

## Express Bridge Loan

### **Purpose:**

The Express Bridge loan (EBL) works in conjunction with federal disaster relief loan and allows SBA lenders to provide expedited financing to small businesses located in qualified disaster relief areas. Click here to see current list of eligible disaster relief areas:

<https://www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance/coronavirus-covid-19>

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

- At the time of the disaster, the business must be in a designated state and territory geographical area. To see the most up to date list of qualified disaster relief areas click here: <https://www.sba.gov/disaster-assistance/coronavirus-covid-19>
- The loan must be used to support the survival and/or reopening of the small business within in the affected area.

### **Details of the Express Bridge Loan:**

- Affected businesses can apply for the Express Bridge Loan up to six (6) months after the disaster declaration.
- Lenders may require loan recipients to pay down or pay off the Express Bridge Loan when the borrower is approved for long-term disaster financing.
- Available to privately held small businesses only.
- Up to \$25,000 in assistance when there has been temporary loss of revenue (available amount can vary by state).
- Funds may be used for disaster related purposes.
- Typically interest free loan for the first year.
- SBA offers repayment options up to 7 years, terms are determined on a case by case basis, based on repayment ability.
- Program expiration date – September 30, 2020.
- SBA Express Bridge Loan lenders may only make loans to small businesses the lender had an established relationship with on or before the date of the declared disaster.

### **Process for Applying for COVID-19 Express Bridge Loan:**

- A minimum acceptable credit score of 140 issued by E-Tran (SBA's credit scoring system) upon submission of the application for screening.
- A personal credit score for each guarantor.
- Must supply lender with IRS Form 4506-T and an IRS Tax Transcript (copies of previous tax returns may suffice, contact your lender for more information).

- Businesses in operation prior to the disaster but not long enough to file a tax return will be required to verify existence of the business using alternative methods, which your lender will discuss with you.
- Please read the [program guide](#) for complete details about the Express Bridge loan program.