

COVID-19 Resource Relief Guide

The following chart provides information on legislation and helpful tools for your business during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Where applicable, we have included links to an application portal and documents. If you click on the name of the item, you will be redirected to a site with more information.

For additional content written by Lerch Early attorneys, check out our [Coronavirus Resource Center](#).

While we have closed our physical office for the safety of our clients and employees, our attorneys and staff are working remotely and are available to communicate with you via phone, email, or video conference. Please contact us at any time (instructions for finding an attorney's contact information are listed after the chart). Together, we will make the best of this situation and carry forward.

Item	Description	Status/Action
Federal Programs		
<u>Federal CARES Emergency Legislation – Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)</u>	Expansion of the SBA loan program. The proposed new program, small businesses can obtain loans (capped at \$10M) to be able to continue operations during the COVID-19 emergency, with funds being used to retain workers and maintain payroll or make mortgage, lease, and utility payments. To the extent that such loans are used for payroll, mortgage, lease and utility payments, those amounts could be subject to forgiveness from the loan amount, subject to reductions for employee cuts and wage reductions. Subject to a number of qualifications, this “loan” could essentially be converted to a “grant” if proceeds are properly used to continue operations. This new loan program could be a substantial benefit to small to mid-sized owners and tenants of real property interests.	<u>Apply through local banks starting April 3</u>
<u>Families First Coronavirus Response Act</u>	Covered employers with fewer than 500 employees qualify for dollar-for-dollar reimbursement through tax credits for all qualifying wages paid to an employee who takes leave under the Family First Coronavirus Response Act for a "qualifying reason" under the law, as well as amounts paid to	

	<p>incur or maintain health insurance coverage. Small businesses with fewer than 50 employees may qualify for exemption from the requirement to provide leave due to school closings or childcare unavailability if the leave requirements would jeopardize the viability of the business as a going concern.</p>	
<p><u>SBA Disaster Assistance Loans</u></p>	<p>Economic Injury Disaster Loans available to: (i) small businesses (which meet SBA size standards); and (ii) private non-profits. Loans up to \$2 million for a term of up to 30 years with interest rates from 2.75% - 3.75%. May be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills. Loans made to help entities stay afloat until ready to restart operations.</p>	<p><u>Apply Now!</u></p>
<p><u>SBA Express Bridge Loan (EBL) Pilot Program</u></p>	<p>The EBL Pilot Program is designed to supplement the Agency’s direct disaster loan capabilities and authorizes SBA Express Lenders to provide expedited SBA-guaranteed bridge loan financing on an emergency basis in amounts up to \$25,000 for disaster-related purposes to small businesses located in communities affected by Presidentially-declared disasters while those small businesses apply for and await long-term financing (including through SBA’s direct Disaster Loan Program, if eligible).</p>	<p><u>Apply Now!</u></p>
<p>State of Maryland</p>		
<p><u>Maryland Small Business Emergency Relief Fund</u></p>	<p>For-profit businesses with fewer than 50 employees and can demonstrate financial stress or disrupted operations may be eligible for loans in an amount up to \$50,000 to be applied to regular business expenses. These loans have 4-year terms and are interest-free for the first 12 months followed by 2% interest for the remaining 36 months.</p>	<p><u>Apply Now!</u></p>



<u>Maryland Small Business Emergency Relief Grant Fund</u>	Small businesses and non-profits with 50 or fewer employees and annual revenues of \$5 million or less and can demonstrate financial stress or disrupted operations may be eligible for grants in an amount up to \$10,000 to be applied to regular business expenses.	<u>Apply Now!</u>
<u>Maryland Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund</u>	This \$5 million incentive program helps Maryland manufacturers produce "Critical Needs Items" such as N95 masks, surgical masks, and surgical gowns, that are urgently needed by hospitals and health-care workers across the country by offering grants of up to \$100,000. Funding decisions will be made based on a variety of evaluation criteria, including but not limited to technical capability, operational experience, and the priority purchasing needs of the State of Maryland, with priority given to the product areas of greatest need within the Maryland healthcare system.	<u>Apply Now!</u>
<u>Maryland Department of Labor Layoff Aversion Fund</u>	Small businesses may be eligible for a grant award of up to \$50,000 from the Maryland Department of Labor to be applied to various business expenses <i>other than</i> rent and employee wages (unless approved for Unemployment Insurance Work Sharing participation). Available through 30 days after State of Emergency ends (subject to funding availability).	At this time the Department of Labor is no longer accepting applications for this program.
<u>Maryland Unemployment Insurance</u>	The Division of Unemployment Insurance has updated its process for filing unemployment claims to promote efficiency, and states that "Marylanders become eligible for benefits starting the day after they are separated from employment."	<u>Separated employees should click here to apply.</u>
Montgomery County, Maryland		
Special Appropriation for Public Health	Authorizes a \$20 million special appropriation to provide grants in an amount of \$75,000 to eligible business or non-profits, including retailers and	Email <u>peter.fosselman@montgomerycount</u>



