



FIONA MA, CPA
TREASURER
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2023 Resources for Small Businesses and Families

Small Business

Grants:

- **California Small Business and Nonprofit COVID-19 Supplemental Sick Leave Relief Grant Program** awards grants ranging from \$5,000-50,000 to eligible businesses and nonprofits that have incurred costs for COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave pursuant to Sections [248.6](#) and [248.7](#) of the Labor Code. Funds are limited and will be awarded based on eligibility and availability of funds. **Round 1 is closed. Round 2 coming soon!** (<https://caspsl.com/>)
- **Restaurant Disaster Relief Fund** supports restaurants impacted by natural disasters like fires, floods, and hurricanes, and provides relief through \$10,000 grants. **Deadline to apply is December 31, 2023.** (<https://helloalice.com/grants/doordash/>)
- **CA Ag Drought and Flood Relief Grant Program*** provides grants to qualified small agricultural businesses that have been affected by severe drought or flood conditions. (<https://cadroughtfloodrelief.com/>)

Loans:

- The U.S. Treasury recently awarded the State of California \$1.181 billion in **State Small Business Credit Initiative 2.0 (SSBCI 2.0)** funding for loan guarantees, collateral support and loan loss reserves for participating lenders. (<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cpcf/calcap/sb/ssbci.asp>)
- **California Capital Access Programs (CalCAP)** provide support to participating financial institutions when they make loans to small businesses. CalCAP for Small Business and CalCAP Collateral Support serve an array of business sectors while others serve a specific use. (<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cpcf/calcap/index.asp>)

* The California Small Agricultural Business Drought & Flood Relief Grant Program is administered by the California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA).

- **IBank's Small Business Finance Center** supports communities throughout California by providing loan guarantees, Jump Start loans, disaster relief financing and more. (<https://ibank.ca.gov/small-business/loan-guarantees/>)
- **Lendistry** is a minority and women-led small business lender. To support small businesses, they offer small business loans, commercial real estate loans, and a path to the government and private programs that they administer. Small business owners who are new to the lending world come to Lendistry when they're ready to grow their businesses. (<https://lendistry.com/>)
- **Small Business Administration** offers loans to start or expand businesses. (<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans>)

Incentives:

- **GoGreen Financing Programs** help California residents, businesses, and nonprofits save energy and money by making attractive financing more widely available for home and business energy efficiency improvements. (<https://gogreenfinancing.com/>)
 - **GoGreen Home** examples: HVAC upgrades, duct insulation and sealing, efficient light fixtures, and efficient windows.
 - **GoGreen Business** examples: air filtrations and sensors, commercial refrigerators and freezers, and smart thermostats.
- **Sales and Use Tax Exclusion Program** provides a full sale and use tax exclusion for advanced manufacturers and manufacturers of alternative source, recycled feedstock, and advanced transportation products, components, or systems. (<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/caeatfa/ste/index.asp>)
- **Tax Exempt Bond Financing Program** facilitates the issuance of tax-exempt bonds for businesses with qualifying projects in the federal tax code categories of solid waste (organic and inorganic), water furnishing, and wastewater. (https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cpcf/tax_exempt.asp)
- **California Competes Tax Credit** is an income tax credit available to businesses who want to come, stay, or grow in California. (<https://business.ca.gov/california-competes-tax-credit/>)
- California offers a number of **income tax credits and sales and use tax exemptions** that may help reduce the amount of tax your business owes. (<https://www.ftb.ca.gov/file/business/credits/>, <https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/taxes-and-fees/sales-and-use-tax-exemptions.htm>)

Other Small Business Resources:

