

NIGHTLIFE BUSINESS ASSISTANCE UPDATE

California Update: Financial Relief

On February 23, Governor Newsom signed a legislative package providing relief to individuals, families and businesses suffering the most significant economic hardship due to COVID-19.

California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program

- Provides \$2 billion – added to the \$500 million currently being distributed – for these grants of up to \$25,000 for small businesses impacted by the pandemic

Fee Waivers for Restaurants and Bars

- Two years of fee relief for CA restaurants and bars (ranging annually from \$455 to \$1,235)
- After receiving a renewal notice, a qualifying business may apply for a waiver with ABC

Additional Information

- The California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program is not currently accepting new applications.
- ABC has posted an FAQ page about the license fee waiver program.

More information:

<https://careliefgrant.com/>

<https://www.abc.ca.gov/governor-signs-legislative-package-providing-fee-waivers/>

California Update: Legislation

California legislators have introduced several nightlife-related bills during the 2021 session, including:

SB 314 (Sen. Wiener)

- Establishes ongoing permits to continue outdoor alcohol service
- Creates a new type of liquor license for entertainment venues
- Enables local governments to adopt open consumption areas if they choose to do so
- Multiple reforms around businesses sharing premises and license application process

SB 389 (Sen. Dodd)

- Enables restaurants to continue serving to-go alcohol
- Allows to-go mixed drinks with meals
- As drafted would not extend to bars

Additional Information

- The California legislative session will continue throughout 2021.

More information:

<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

Local Relief Efforts

SF Relief Grants

- Proposed **\$12.4 million** program will provide immediate relief to help stabilize small business operations by offering grants of \$5,000 to \$20,000
- **\$1.5 million allocated for entertainment venue relief**

SF Community Investment Loans

- Planned **\$50 million loan program** aiming to offer SF small businesses very low to zero-interest loans ranging up to \$250,000

SF Music and Entertainment Venue Recovery Fund

- Legislation approved by the Board of Supervisors last week
- Office of Small Business charged with implementing in consultation with Entertainment Commission, OEWD, industry stakeholders

Additional Information Coming Soon

- Applications are not yet available. The SF Relief Grants program will launch soon.

More information:

<https://oewd.org/covid19>

Shuttered Venue Operators Grants

The **\$15 billion “Shuttered Venue Operators” grant program (aka “Save Our Stages”)** will provide grants up to **45% of gross revenue earned during 2019, or \$10 million**, to support live entertainment, theatrical, and other arts and culture businesses.

Grant Eligibility

- Live entertainment venues, live entertainment promoters, performing arts organizations, museum operators, movie theater operators, and talent representatives
- Must demonstrate a loss of 25% of gross receipts in any quarter
- Must not be a large operator, including publicly traded corporations, businesses with locations in 2 or more countries or 10 or more states, or 500 or more employees
- An entity is not eligible if it receives a PPP loan on or after the date of enactment of the new relief bill

Steps Businesses Can Take Right Now

- Read SBA’s regularly-updated FAQ document
- Register for the federal government’s System for Award Management (SAM)
- Look up or request a Dun and Bradstreet (D-U-N-S) number, which is needed to apply for SAM
- Gather any documents that will be needed to apply for an SVO Grant (e.g., showing number of employees, extent of revenue loss, floor plans)

More information:

<https://sba.gov/coronavirusrelief>

Then click "SVO Grant Program"

THANK YOU

For more information, please visit: oewd.org/covid19