Emergency Grant Program	restaurants, with 100 or fewer full-time employees. Eligible businesses and non-profits may also be eligible for "mini-grants" in an amount up to \$2,500 for reimbursement of expenses related to enabling a business' or non-profit's employees to telework during the public health emergency.	ymd.gov and include PHEG in the subject line for application availability updates.
Special Appropriation for Department of Health and Human Services	Authorizes a \$6 million special appropriation to provide food, housing, and childcare for County residents currently facing hardships resulting from the COVID-19 crisis.	Check back for application availability updates.

Prince George's County

<u>Prince George's County COVID19 Business Relief Fund</u>	<p>A loan program is available to businesses based in Prince George's County, which meet the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business. Applicants must maintain jobs in Prince George's County with the goal of hiring Prince George's County residents for future vacancies, and maintain operations in Prince George's County for the course of the loan. Loans under this program cannot exceed \$100,000, have a 3.75% fixed rate of interest, and a 3-year term amortized over 10 years.</p> <p>The County also is providing grants to businesses based in Prince George's County to be used as working capital. Businesses with 10 or more employees may be eligible for grants of up to \$10,000, and businesses with less than 10 employees may be eligible for grants up to \$5,000.</p>	Applications must be submitted between April 13 and May 15. Applicants must submit proof that they have also applied to the SBA and the State of Maryland for relief.
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District of Columbia

<u>DC Small Business Recovery Microgrants</u>	DC is offering "microgrants" to small businesses, non-profits, and independent contractors who are based in DC and meet certain requirements to help meet their financial needs, such as employee wages and benefits, accounts payable, fixed costs, inventory, rent, and utilities.	<p>Small businesses apply now!</p> <p>Nonprofits apply now!</p>
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Commonwealth of Virginia/Northern Virginia		
<u>Virginia Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act</u>	Businesses with employees located in Northern Virginia, which have 250 or fewer employees are eligible for a grant in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00. Approval decisions made within 2 business days of submission.	Apply by sending completed <u>downloadable forms</u> to <u>seema.jain@vcwnorthern.com</u>
<u>Fairfax County businesses low interest loans available through SBA</u>	Loans through SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program permit eligible small businesses to qualify for up to \$2 million in loans for short term expenses at an interest rate as low as 3.75%.	
<u>Fairfax County business tax filing deadline extended</u>	Fairfax County has extended the business tax filing deadline from May 1 to June 1.	
<u>Arlington/Alexandria Layoff Aversion Program</u>	Virginia has authorized \$87,619 in funding to the Alexandria/Arlington Workforce Council to help keep employers with 250 employees or less open and avoid layoffs at any time through August 31, 2020. Application requests are limited to \$7,500 and grant approval will be made by March 30, 2020 at 5:00 PM based on which applicants can save the largest number of jobs.	Currently not accepting applications. We are monitoring to see if process reopens.
Mortgage Agencies		
<u>Freddie Mac COVID-19 Relief Plan</u>	Businesses with employees located in Northern Virginia, which have 250 or fewer employees are eligible for a grant in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Approval decisions made within 2 business days of submission.	



<p><u>Fannie Mae COVID-19 Multifamily Response</u></p>	<p>Fannie Mae announces pandemic relief for COVID-19, including forbearance, late fees, delinquency advances, and updated asset management Property inspection guidance.</p>	
<p>Insights from Lerch, Early & Brewer</p>		
<p><u>Remote Work Considerations in light of COVID-19</u></p>	<p>The novel coronavirus known as COVID-19 has effectively required employers to consider remote work alternatives. Any decision to move a few, some or all of an organization to remote work status – even on an interim basis – requires a myriad of decisions and considerations, including the following.</p>	
<p><u>What Borrowers and Businesses Need to Know About the CARES Act</u></p>	<p>Relief payments and new, potentially forgivable Small Business Administration (SBA) loans are part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) the President signed into law on March 27, 2020. Includes Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans.</p>	
<p><u>Lerch Early COVID-19 Resource Center</u></p>	<p>Lerch Early is monitoring the COVID-19 coronavirus and its impact on our clients and communities. As part of this effort, we're working on content to both inform and to meet your needs. Please check back to this page often as we will continue to produce articles and live content.</p>	

Our Attorneys

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