



# LOUISIANA SENATE



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**Senator Katrina R. Jackson**  
District 34  
**COVID-19 update**

**REMINDER: PRAYER  
STILL WORKS!!!!**



318-343-2877

4/1/2020  
**BUSINESS EDITION  
VOLUME I**

Our Office would like to thank

**Governor John Bel Edward, Senator Bill Cassidy and Senator John Kennedy**

For Providing Information for this Newsletter

**Extended to April 30, 2020**

1. No more than 10 people together at a time
2. All non-essential Businesses closed - this does not include health care facilities, grocery stores, and other stores
3. Beauty and Barber Shops are included in the closure
4. If you are not working, **only** essential trips away from your home should be made

## **CARES Act**

On Friday, March 27, 2020 the CARES Act was signed, a \$2 trillion Coronavirus pandemic stimulus package.

## Businesses

### **Business Owners can now file for Unemployment:**

*File an unemployment claim at:*

[www.louisianaworks.net/hire](http://www.louisianaworks.net/hire) or call the Claim Center at 866-783-5567.

## Businesses, Non-Profits and Churches

### **PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM**

The Paycheck Protection Program provides small businesses with funds to pay up to 8 weeks of payroll costs including benefits. Funds can also be used to pay interest on mortgages, rent, and utilities.

#### **Fully Forgiven**

- To inquire about applying for this program contact your local banker
- These funds are provided as a loan that will be forgiven by the government
- Funds can be used for payroll, mortgages, rent, and utilities (at least 75% of the forgiven amount must have been used for payroll).
- Loan payments will also be deferred for six months
- No collateral or personal guarantees are required
- No fees will be charged for this forgivable loan by the government or the Small Business Administration

#### **Requirements**

- Must Keep Employees on the Payroll—or Rehire Quickly
- If salaries and wages decrease or full time employee headcount reduces, the forgivable amount will be reduced
- Small businesses with 500 or fewer employees—including nonprofits, veterans organizations, tribal concerns, self-employed individuals, sole proprietorships, and

independent contractors—are eligible. Businesses with more than 500 employees are eligible in certain industries.

- Business can submit applications starting **April 3, 2020**, small businesses and sole proprietorships can apply.
- Independent contractors and self-employed individuals can apply starting **April 10, 2020**.
- We encourage you to apply as quickly as you can because there is a funding cap.

### **How to Apply**

- Contact your local Bank or Credit Union
- All loans will have the same terms regardless of lender or borrower. A list of participating lenders as well as additional information and full terms can be found at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).

### **Non-Profit**

- Non-Profits may be eligible for SBA Disaster Assistance Loans if they do not qualify for Public Assistance (PA). They should contact GOHSEP at **(225) 925-7500** to determine if they qualify for PA or if they should apply for a loan.

### **SBA Contact Info**

#### **SBA Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center**

Phone: (800) 659-2955

Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals: (800) 877-8339

E-mail: [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) Online: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>

#### **SBA Business Recovery Centers (BRC)**

The SBA will likely not open BRCs. Assistance and information on the SBA's Coronavirus Assistance may be found at <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-businessguidance-loan-resources>

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### **Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Loan Advance**

The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million. The loan advance will provide economic relief to businesses that are currently

experiencing a temporary loss of revenue. Funds will be made available within three days of a successful application, and this loan advance will not have to be repaid.

### **Apply**

- To apply for a COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan, [click here](#).
- Funds will be made available within three days of a successful application, and this loan advance will not have to be repaid.

### **SBA Debt Relief**

The SBA Debt Relief program will provide a reprieve to small businesses as they overcome the challenges created by this health crisis.

- The SBA will also pay the principal and interest of new 7(a) loans issued prior to September 27, 2020.
- The SBA will pay the principal and interest of current 7(a) loans for a period of six months.

### **SBA Express Bridge Loans**

- The Express Bridge Loan Pilot Program allows small businesses who currently have a business relationship with an SBA Express Lender to access up to \$25,000 with less paperwork.
- If a small business has an urgent need for cash while waiting for decision and disbursement on an Economic Injury Disaster Loan, they may qualify for an SBA Express Disaster Bridge Loan.
- Up to \$25,000
- Fast turnaround
- Will be repaid in full or in part by proceeds from the EIDL loan
- Find an Express Bridge Loan Lender by connecting with your local SBA District Office.

