CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT

HOW THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP) CAN HELP YOUR BUSINESS

ROUSE FRETS WHITE GOSS GENTILE RHODES, P.C.

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OUR SPEAKERS



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- Overview of CARES Act provisions
- Programs to help individuals
 - Individual stimulus payments
 - Unemployment benefits
 - Access to retirement funds
- Programs to help businesses
 - FICA deferral
 - Employee retention credit
 - Paycheck Protection Program
 - Coronavirus Economic Stabilization Act







CARES ACT

CARES ACT

- Signed into law March 27
- \$2.2 trillion assistance for businesses, individuals, federal agencies, and state and local governments
- Designed to activate the economy in response to today's COVID-19 crisis





INDIVIDUAL STIMULUS PAYMENTS

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- Payments made to eligible taxpayers
 - Single up to \$1,200 (for those earning < \$75,000)
 - Married filing jointly up to \$2,400 (for couples earning < \$150,000)
 - \$500 per child under 17
- Payments unavailable for higher income households
 - Single \$99K and above
 - Married filing jointly \$198k and above
- Payments based on information from 2018 or 2019 tax returns
- No application process, payment will be direct deposited
- Payments are not subject to income taxes
- Expected April 17





UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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- \$260 billion pumped into the unemployment system
- Expanded unemployment categories
- Additional \$600 per week on top of state unemployment benefit payment
- Program expanded from 26 to 39 weeks
- Provides exceptions for "search for work requirement"





RETIREMENT FUNDS ACCESS

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- 10% early withdrawal penalty waived on qualified retirement account withdrawals up to \$100,000
- Income attributable to the distribution can be spread over a 3-year tax period
- Option to repay the funds during a 3-year period to avoid taxes on distribution
- Account holder qualifications
 - Individual, spouse or dependent diagnosed with COVID-19
 - Individual experiences adverse financial consequences related to COVID-19
 - Individual unable to work due to school or child care closing related to COVID-19
- Option for retirement plan loan up to \$100k
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FICA DEFERRAL

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- For employers <u>not</u> participating in the Paycheck Protection Program
- Employers can defer 100% of social security taxes for amounts due March 27 December 31, 2020
- 50% of deferred amount is due December 31, 2021
- The remaining 50% is due December 31, 2022





EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT

EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT

- For employers <u>not</u> participating in the Paycheck Protection Program, and suspended operations due to COVID-19 or have 50%+ decline in gross receipts
- Eligible for \$5,000 credit representing 50% of the first \$10,000 of wages paid in 2020 for "eligible employee"
- Credit can be taken against current employment tax liability
- Special rules for "eligible employees" depending on size of employer





- \$349 billion in SBA loans fully guaranteed by the federal government. Up to \$10 million per eligible recipient
- Up to 100% forgivable
- Many traditional SBA application requirements (personal guarantee, collateral, credit check) are eliminated
- Most businesses under 500 employees are eligible
 - For-profit companies
 - 501(c)(3) nonprofits
 - Veteran and tribal organizations
 - Sole proprietors and independent contractors
 - Hospitality and dining businesses are measured by employees per location



• Loan amount is the lesser of

- 2.5 times average monthly payroll in the 12-month period prior to the date of loan, or
- \$10 million
- Covered payroll costs include (up to \$100K per employee)
 - Salary
 - Wages
 - Health benefits
 - Retirement contributions
 - State and local payroll taxes



Loan application process

- Loans administered through a network of banks, credit unions and other financial institutions
- Important to start process now given demand for funds
- Streamlined application process
- Applicant must make certain certifications under penalty of perjury
- SBA has released a sample application, but each bank will have its own and the application process will not be uniform
- Ensure you take proper corporate action to approve application and acceptance of loan



LENDER

- How funds must be used
 - Payroll (75%)
 - Rent
 - Interest on mortgage (real or personal property)
 - Utilities
 - Interest on business loans existing as of Feb. 15, 2020
- Amounts spent on bullets I-4 are eligible for 100% forgiveness



Loan forgiveness

- Forgiveness is based on a formula that looks at reductions in headcount and payroll during 8-week covered period as compared to baseline
- Reductions that occurred between February 15 and April 26 may be cured by restoring to baseline level by June 30
- Amounts that are not forgiven are deferred for 6 months
- Two-year maturity with 1% interest





• Example

- Loan is received May I for \$4 million
- 8-week period ends June 26
- Baseline headcount is 300 employees
- Lender receives documentation of eligible expenses
- Headcount after 8 weeks is 300 employees and no salaries have been reduced
- \$4 million (100% of loan) will be forgiven





CORONAVIRUS ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT

ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ACT

- For businesses with 500 10,000 employees
 - Domiciled in U.S.
 - Significant U.S. operations
 - Majority of employees are U.S. based
 - For profit and non-profit businesses
- Direct lending from private banks
 - Guaranteed by federal government at 2% interest or less with no payments for 6 months
- Commit to restore 90% of employees as of February I, 2020 within 4 months following end of emergency declaration



ECONOMIC STABILIZATION **ACT**

- Retain 90% of pre-crisis workforce, including comp + benefits through September 30, 2020
- Restrictions on offshoring, outsourcing and executive comp provisions for 2 years







CONSIDERATIONS

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- Which option makes the most sense for your business with fewer than 500 employees?
- Should you rehire formerly laid off employees to maximize loan forgiveness?
- The relationship of FFCRA with CARES Act





FAQS

QUESTIONS



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Thank you for your attention Expertise you experience

