

COVID-19 Funding and Support Available for Businesses

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EnergyRight for Business & Industry has compiled the following lists of funding and guidance resources that may be available to your business if you're facing financial challenges as a result of COVID-19. The lists are organized by national, state and regional availability.

Funding Resources

| Program | Availability | Description | Access |
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| First Draw PPP Loans | Nationally | The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on payroll. First Draw PPP Loans can be used to help fund payroll costs, including benefits, and may also be used to pay for mortgage interest, rent, utilities, worker protection costs related to COVID-19, uninsured property damage costs caused by looting or vandalism during 2020, and certain supplier costs and expenses for operations. (ends May 31, 2021) | https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program/first-draw-ppp-loans |
| Second Draw PPP Loans | Nationally | PPP now allows certain eligible borrowers that previously received a PPP loan to apply for a Second Draw PPP Loan with the same general loan terms as their First Draw PPP Loan. Second Draw PPP Loans can be used to help fund payroll costs, including benefits, as well as mortgage interest, rent, utilities, worker protection costs related to COVID-19, uninsured property damage costs caused by looting or vandalism during 2020, and certain supplier costs and expenses for operations. (ends May 31, 2021) | https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program/second-draw-ppp-loans |

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| PPN Loan Forgiveness | Nationally | A borrower can apply for forgiveness once all loan proceeds for which the borrower is requesting forgiveness have been used. Borrowers can apply for forgiveness any time up to the maturity date of the loan. | https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program/ppp-loan-forgiveness |
| Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program | Nationally | Provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million that can provide economic support to help overcome temporary loss of revenue. | https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/economic-injury-disaster-loans |
| Military Reservist Loan | Nationally | If you have an essential employee who is a military reservist called to active duty, SBA provides loans to help eligible small businesses with operating expenses. The maximum Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan (MREIDL) amount is \$2 million. | https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance/military-reservist-loan |
| WeFunder Emergency Crowdsourced Loans | Nationally | Under WeFunder's model, companies list themselves on an online funding portal and encourage their customers and other WeFunder investors to pool capital to make small businesses a loan. | https://wefunder.com/war-on-virus |
| Kiva | Nationally | Offering expanded loan sizes of up to \$15,000 and grace periods between 1-6 months. | https://www.kiva.org/borrow |
| GoFundMe Small Business Grant | Nationally | Supporters donate to the Small Business Relief Fund, which will issue \$500 matching grants to qualifying businesses that raise at least \$500 on GoFundMe. | https://www.gofundme.com/small-business-relief-fundraisers |
| Professional Beauty Association COVID-19 Relief Fund | Nationally | Provides \$500 to licensed beauty professionals who are unable to work due to COVID-19. The funding is intended to be emergency aid for short-term immediate needs such as food and bills. | https://www.probeauty.org/covid-relief-fund-application |

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| Southern Smoke Emergency Relief Program | Nationally | Provides emergency grant funding to those employed by or who own restaurants or bars or are employed by a restaurant or bar supplier that are facing unforeseen expenses that cannot or will not be covered by insurance. | https://form.southernsmoke.org/smoke/application/ |
| USDA Business & Industry Loan Guarantees | Nationally | USDA is making up to \$1 billion in loan guarantees available to help rural businesses meet their working capital needs during the coronavirus pandemic. | https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees |
| Walmart Local Community Grant | Nationally | The Community Grant Program awards grants ranging from \$250 to \$5,000 through Walmart facilities (Walmart Stores, Sam's Clubs and Logistics Facilities). Eligible nonprofit organizations must operate on the local level (or be an affiliate/chapter of a larger organization that operates locally) and directly benefit the service area of the facility from which they are requesting funding. | https://www.cybergrants.com/pls/cybergrants/quiz.display_question?x_gm_id=2797&x_quiz_id=4503&x_order_by=1 |
| Black Founder Startup Grant | Nationally | SoGal Foundation has teamed up with Winky Lux, bluemercury, twelveNYC, Lively and other sponsors to make a small step towards progress by providing several \$10K and \$5K cash grants to Black women or nonbinary entrepreneurs. | http://www.iamsogal.com/black-founder-startup-grant/ |
| Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR) | Nationally | This government grant is awarded to businesses making strides in technology innovation. Funds are provided for research and development with additional support being given for the commercialization of the technology or service created. A variety of companies are provided funding in the fields defense, environment and healthcare industries. | https://www.sbir.gov/applicants |

**Small Business
Technology
Transfer Program
(STTR)**

Nationally

The STTR program is similar to the SBIR but the emphasis is on establishing public and private sector partnerships in research and development. This government grant for small businesses creates opportunities for small businesses to collaborate on joint ventures with the nation's leading nonprofit organizations. The products produced are commercialized and some, or all, of the profits given to the small business.