### **Louisiana SBA Contacts**

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/district/la/new-orleans>

**Suite 2820**  
**New Orleans, LA 70130**  
**Office phone: 504-589-6685**  
**Fax: 504-589-2339**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>Email</b>
District Director	Michael Ricks	504-589-2744	202-481-0152	Michael.ricks@sba.gov

Deputy District Director	Jo Ann Lawrence	504-589-6690	202-481-2531	Jo.lawrence3@sba.gov
Lead Lender Relations Specialist	Vallery Brumfield	504-589-2705	202-481-5944	Vallery.brumfield@sba.gov
Lender Relations Specialist	Gerald Brooks	504-589-2706	504-589-2339	Gerald.brooks@sba.gov
Lender Relations Specialist	Julie Lopez	504-589-2853	504-589-2339	Julie.lopez@sba.gov
Business Opportunity Specialist	Benita BentaRice	504-589-2055	202-741-6744	Benita.rice@sba.gov
Business Opportunity Specialist	Gail Brogan	504-589-6688	202-481-1998	Gail.brogan@sba.gov
Business Opportunity Specialist	Alec Banks	504-589-2054	504-589-2339	Alec.BanksJr@sba.gov Alec5339@gmail.com
Economic Development Specialist	Marjorae Ball	504-589-2037	504-589-2339	Marjorae.ball@sba.gov Ball1320@yahoo.com
District Support Assistant	Jerry Boudreaux	504-589-6685	202-481-2504	Jerry.boudreaux@sba.gov
Regional Manager, Office of International Trade	Reginald Harley	504-589-2035	202-481-1525	Reginald.harley@sba.gov
Procurement Center Representative	Randy Marchiafava	504-862-2992	202-292-3738	Randy.marchiafava@sba.gov

## Become a Vendor for Disaster

### Louisiana

**Louisiana Business Emergency Operations Center Vendor Information:** Businesses seeking to help meet the needs of the state during this challenging time, should access the following link and register as a vendor in the LaGov vendor system.

[Read Details>>>>](#) \_

During the registration process, you will be able to select all of the commodities that your company is able to provide. [Read A step-by-step guide for contracting during disasters>>>>](#).

The State of Louisiana will be issuing a Request for Quotes (RFQs) through the Louisiana Procurement and Contract Network (LaPAC), an on-line electronic bid posting and notification system, for the supplies/services currently needed. **LaPAC will automatically send an e-mail notification to all of the vendors registered for that specific commodity.** You will then be able to submit your pricing and availability electronically.

## Federal Government

FEMA is directing suppliers and donors that have asked how they can help in the COVID-19 relief efforts to the following website: [Read details>>>](#)

- To **sell medical supplies or equipment** to the federal government, please email specifics to [covidsupplies@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:covidsupplies@fema.dhs.gov).
- If you are a private company that wants to **produce a product related to the COVID response** – email [nbeoc@max.gov](mailto:nbeoc@max.gov).

## SBIR/STTR Phase I Proposals Responding to COVID-19 Crisis

The Division of Innovation and Industrial Partnerships (IIP) of the Engineering Directorate invites U.S.-based small businesses to submit Phase I proposals focused on the development and deployment of new technologies, products, processes, and services with the potential to positively impact the nation's and world's ability to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. Areas of research that might be considered include, but are not limited to: **artificial intelligence, digital health, diagnostics, distributed ledger, environmental technologies, medical devices, pharmaceutical technologies, disinfection and sterilization, and filtration and separations**. Interested proposers are invited to submit to the NSF Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I Program. [Learn more here>>>](#)

A webinar to discuss this opportunity is Tuesday, 3/31 at 1 pm (CST) [Register here>>>](#)

## Shop Local

When we shop local, we help build our sales tax revenue which means we help fund hospitals, schools, nursing homes, Medicaid, and so many other things in this state, as well as our local school funding!!!

*Local Store Examples: Office Depot, Best Buy, JC Penny's, Bed, Bath and Beyond, Nordstrom's, Walmart, Advanced Auto Parts, ETC.*

Search Amazon, print the new items out, and order for in store pick up from the local stores!!!  
Same price, but more help for funding to the things we care about!!!

Review this link for the stores and policies: <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/07/10/10-stores-that-will-match-amazons-lower-prices.html>