



COVID-19 SHORT TERM, INTEREST-FREE DISASTER ASSISTANCE LOANS

Small businesses: Help is here.

If your small business has sustained economic injury as a result of COVID-19 and is located in Florida, you are eligible for financial assistance through the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program. Interest-free disaster “bridge” loans up to \$50,000 are currently available to help expedite the recovery process for damaged businesses.

These loans are designed to help small business owners meet immediate financial obligations until long-term financial recovery resources are secured, such as sufficient profits from a revived business, receipt of payments on insurance claims or federal disaster assistance.

Small businesses in all of Florida’s 67 counties are eligible. Applications will be accepted through May, 8, 2020, contingent on the availability of funds.

LOAN SPECIFICS:

- Amounts: Maximum \$50,000. Loans of up to \$100,000 may be given in special cases as determined by business need.
- Term: 1 year
- Interest Rate: Interest free for the loan term (1 year)
- Payments: Not required during the established loan term, but loans must be paid in full by the end of the loan term

ELIGIBILITY: Recipients must be a small business owner (from 2 to 100 employees), have been established in Florida prior to March 9, 2020, and demonstrate economic injury as a result of COVID-19.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Applications can be filled out online at <http://www.floridajobs.org/rebuildflorida/businessrecovery>.

For questions regarding local administration of the Emergency Bridge Loan Program as well as instructions for application submissions, please contact the Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network State Office at (866) 737-7232 or by email at Disaster@FloridaSBDC.org. Applicants may also contact the SBDC for free help completing the application.