



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Westmoreland County COVID-19 Leadership Team urges small businesses and nonprofits to familiarize themselves with application process for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans

GREENSBURG, PA, March 19, 2020 — In anticipation of the U.S. Small Business Administration's expected approval of COVID-19 emergency funding for all of Pennsylvania within the next 48 hours, the Westmoreland County COVID-19 Leadership Team strongly recommends that managers of affected local businesses and nonprofit organizations familiarize themselves now with the application process and its requirements.

"If your business has suffered during this emergency, you need to get ready to file," said Sean Kertes, chairman of the county commissioners. "At this point, it's unclear how much funding the SBA will earmark for Pennsylvania, so we urge our local businesses not to wait. We want the county economy to be well-positioned to emerge strong once this passes."

The SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance is reviewing a statewide disaster declaration application submitted by Gov. Tom Wolf's office, and an SBA representative has informed county officials that the SBA is expected to approve the declaration within the next 48 hours. Once SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza issues the declaration, Pennsylvania's small businesses will be able to go to <https://sba.gov/disaster> to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan. These low-interest loans are for small businesses and private nonprofits that have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus. The loans can be for up to \$2 million.

To prepare applicants, the SBA has provided three documents:

- [A three-step overview of the SBA Disaster Loan process](#),
- [A summary of terms of the disaster assistance](#), and
- [A notice to lenders, CDCs and microloan intermediaries regarding deferments on SBA 7\(a\) and 504 business loans and microloans](#).

For information concerning SBA's disaster funding, see <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>. Businesses with questions about the funding should contact the SBA Pittsburgh District Office at wpainfo@sba.gov.

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