<https://www.sbir.gov/about>

**Rural Energy for
America Program
Renewable
Energy Systems
& Energy
Efficiency
Improvement
Guaranteed
Loans & Grants**

Nationally

The program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency>

**Idea Cafe Small
Business Grant**

Nationally

The Idea Cafe Small Business Grant Program is a way for small businesses or individuals to get the funding they need to get their vision moving forward. Winners of the Idea Cafe Small Business Grant Program will receive \$1,000 in cash grants on an annual basis. There's no fee to apply.

https://www.businessownersideacafe.com/business_grants/index.php

**KKR Small
Business
Builders Grant
by Hello Alice**

Nationally

KKR Small Business Builders (SBB) aims to support entrepreneurs and their small businesses around the world. The grants are designed to help business owners sustain their enterprises, maintain or create jobs, and spur economic opportunity as they respond to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and recover from its resultant economic dislocation. Grants are in the amount of \$10,000.

https://kkr.helloalice.com/?utm_source=dedicated%20Email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=KKR&utm_content=KKR%20Landing%20Page&mc_cid=934da2a411&mc_eid=378e66bd90

IFundWomen X Neutrogena Grant Nationally Neutrogena® is teaming up with IFundWomen to give women-owned businesses in the health and wellness space a fresh start in 2021. Through this program, 10 qualified women entrepreneurs across the U.S. will each receive a \$10,000 grant to support their fresh start after a challenging year in business. **Applications are open through April 26.** <https://ifundwomen.com/neutrogena>

Jane Walker • IFundWomen First Women Grant Program Nationally As part of the First Women campaign, Jane Walker and IFundWomen have teamed up to help create more opportunities for women to achieve their goals. Jane Walker will be funding a total of 30 groundbreaking women-owned businesses through the end of the year. Businesses will be selected across the Entertainment & Film, Music, Sports, STEM, Journalism and Hospitality industries to receive a \$10K grant plus a one-year Annual Coaching Membership on IFundWomen. <https://ifundwomen.com/janewalker>

Artist Relief Fund Nationally Artist Relief is an emergency initiative organized by the Academy of American Poets, Artadia, Creative Capital, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, MAP Fund, National YoungArts Foundation, and United States Artists—all mid-sized national arts grantmakers that have come together in this unprecedented moment—to distribute \$5,000 grants to artists facing dire financial emergencies due to COVID-19. **The fund will operate through June 23, 2021.** <https://www.artistrelief.org/>

LiftFund Micro and Small Business Loans State (AL, GA, KY, MS, TN) LiftFund provides credit and services to small businesses and entrepreneurs who do not have access to loans from commercial sources. They offer small business loans from \$500 to \$1 million. <https://www.liftfund.com/loans>

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| Kentucky Small Business Credit Program (KSBTC) | State (KY) | The KSBTC program offers between \$3,500 and \$25,000 per year for small businesses that have hired and sustained at least one new job in the last year and purchased at least \$5,000 in qualifying equipment or technology. Any for-profit small business that has 50 or fewer full-time employees at the time of application is eligible to apply. | https://ced.ky.gov/Entrepreneurship/KSBTC.aspx |
| Pathway Lending Restart Tennessee Loan | State (TN) | Pathway Lending is providing accessible, affordable loans to help small businesses in Tennessee restart operations following interruptions from COVID-19. Funds can cover expenses to resume operations, including inventory, working capital, payroll and other mobilization expenses. | https://www.pathwaylending.org/small-business-loans/restart/ |
| VA 30 Day Fund | State (VA) | Emergency funding for businesses that employ 3-30 people and have been operating for at least a year. Businesses are not required to pay back the "loan" unless they would like to "pay it forward" to another Virginia-area business to whom the funds will then be disbursed. Fund is offered up to \$3,000. | https://va30dayfund.com/about |
| SWaM Business Loan Fund | State (VA) | Up to \$25,000 loans for small, women-owned, and minority-owned (SWaM) businesses from the Virginia Small Business Financing Authority. | https://www.sbsd.virginia.gov/virginia-small-business-financing-authority/ |
| Economic Hardship Economy Fund | Regional (Memphis) | Loans from \$2,000 to \$5,000 with no interest for six months. Businesses and their owners must be located within the City of Memphis, have less than \$1 million in annual revenue, be in business for at least three years, and be certified with the City's Office of Business Diversity & Compliance. | https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/5257719/MicroLoanNew-1.jpg |