- **California Investment & Innovation Program (Cal IIP)** provides grants to enhance the capacity for community development financial institutions to provide technical assistance and capital access to economically disadvantaged communities throughout California.
Deadline to apply is November 1, 2023.
(<https://www.treasurer.ca.gov/cpcfca/caliip/index.asp>)
- **California Office of Small Business Administration (CalOSBA)** offers small businesses, startups, and entrepreneurs a variety of tools and resources to help them start, manage, and grow. (<https://calosba.ca.gov/>)
- **iHub 2** program focuses on DEI science and tech base firms in designated areas of the state. The program offers diverse entrepreneurs the opportunity to develop and grow their innovative ideas by bridging the connection to local networks and communities and increasing access to critical advising and training services. (<https://calosba.ca.gov/funding-grants-incentives/ihub2/>)
- **CalOSBA Outsmart Disaster** campaign provides California businesses with the resources they need to adequately prepare for and recover from all types of disasters and business interruptions. (<https://outsmartdisaster.calosba.ca.gov/>)
- **Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)** offers permit and regulatory assistance. (<https://business.ca.gov/advantages/permit-and-regulatory-assistance/>)
- **Small Business Majority** provides information on Federal, State and Local Resources. (<https://smallbusinessmajority.org/>)
- **Venturize.org** is an online resource hub that provides on-demand information for small business owners on a host of topics, including access to capital, COVID-19 relief, retirement, and healthcare and other workforce benefits. (<https://venturize.org/>)
- **Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)** offer FREE face-to-face business consulting and at-cost training on a variety of topics. The California SBDC network is devoted to helping all industries and all levels of businesses with accessing capital, human resources, marketing/social media, e-commerce, accounting, pivoting strategies or any other business need. Find your local SBDC here: (<https://americassbdc.org/find-your-sbdc/>).
- **Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC)** provide one-on-one technical assistance, information, and training to small businesses to help them compete more effectively on federal, state, and local government contracts at no cost.
(<https://www.aptac-us.org/find-a-ptac/?state=CA>)
- **California Workforce Development Board** provides information and guidance regarding job training, placement, and business services.
(https://cwddb.ca.gov/local_boards/local_workforce_investment_associations/)

- **Department of General Services, Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services (OSDS)** supports California small, diverse, and disabled veteran businesses pursue contract opportunities with the state through outreach, certification and education. OSDS administers and oversees the Small Business (SB), Small Business for the Purpose of Public Works (SB-PW), Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) and Nonprofit Veteran Service Agency (NVSA) certification programs.
<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/PD-OSDS>

Internet

- **Affordable Connectivity Program** provides eligible households with up to a \$30/month discount on internet service and a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer. (<https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>)

Non-Profits

- **California Community Reinvestment Grants Program** awards grants to Local Health Departments and qualified Community-based Nonprofit Organizations to support job placement, mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, system navigation services, legal services to address barriers to reentry, and linkages to medical care for communities disproportionately affected by past federal and state drug policies, also known as the War on Drugs. **Application period for 2023 now closed. Sign-up for updates for future grant solicitations at <https://business.ca.gov/california-community-reinvestment-grants-program-sign-up/>.**
(<https://business.ca.gov/california-community-reinvestment-grants-program/>)

Savings

- **CalKids:** Every newborn born after July 1, 2022, receives \$25-100 in a child savings account in his/her name; and every 1st-12th grader that qualifies for “free and reduced lunch” program will receive \$500-\$1,500 in his/her own name to be used for higher education or a certified apprenticeship program.
NOTE: Newborns born on or after July 1, 2023 will automatically receive a \$100 deposit with the opportunity to earn more incentives.
(<https://calkids.org>)
- **CalSavers:** California’s retirement savings program designed to ensure all Californians have access to a workplace retirement savings account. Gov. Newsom recently signed SB1126 (Cortese) to expand the retirement plan mandate to employers who employ one or more employees by Dec. 31, 2025. (<https://www.calsavers.com>)
- **ScholarShare529:** Encourages college savings to keep students out of high student loan debt. (<https://www.scholarshare529.com>)

- Referral Offer: From now until August 31, 2023, ScholarShare 529 account owners can receive a \$25 bonus when they forward their referral code to friends and family who then open a new ScholarShare 529 account with \$500 or more. And that new account owner also receives a \$25 bonus.

(<https://www.scholarshare529.com/referral>)

- **CalABLE:** People with disabilities diagnosed before 26 can now save up to \$16K in his/her own name without jeopardizing other health and safety benefits.

(<https://www.calable.ca.gov>)

- **HOPE Program (coming soon):** The HOPE Program will provide a trust account to an eligible child who lost their parent(s) or guardian to COVID-19 during the public health emergency, as well as children who have been in the foster system for over 18 months.

