term of the loans cannot exceed 30 years.
  - Terms and conditions will be determined by the business's ability to repay the loan
  - Working capital loans up to \$2 million for economic support and to help overcome temporary revenue loss
  - Loan repayment can extend up to 30 years.

### How to Apply for a Loan

- To be eligible for assistance, a county needs to be approved by the SBA for an Economic Loss Declaration. That county and all contiguous counties are then eligible. Stanislaus County is eligible because it is identified as a contiguous county.
- Businesses may apply for assistance at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Account/Login>
  - Follow the SBA Three Step Process - [https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Documents/Three\\_Step\\_Process\\_SBA\\_Disaster\\_Loans.pdf](https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Documents/Three_Step_Process_SBA_Disaster_Loans.pdf)
- [California IBank](#) has low-interest and state-guaranteed business loans and microloans for small business borrowers who have been impacted by regional disasters and who need term loans or lines of credit for working capital.
- The [California Capital Access Program](#) (CalCAP) for Small Business encourages banks and other financial institutions to make loans to small businesses that have difficulty obtaining financing. If you own a small business and need a loan for start-up, expansion or working capital, you may be eligible for this program. CalCAP is a loan loss reserve program which may provide up to 100% coverage on losses as a result of certain loan defaults. Loans are available up to \$5 million.

### State of California Tax Relief

- General Tax Assistance: Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order, through May 11th, the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) has the authority to assist individuals and businesses impacted by complying with a state or local public health official's imposition or recommendation of social distancing measures related to COVID-19. Please visit <https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/services/covid19.htm> to get in

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touch with CDTFA.

- Payroll Tax Extension: Employers experiencing a hardship as a result of COVID-19 may request up to a 60-day extension of time from the EDD to file their state payroll reports and/or deposit state payroll taxes without penalty or interest. A written request for extension must be received within 60 days from the original delinquent date of the payment or return. Please visit [http://www.edd.ca.gov/about\\_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm](http://www.edd.ca.gov/about_edd/coronavirus-2019.htm) to learn more.
- Income Tax Extension: The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) administers two of California's major tax programs: Personal Income Tax and the Corporation Tax. FTB's COVID-19 relief responses include moving the various tax filing and payment deadlines. Partnerships and LLCs with tax returns are due on March 15 now have a 90-day extension to file and pay by June 15. Individual filers whose tax returns are due on April 15 now have a 60-day extension to file and pay by June 15. Quarterly tax payments due on April 15 now have a 60-day extension to pay by June 15. The FTB will also waive interest and any late filing or late payment penalties that would otherwise apply. Visit <http://www.ftb.ca.gov/> to learn more.

#### Regulatory Relief

- Offsite sale of alcoholic beverages by onsite licensees - <https://www.abc.ca.gov/notice-of-regulatory-relief/>; this has been updated with a fourth notice of regulatory relief - <https://www.abc.ca.gov/fourth-notice-of-regulatory-relief/>

#### Public Health Agencies

- The [State of California](#) is actively working with the White House, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local governments, health facilities, and health care providers across the state to prepare and protect Californians from Coronavirus.
- The Stanislaus County Health Services Agency (HSA) continues to work closely with other health departments, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor the 2019 Coronavirus. The information and requirements pertaining to Coronavirus may change as more is learned about this virus and its transmission. Additional information, status reports, and website links can be accessed at <http://schsa.org/publichealth/pages/corona-virus/>.
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Cal/OSHA](#)

#### Workforce Resources

- The California [Labor & Workforce Development Agency](#) (LWDA) wants to keep workers, employers, co-workers, and families safe. What employees are entitled to may be confusing. The LWDA is trying to make it easier and spread awareness through a centralized source of information with regards to topics such as: paid sick leave, disability and unemployment insurance, workplace health and safety guidance and employer assistance. Use the guidance on their website to determine what is best for you, your family and your workplace.
- The [California Labor Commissioner's Office](#) has listed basic information with relation to employee leave options, compensation and salary.
- For information about job protection and employment discrimination, visit the [California Department of Fair Employment and Housing](#) website.
- The [Employment Development Department](#) (EDD) provides a variety of resources for employers who

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anticipate a reduction of work hours or potential closure or layoffs as a result of Coronavirus. Employers experiencing a hardship as a result of Coronavirus may also request up to a 60-day extension of time from the EDD to file their state payroll reports and/or deposit state payroll taxes without penalty or interest. For question, employers may call the EDD Taxpayer Assistance Center at (888) 745-3886.

#### Regional Partners

- [California State Association of Counties](#)
- [Valley Sierra Small Business Development Center](#)
- [Small Business Majority](#)

#### **FOR EMPLOYEES OF AFFECTED BUSINESSES**

**Unemployed? Job Matching Site:** <https://onwardca.org/>

#### Unemployment and Paid Family Leave Claims

The [Employment Development Department](#) provides a variety of support services to individuals affected by the Coronavirus in California.

- Sick or Quarantined: If you're unable to work due to having or being exposed to Coronavirus, you can file a [Disability Insurance](#) (DI) claim. DI provides short-term benefit payments to eligible workers who have full or partial loss of wages due to non-work-related illness.
- Caregiving: If you're unable to work because you are caring for an ill or quarantined family member with Coronavirus, you can file a [Paid Family Leave](#) (PFL) claim. PFL provides up to six weeks of benefit payments to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages because they need time off work to care for a seriously ill family member.
- Reduced Work Hours: If your employer has reduced your hours or shut down operations due to Coronavirus, you can file an [Unemployment Insurance](#) (UI) claim. UI provides partial wage replacement benefit payments to workers who lose their job or have their hours reduced, through no fault of their own.
- Layoff Alternatives: [Partial claims](#) are for employees whose employers want to keep them when there is a lack of work. A partial Unemployment Insurance claim can be used for any claimant who works less than their normal full-time hours, and whose employers want to keep them.

#### **Notice of Compliance under the Americans with Disabilities Act**

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the Fair Employment & Housing Act (FEHA), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as amended), Government Code section 11135 and other applicable codes, the City of Modesto ("City") will not discriminate against individuals on the basis of disability in the City's services, programs, or activities.