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| Small Business Resiliency Loan Fund | Regional (Memphis) | Loans from \$5,000 to \$35,000 with delayed repayment for 90 days. Applicants must show proof of being denied by the SBA or a SBA lender, be located in a distressed community within Memphis, be in business for at least three years, and be certified with the City's Office of Business Diversity & Compliance. | https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/5257719/MicroLoanNew-1.jpg |
| EDGE Neighborhood Emergency Economic Development Grant | Regional (Memphis) | Provides relief to neighborhood-serving businesses in Memphis's most distressed areas. Grants up to \$10,000 will be made to businesses located in New Markets Tax Credit Eligible Census Tracts in Memphis that have experienced at least a 25% loss in revenue as a result of COVID-19. | http://www.growth-engine.org/ |
| Memphis City Council Emergency Relief Paycheck Protection Program | Regional (Memphis) | Memphis City Council is authorizing up to \$1,000,000 in forgivable loans to small businesses to pay their employees during the COVID-19 crisis. All loan terms will be the same for everyone. Loan amounts are capped at \$5,000 and will be deferred for 6 months. | https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/5257719/CityCouncil-PPP.pdf |
| Small Business Remobilization Fund | Regional (Memphis Medical District) | The Memphis Medical District Collaboration's (MMDC) Small Business Remobilization Fund aims to connect businesses in the Medical District with the resources necessary to purchase inventory, re-hire staff, or cover other hard or soft costs during this re-opening process. Medical District businesses can apply as long as the application is open; awards will be made on a rolling basis. | https://www.mdcollaborative.org/small-business-remobilization-fund |
| River City Capital COVID-19 Care Business Grant | Regional (Memphis) | River City Capital is offering a grant program to support Memphis small businesses that have been adversely affected by COVID-19, with a priority on Black-owned businesses and businesses located in low-to-moderate income communities of color. Approved applicants will receive a \$20,000 grant to support small business operations. | https://www.rivercitycapital.org/covid19grant/ |

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| Beautiful Comeback Grant | Regional (Shelby County, TN) | The Shelby County Commission is offering small brick and mortar businesses \$2,000 each as part of the Beautiful Comeback Grant. Any small business that is in the personal care contact industry is eligible to apply. | https://www.shelbycountyttn.gov/3654/Our-Beautiful-Comeback-Grants |
| North Alabama Revolving Loan Fund | Regional (AL – North Alabama counties) | The North Alabama Revolving Loan Fund provides access to capital to small businesses that create or retain jobs in north Alabama communities. Loan amounts of \$5,000 – \$250,000 are available to borrowers who generally cannot qualify for loans from banks or credit unions. | https://www.neighborhoodconcepts.org/narf |
| Athens-Limestone County Small Business Assistance Initiative | Regional (AL – Limestone County) | The Greater Limestone County Chamber’s Small Business Assistance Initiative helps local, small businesses struggling financially amid the coronavirus. Through contributions from local companies, the Chamber will distribute mini grants to help businesses rebound from the crisis. | https://www.tourathens.com/images/PDFs/Small_Business_Assistance_Initiative_APPLICATION.pdf |
| East Tennessee Foundation – Neighbor to Neighbor Disaster Relief Fund | Regional (Cumberland, Meigs and Rhea counties) | ETF’s Neighbor to Neighbor Disaster Relief Fund provides timely disaster grants to nonprofit organizations in the 25-county region in East Tennessee and is currently activated for the COVID-19 national emergency. ETF provides emergency funds to nonprofit organizations to meet some of the critical needs created by COVID-19 and is currently accepting applications. | http://www.easttennesseefoundation.org/scholarships-grants/grants/competitive-grants-and-loans-by-name/neighbor-to-neighbor-disaster-relief-fund |
| Purchase Area Development District COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program | Regional (KY – Carlisle, Hickman, Fulton, Graves, Marshall and Calloway counties) | The PADD Revolving Loan Fund COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program was established to assist businesses in the industrial, commercial, agricultural, and service sector that have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. | https://www.purchaseadd.org/businesses/covid-19-business-relief-working-capital-loan-program/ |

