



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR CALIFORNIA SMALL BUSINESSES

QUESTION: Is there a single location that updates all relevant information for businesses pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic?

ANSWER: Yes, the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) is working around the clock to ensure that all Californians have the most up-to-date information and resources to provide to businesses during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, and at all times. Please use our GO-Biz site for the latest guidance: <https://business.ca.gov/coronavirus-2019/>. Additionally, you can find more health information and state guidance by clicking this resource page: <https://covid19.ca.gov/>.

QUESTION: Is GO-Biz the department where small business owners should look to for financial assistance?

ANSWER: Yes, GO-Biz is maintaining a site with all available business assistance, which can be found on [our website](#). The Office of the Small Business Advocate maintains information on GO-Biz's site as well as customized COVID-19 resources, which you can [find here](#). There you will find a list of capital and technical assistance resources (also below).

Does the state have to submit certain information to the federal government in order for small businesses to apply for SBA loans?

ANSWER: Following California's fast-out-of-the-gate and immediate response to Presidential Emergency Declaration, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to California small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of COVID-19.

- For more Information about SBA disaster assistance programs, and to apply directly online, go to: www.sba.gov/disaster
- Or, contact SBA's Customer Service Center at: 1-800-659-2955 / 1-800-877-8339 (TTY) Or by email at: disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

QUESTION: What resources are available for small businesses?

ANSWER: GO-Biz continues to work hard to open-up more resource opportunities. Below is a list of capital and technical assistance resources. Government-backed loan programs are available, including special disaster assistance at the state and federal levels:

- California IBank has a Small Business Loan Guarantee Program for guarantees currently up to \$1 million and a micro lending program for loans up to \$10,000 with accommodations for disasters. The

program is run through local mission based lenders, the Financial Development Corporations: [Small Business Finance Center](#)

- California Treasurer's Office has a small business loan program with special disaster assistance that is used extensively by the CDFI community: [CalCAP](#)
- U.S. SBA: [Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program](#). The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low-interest loans of up to \$2 million for both for-profit and non-profit businesses that are impacted by the coronavirus.
 - For more Information about SBA disaster assistance programs, and to apply directly online, go to: www.sba.gov/disaster
 - Or, contact SBA's Customer Service Center at: 1-800-659-2955 / 1-800-877-8339 (TTY) Or by email at: disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

QUESTION: How can small businesses learn more from their network of support centers?

ANSWER: California's network of small business support centers help businesses figure out which loans are best for them, develop resiliency strategies, and find other resources. Please click this [PDF here](#) to learn more.

QUESTION: Is there any relief for small business owners who pay rent for their space but have had to close due to the coronavirus?

ANSWER: [Governor Newsom's executive order](#) suspends all state laws that would prevent local governments from enacting policies to protect you as a resident or business owner from eviction because of nonpayment of rent due to COVID-19. As a resident or business owner, a financial institution holding your home or commercial mortgage is requested to implement an immediate moratorium on a foreclosure involving you, when the foreclosure or foreclosure-related eviction arises from economic hardship caused by COVID-19 conditions. In order to protect renters, homeowners and commercial tenants during this pandemic, Governor Newsom's executive order has removed state-law limitations on local governments to halt evictions in the midst of the outbreak.