Congress recently passed a sweeping economic stimulus bill, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act - or CARES Act - to provide relief to America's families, small businesses, and major industries as they struggle with the effects of the Coronavirus crisis. The CARES Act includes many potential relief opportunities for the nation’s child care industry, which has been hit with widespread layoffs and closures as a result of catastrophic drops in enrollment. In this document we’ve provided information about a small business relief program, the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which is available to many child care businesses. Below, you’ll find information on how to apply as well as answers to many frequently asked questions about this program. For more information beyond what is included in this document, visit the Small Business Administration (SBA) website or contact your bank.

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Overview
The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is a $349 billion program designed to help small businesses keep their workers on the payroll and stay afloat during the COVID crisis to avoid closing permanently. Loans provided through this program will be forgiven by the SBA if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and funds are used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities. You may also hear this referred to as the “7(a)” program.

HOW TO APPLY
Apply right away. It is estimated that 39 million entities are eligible for the PPP. If your organization is eligible and interested, it is important to apply right away. It is expected that these loans will be oversubscribed, and loans will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Small businesses and sole proprietors can apply starting April 3rd, 2020. Independent contractors and self-employed individuals can apply starting April 10th, 2020.

Apply Through Your Local Lender
You can apply directly through any existing SBA 7(a) lender or through any federally insured depository institution, federally insured credit union, and Farm Credit System institution that is participating by:

- Contacting your local bank or lender to ask if they are participating in the SBA 7(a) program. If your bank does not participate, ask if they have a relationship with a bank or credit union that does.
- Calling your local Small Business Development Center.
- Visiting the SBA website and look up a list of participating financial institutions. (Other regulated lenders will be available to make these loans once they are approved and enrolled in the program.)

Streamlined Application Process
The application process has been streamlined to ensure small businesses can be approved as quickly as possible. To apply you will need the following documentation:

Download the Application Here: Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

Payroll documentation is all that is needed with your application:

- 2019 IRS forms (tax return or 990) if this year’s taxes have been completed.
- If you have not yet filed 2019 taxes, a 2018 return can be used. You’ll need a complete end-of-year income, expense and asset statements.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is considered a “business” under this program?
- 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations with fewer than 500 employees
- Small businesses with fewer than 500 employees
- Self-employed individuals
- Sole proprietors
- Independent contractors
- Tribal business concerns that meet the SBA size standard

What about religious organizations?
Religious organizations are eligible but only to cover payroll costs of an associated business, like a thrift store or child care center.

How much can I borrow?
Eligible entities are eligible to borrow 2.5 times their average monthly payroll expenses or up to $10 million, whichever amount is less. This amount is intended to help cover 8 weeks of payroll expenses as well as mortgage interest, rent, and utilities. The 8-week period may be applied to any time frame between February 15th - June 30th, 2020.

What is the deadline to apply?
June 30, 2020, but the SBA encourages entities to apply as quickly as possible because the funding made available for this program has been capped at $349 million.

What can the loan be used for?
The loan can be used to pay:
- Payroll costs including salary (up to an annual rate of $100,000)
- Wages
- Employee group health care benefits, including insurance premiums
- Retirement contributions
- Paid sick or medical leave
- Rent
- Leases
- Utilities
- Existing interest payments on mortgages

Does the loan have to be repaid? If so, how much?
If you meet all the requirements of this loan, it becomes a grant and is forgiven for the total of an 8-week period of payroll, rent, leases, utilities and existing interest payments on mortgages. Part of the loan can also be used for other business-related expenses, like supplies, but that portion of the loan will not be forgiven.
What if I lay off employees?
If after receiving the loan a business lays off employees, the forgiveness will be reduced by the percent decrease in the number of employees. In other words, if total payroll expenses (on workers making less than $100,000 annually) decreases by 25 percent, loan forgiveness will be reduced by the same amount.

What if I already laid off employees or reduced their wages?
If employees have already been laid off as a result of COVID-19-related hardship prior to applying for this loan, a business can rehire the employees and still be forgiven for the full amount of payroll cost for the 8 weeks as long as the employees are rehired by April 26, 2020.

If you do not re-hire staff, the amount of your loan that will be forgiven will be reduced. (See above)

When is the loan forgiven?
The loan is forgiven at the end of the 8-week period if you meet all the requirements of the loan. Borrowers will work directly with their bank or other lender to verify covered expenses and the proper amount of forgiveness.

What if I already have other debt or a line of credit?
You are still eligible for the PPP. However, before applying, make sure you are not prevented from doing so because of other debt requirements.

If I already have a loan from the SBA can I still participate in the PPP?
Yes, you can still participate in PPP even if you have another loan from the SBA.

What will happen to my other SBA loan payments?
Under the CARES Act, your other SBA loan payments can be deferred for six months. Starting no later than 30 days after the date on which the first payment is due, the SBA will pay all principal, interest, and fees on existing SBA loans for 6 months pursuant to 7(a), Community Advantage, 504, and Microloan programs. If the loan is currently in deferment, then the SBA will begin making payments after the deferment period.

What are the interest rates and terms for the PPP loan amount that is not forgiven?
Any amount of the loan not forgiven will continue on as a 2-year loan with an interest rate of 0.5% and is 100% guaranteed by the SBA.
Am I responsible for interest on the forgiven loan amount?  
No. If the full principal of the PPP loan is forgiven, the borrower is not responsible for interest accrued in the 8-week covered period.

What fees do you have to pay?  
None. The cost of participation in the program is waived for both borrowers and lenders. The loan also includes an automatic deferment of payments for 6 months, and no prepayment penalties.

Do I need to pledge any collateral for these loans?  
No collateral is required.

Do I need to personally guarantee this loan?  
There is no personal guarantee requirement.

Note: If the proceeds are used for fraudulent purposes, the U.S. government will pursue criminal charges against you.

What do I need to certify?  
- As part of your application, you need to certify in good faith that:
  - Current economic uncertainty makes the loan necessary to support your ongoing operations.
  - The funds will be used to retain workers and maintain payroll or to make mortgage, lease, and utility payments.
  - You have not and will not receive another loan under the PPP program.
  - You will provide documentation to the lender that verifies the number of full-time equivalent employees on payroll and the dollar amounts of payroll costs, covered mortgage interest payments, covered rent payments, and covered utilities for the eight weeks after getting this loan.
  - Loan forgiveness will be provided for the sum of documented payroll costs, covered mortgage interest payments, covered rent payments, and covered utilities. Due to likely high subscription, it is anticipated that not more than 25% of the forgiven amount may be for non-payroll costs.
  - All the information you provided in your application and in all supporting documents and forms is true and accurate. Knowingly making a false statement to get a loan under this program is punishable by law.
  - You acknowledge that the lender will calculate the eligible loan amount using the tax documents you submitted. You affirm that the tax documents are identical to those you submitted to the IRS. And you also understand, acknowledge, and agree that the lender can share the tax information with the SBA’s authorized representatives, including authorized representatives of the SBA Office of Inspector General, for the purpose of compliance with SBA Loan Program Requirements and all SBA reviews.