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| Green River Area Development District COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program | Regional (KY - Ohio county) | The GRADD Revolving Loan Fund COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program was established to assist businesses in the industrial, commercial, agricultural, and service sector that have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. | https://www.gradd.com/businesses/revolving-loan-program-rlf/ |
| Barren River Area Development District COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program | Regional (KY - Butler, Logan, Simson, Warren, Edmonson, Allen, Barren, Monroe and Metcalfe counties) | The BRADD Revolving Loan Fund COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program was established to assist businesses in the industrial, commercial, agricultural, and service sector that have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. | https://www.bradd.org/index.php/businesses/revolving-loan-fund |
| Lincoln Trail Area Development District COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program | Regional (KY - Grayson county) | The LTADD Revolving Loan Fund COVID-19 Business Relief Working Capital Loan Program was established to assist businesses in the industrial, commercial, agricultural, and service sector that have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. | https://ltadd.org/services/revolving_loan_fund/ |

Guidance Resources

| Program | Availability | Description | Access |
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| SBA Counseling, Training, Mentorship | Nationally | The SBA is offering expert advice and counseling on how to navigate your small business during the COVID-19 pandemic. | https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance |
| SBA Debt Relief | Nationally | Part of the CARES Act – the SBA will pay the principal and interest of new 7(a) loans issued prior to September 27, 2020 and will also pay the principal and interest of current 7(a) loans for a period of six months. | https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-debt-relief |
| SCORE | Nationally | SCORE is a national organization that offers free mentoring and business planning workshops. It also maintains a comprehensive guide for financing and running your business in times of crisis. | https://www.score.org/coronavirus |
| MicroMentor | Nationally | MicroMentor connects businesses with mentors experienced with weathering financial crises if they are concerned with keeping their business running during COVID-19. | https://www.micromentor.org/coronavirus-and-small-business/ |
| Deloitte | Nationally | Deloitte has developed in-depth analysis around business resiliency and continuity of operations during COVID-19. | https://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/about-deloitte/topics/combating-covid-19-with-resilience.html |
| Project Collaboration: GEON Performance Solutions | Nationally | GEON is offering its expertise, at no cost, to small- and medium-sized companies that have issues meeting demand, barriers getting virus-related products to market, or have ideas to fight the pandemic but limited resources to implement them. | https://geon.com/project-collaboration/ |
| U.S. Chamber Coronavirus Small Business Guide | Nationally | The guide contains tools, tips, and state-by-state guidance on how to reopen businesses. SBA loan information, tax information, and virtual workshops are included as well. | https://www.uschamber.com/co/small-business-coronavirus |

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| Tory Burch Foundation | Nationally | The Tory Burch Foundation is offering weekly webinars to help entrepreneurs discover what resources are right for them. | http://www.toryburchfoundation.org/ |
| #OpenWeStand | Nationally | This website has resources, inspiration and connection to other everyday entrepreneurs with creative solutions to keep their business open, even if their doors are closed due to COVID-19. | https://www.openwestand.org/ |
| Fundera | Nationally | Fundera is a go-to financial resource for small business that helps businesses face their challenges and achieve their financial goals. They offer advice on loans, credit cards, banking, accounting, POS systems, HR and payroll and legal services. | https://www.fundera.com/ |
| Operation HOPE Small Business Development Program | Nationally | Operation HOPE's Small Business Development Program is designed to help entrepreneurs in low-wealth communities start businesses despite challenges like poor credit, lack of capital or limited access to financial services. The program includes a 12-week adult education program designed to provide aspiring entrepreneurs with the skills, tools and knowledge needed to succeed. | https://operationhope.org/small-business-development/ |
| Warrior Rising | Nationally | The Warrior Rising program is for US veterans and their family members who are looking at financial empowerment through grants, mentorship, and training. Warrior Rising hosts a number of initiatives for the empowerment of US veterans. | https://www.warriorrising.org/ |
| Boots to Business | Nationally | Boots to Business (B2B) is an entrepreneurial education and training program offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration as part of the Department of Defense Transition Assistance Program. The course provides an overview of entrepreneurship and applicable business ownership fundamentals. Active-Duty Service members, veterans of all eras, and spouses are eligible to participate. | https://sbavets.force.com/s/ |

