

Friday, July 24, 2020

To: New York Community Banks

**From ICBA**

The Small Business Administration just said it will launch a new platform for submitting Paycheck Protection Program loan-forgiveness applications and decisions to the agency. In a new procedural notice, SBA said the PPP Forgiveness Platform will go live and begin accepting lender submissions on Monday, Aug. 10.

[SBA Procedural Notice 5000-20038](#) says the agency has partnered with Goldschmitt-CRI to provide the platform to accept loan-forgiveness decisions, supporting documentation, and requests for forgiveness payments. Lenders will be allowed to authorize up to 10 additional users to access the platform to submit and monitor forgiveness requests.

SBA said all PPP Lender Authorizing Officials in the CAFS/ETRAN system will receive a welcome email from SBA ([PPPForgivenessRequests@SBA.gov](mailto:PPPForgivenessRequests@SBA.gov)) with instructions on how to access the new platform. Any official who does not receive a welcome email should contact SBA's PPP Lender Hotline at 833-572-0502 for instructions, the agency said.

Detailed instructions for using the platform will be available upon login, according to SBA. The agency's notice also outlines the full loan-forgiveness process, including borrower applications, lender reviews and submissions to SBA, and SBA payments or denials.

The procedural notice follows SBA's release of an [information notice](#) detailing assistance available under SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, including advances and direct loans. That notice also alerts financial institutions to the potential for suspicious activity related to EIDL funds deposited into business or personal accounts.

Additional guidance and resources are available on [Treasury's PPP webpage](#) and ICBA's [COVID-19 resource center](#). Meanwhile, with the Senate debating the next stimulus package, ICBA continues calling on community bankers to use its [Be Heard grassroots action center](#) to urge Congress to advance needed PPP reforms as well as capital, accounting, and tax relief.

Thank you again for all you are doing at this challenging time to support local communities.  
--Rebeca Romero Rainey, President & CEO, ICBA

**Senate stimulus outline includes streamlined PPP loan forgiveness**

Senate Republicans released an outline of forthcoming stimulus legislation with ICBA-advocated provisions to streamline the Paycheck Protection Program loan-forgiveness process. The rough outline includes language on an intermediate forgiveness process for PPP loans under \$1 million and streamlined forgiveness for loans under \$150,000. ICBA has led the effort to simplify PPP loan forgiveness, advocating a presumption of compliance for all loans of \$1 million or less since May. ICBA-advocated legislation to forgive PPP loans under \$150,000 ([S. 4117](#)) has bipartisan support in the Senate, and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin recently [called on](#) lawmakers to consider the policy.

The outline also notes a second round of PPP loans to certain small businesses that can demonstrate 50 percent lost revenue against a reference period as well as an alternative working capital loan for businesses that don't use the second PPP round.

As detailed in specific [stimulus recommendations](#) to Congress, ICBA and 42 state community banking associations are also advocating an online PPP loan-forgiveness calculator, liability protections from COVID-19-related lawsuits, and additional relief to help community banks support the economic recovery.

With a new [Main Street Matters post](#) showing how community banks have led the way on PPP lending, ICBA continues calling on community bankers to use its [Be Heard grassroots action center](#) to urge Congress to advance needed reforms in the next stimulus package.

#### From Other Sources

- White House officials and GOP senators couldn't reach an agreement on the next economic stimulus package, pushing negotiations with Democratic lawmakers close to next week's expiration of the extra \$600 in weekly unemployment benefits, as Republicans now hope to have a united plan on Monday. White House officials have agreed to take a payroll tax cut off the table after Senate Republicans opposed the idea. ([The Washington Post](#))
- The coronavirus relief proposal will likely include a second round of stimulus checks for Americans as soon as next month, with the same rules of the first round, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said, which would allow the Internal Revenue Service to quickly send out the checks. That means those earning up to \$75,000 could receive \$1,200 for themselves and \$500 for their dependent children, with couples earning up to \$150,000 also qualifying, and the check amount decreasing for singles earning up to \$99,000 or couples earning up to \$198,000. ([Bloomberg](#))
- New state unemployment claims increased for the first time in almost four months last week, rising to more than 1.4 million new applications for state benefits from around 1.3 million the prior two weeks. Ernie Tedeschi, a policy economist at the equity research firm Evercore ISI, said businesses could now be running through their first line of credit amid more shutdowns as coronavirus cases rise and so are now moving to permanent layoffs. ([The New York Times](#))

#### From New York

- New York lawmakers want more influence in the state budget process, but the likelihood is slim that a constitutional change will make the ballot next year that would allow New Yorkers to decide on shifting some of that power away from Gov. Andrew Cuomo, [the Times Union reports](#).
- The rate of coronavirus infections among people between the ages of 20 and 30 has [increased over the past two weeks across New York](#) and Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo said the state is launching an advertising blitz to target younger individuals who wrongly believe they may be immune to the disease or not at risk if they do contract it. The State Police and state Liquor Authority are going to elevate their enforcement at establishments, including restaurants and bars, that are not following new laws governing crowds and social distancing. The governor said travelers to New York from states where the rate of infection is higher also poses a risk of triggering an increase in cases. 'We're monitoring a second threat, which is the rising COVID rates among younger people,' Cuomo said, referring to anti-body testing over the past week that shows 13.2 % of people between the ages of 20 and 30 may have been infected, up from 9.9 % two weeks ago."
- New York schools will have even more guidelines to follow now as they work to submit plans for how in-classroom instruction could work in September. The Centers for Disease Control [have released](#) a new guidance for schools as a deadline for submitting local plans looms on Monday. There's no guarantee schools in New York will reopen, the CDC guidelines put a heavy emphasis on getting kids and teachers back into the classroom.

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**IBANYS will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. Thank you all for your continued participation and support.**

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