Homeownership

- **California Mortgage Relief Program** uses federal Homeowner Assistance Funds to help homeowners get caught up on past-due housing payments and property taxes. The program is free, and the funds do not need to be repaid. (<https://camortgagerelief.org/>)
- **CalVet Home Loan** products have below market interest rates with low or no down payment requirements. In addition, CalVet Home Loans has expanded eligibility. Now, nearly any veteran wanting to buy a home in California is eligible. (<https://www.calvet.ca.gov/HomeLoans>)
- **United Policyholders (UP)** is a non-profit 501(c)(3) whose mission is to be a trustworthy and useful information resource and a respected voice for consumers of all types of insurance in all 50 states. They don't take money from insurance companies, guiding you on buying insurance and navigating claims. Fight for your rights. (<https://uphelp.org>)
- **CalHFA ADU Grant Program (coming in December 2023):** Will provide grants of up to \$40,000 for pre-development and non-recurring closing costs associated with the construction of ADUs. Low to moderate income limits apply. The official program announcement will be coming in November 2023. Subscribe to receive updates at <https://www.calhfa.ca.gov/about/contactus/index.htm#eNews>.
- **CA Dream for All Program (coming spring 2024):** CalHFA will provide shared-appreciation loans to help low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers achieve homeownership. The shared appreciation loans will provide funding to assist with down payments and closing costs. Total funding available is \$255 million. The official program announcement will be coming in January 2024. Subscribe to receive updates at <https://www.calhfa.ca.gov/about/contactus/index.htm#eNews>.

Education and Student Debt Relief

- **Golden State Education and Training Grant Program** supports Californians who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic with a one-time grant of \$2,500 to reskill, up-skill, and

access educational or training programs to get back into the workforce.

(<https://www.csac.ca.gov/golden-state-education-and-training-grant-gsetg>)

- **Income Driven Repayment Account Adjustment:** The U.S. Department of Education is crediting borrowers retroactively with time towards 20-year or 25-year student loan forgiveness terms under income-driven repayment (IDR) plans, even if they've been repaying their student loans under a different plan. This dramatically advances many borrowers' progress towards eventual loan forgiveness.

(<https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/idr-account-adjustment>)

Disaster Relief

- **Farm and Food Worker Relief Grant Program:** Participating local United Ways are distributing \$42 million in one-time \$600 relief payments to frontline agriculture workers who worked during the pandemic. [Additional agencies](#) are distributing money as well. Undocumented workers are eligible. The best way to apply is to text the word "farmworker" to 211-211 and United Ways will follow up to start the application process. <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/ffwr>
- **Tax Relief:**
 - **Extension to File Income Tax Returns:** Individuals and households that reside in or have a business in 51 counties that have been declared a federal disaster area have until November 16, 2023, to file and pay federal and state individual and business tax returns. <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/file/when-to-file/Emergency-tax-relief.html>
 - **Extension to File Sales Tax Returns:** A statewide extension of up to three months to file and pay taxes or fees is available for CDTFA administered programs. <https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/services/state-of-emergency-tax-relief.htm#counties>
 - **Disaster Loss Deduction:** Individuals and businesses in a declared disaster area who suffered uninsured disaster-related losses may claim the losses on their state and federal income tax returns.
 - **Free Copies of Tax Returns:** The IRS, FTB, and CDTFA will provide free copies of previously filed tax returns to disaster victims to replace those lost or damaged.
- **Disaster Legal Services (DLS)** provides free legal help to low-income disaster survivors. DLS may help with insurance claims, home repair contracts, issues with landlords, and recovery of legal documents lost in the disaster. <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/get-assistance/forms-of-assistance/4464>
- **Small Business Administration** offers low-interest disaster loans to help small businesses and homeowners recover from declared disasters. (<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>)

Income Taxes

- **Tax Credits** are available to low-income workers:
 - [California Earned Income Tax Credit](#) (up to \$3,417 cash back)
 - [Federal Earned Income Tax Credit](#) (up to \$6,935 cash back)
 - Expanded [California Young Child Tax Credit](#) (up to \$1,083 cash back)
 - **NEW** [California Foster Youth Tax Credit](#) (up to \$1,083 cash back)
- **You must file your income taxes to receive these credits.**
- Use the [CalEITC4Me Calculator](#) to estimate your tax credits.
(<https://www.caleitc4me.org/eitc-calculator/>)
- **Free Tax Preparation Assistance:** Free in-person or online basic tax return preparation services are available for low- and moderate-income taxpayers. There are also options to file online on your own for free. For more information and to find a tax preparation location near you, visit [MyFreeTaxes.org](#) or [CalEITC4me.org](#).

If you have any questions or need assistance, please email AskFiona@Treasurer.ca.gov.

DISCLAIMER: This is not a comprehensive resource. The State Treasurer's Office does not recommend any particular program, resource, agency, or financial institution.