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| Comcast RISE | Nationally | Comcast RISE is a multi-year commitment to provide complimentary marketing, creative, media, and technology services to qualifying small businesses owned by underrepresented groups, beginning with a focus on Black-owned businesses. If your business qualifies, you'll have the opportunity to receive complimentary marketing consultations, media placements, commercial creative production services, or technology services from Effectv and Comcast Business. Currently, only Black business owners are eligible to apply, but others from underrepresented groups will be eligible beginning In November. Future applicants will also have the opportunity to receive grants. | https://www.comcastrise.com/ |
| TN Employer-Filed Mass Claim | State (TN) | Information on how employers can file mass claims of unemployment on behalf of their employees. | https://www.tn.gov/workforce/covid-19/employers.html |
| Jobs in Tennessee | State (TN) | An online listing showing all current job opportunities in Tennessee. | https://www.jobs4tn.gov/vosnet/Default.aspx |
| Tennessee Talent Exchange | State (TN) | Initiative to help Tennesseans find work in the grocery, retail and logistics industries during the COVID-19 pandemic. | https://www.tn.gov/workforce/covid-19/jobs.html |
| Tennessee SmartStart | State (TN) | Tennessee SmartStart is an online tool that helps small business owners visualize their business model and connect with resources across the state. | https://www.tnsmartstart.com/ |
| AL Employer-Filed Mass Claim | State (AL) | Information from the Alabama Department of Labor on how charges will be waived against those employers who file partial unemployment compensation claims on behalf of their employees. | https://labor.alabama.gov/news_feed/News_Page.aspx?id=203 |
| Alabama SBDC | State (AL) | The Alabama SBDC is hosting daily webinars to give assistance and training on how to navigate the pandemic. | http://asbdc.org/ |

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| gener8tor | State (AL & GA) | gener8tor is hosting emergency, one-week virtual programs for small businesses, nonprofits, startups, freelancers and artists affected by COVID-19. | https://www.gener8tor.com/emergency-response-program |
| Kentucky SBDC Weekly Webinar | State (KY) | Each Wednesday at noon EST, Kentucky SBDC shares updated information and resources for Kentucky small businesses dealing with the COVID-19 public health crisis. | https://www.ksbdc.org/coronavirus |
| Virginia SBDC | State (VA) | The Virginia SBDC Network staff is able to meet with businesses virtually (phone, web conferencing) to assist with questions. They offer confidential, no-cost technical assistance to help create a strategy specific to the business's needs. | https://www.virginiاسبdc.org/covid-19/ |
| North Carolina SBTDC | State (NC) | Receive one-on-one counseling and professional advice and programming from the experts at the Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC). | http://www.sbtcdc.org/offices/ |
| Small Business Center Network (SBCN) | State (NC) | Receive advice and access webinars, on-demand content, and articles from the N.C. Community Colleges' Small Business Center Network (SBCN). | https://www.ncsbc.net/DocumentMaster.aspx?doc=4577 |
| Georgia SBDC | State (GA) | Web-based informational virtual sessions tailored to each region of the state. | https://www.georgiasbdc.org/georgia-small-business-recovery/#webinars |
| Memphis Chamber of Commerce | Regional (Memphis) | The Greater Memphis Chamber continues to share up-to-date information, tools and resources to help minimize the impact of COVID-19-related disruptions. | https://join.memphischamber.com/coronavirus-business-resources |
| Knoxville Entrepreneur Center | Regional (Knoxville) | KEC serves entrepreneurs through a variety of programs, classes, events, and other opportunities and provides a collaborative environment in support of big ideas and creative business. Programs are tailored for entrepreneurs that have businesses in the Idea Stage, Early Stage and Growth Stage. | http://knoxec.com/ |

Catalyst Center

Regional (North
Alabama/
Huntsville)

Provides services for startups and entrepreneurs, established businesses, veterans, women, government contractors, and innovation and technology businesses. Services include microloan programs, one-on-one accounting coaching, advice on how to grow your business, how to do business with the government, and contracting proposal support. They also provide business coaching, matchmaking and training.

<https://www.catalystcenter.org/#>