How can the Texas Workforce Commission Assist YOU?

Programs and Tools to Aid Small Businesses Child Care Programs and their Employees during the Current Turbulent Period
Overview

- Unemployment Assistance and Insurance
- Paid leave for employees due to COVID-19
- Work In Texas job matching services
- Skills for Small Business Grant
- Small Business Administration (SBA) Funding Programs
Unemployment Assistance

- **Shared Work Program**: provides Texas employers with an alternative to layoffs. TWC developed this voluntary program to help Texas employers and employees withstand a slowdown in business. Shared Work allows employers to:
  - Supplement their employees’ wages lost because of reduced work hours with partial unemployment benefits
  - Reduce normal weekly work hours for employees in an affected unit by at least 10 percent but not more than 40 percent; the reduction must affect at least 10 percent of the employees in that unit
  - Employees who qualify will receive both wages and Shared Work unemployment benefits
  - For more information, please refer to the link below: https://www.twc.texas.gov/businesses/shared-work

- **Mass unemployment claims**: streamlines the unemployment benefit claims process for employers faced with either temporary or permanent layoffs. During COVID – 19 the requirement to submit Mass Claims Request at least five days prior to the planned layoff has been waived.
  - For more information, please visit: https://twc.texas.gov/businesses/mass-claims-unemployment-benefits

Texas Workforce Commission – Office of Employer Initiatives
# Unemployment and CARES ACT

If you are **not currently** working, teleworking or on paid leave, you **may be eligible** for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Regular Unemployment</th>
<th>Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation</th>
<th>Pandemic Unemployment Assistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional $600 per week</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of weeks</strong></td>
<td>Up to 26</td>
<td>Up to 13</td>
<td>Up to 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Who is eligible</strong></td>
<td>Past Wages + Qualifying Separation</td>
<td>Exhausted Regular Unemployment on or After 7/1/19</td>
<td>Self-Employed Contract workers Monetary Ineligible for Regular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fill our Unemployment Application</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Applies to COVID-19</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expires</strong></td>
<td>Ongoing State Program</td>
<td>Last Payment 12/26/20</td>
<td>Last Payment 12/26/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How to apply</strong></td>
<td>UI.TexasWorkforce.org</td>
<td>UI.TexasWorkforce.org</td>
<td>UI.TexasWorkforce.org</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Available until 7/31/20

For more information: [http://ui.texasworkforce.org/](http://ui.texasworkforce.org/)

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If you have fewer than 500 employees, you are required* to provide up to 80 hours of paid sick leave to any employee who needs to take leave from work for reasons related to COVID-19. The employee qualifies if he or she:

- is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19;
- has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19;
- is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis;
- is caring for an individual subject to an order described in (1) or self-quarantine as described in (2);
- is caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed (or child care provider is unavailable) for reasons related to COVID-19; or
- is experiencing any other substantially-similar condition specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretaries of Labor and Treasury.

*Small businesses with fewer than 50 employees may qualify for exemption from the requirement to provide leave due to school closings or child care unavailability.
WorkInTexas.com is an online application that offers employers and job seekers immediate and continuous access to job matching services.

Your local Workforce Solutions office is open and available to help.

Instructions for how to log in as a child care provider or for out-of-work child care teachers can be found here:
Skills for Small Business Grant

➢ Targets private for profit businesses that employs at least 1 & not more than 99.
➢ The program pays tuition & fees up to $1,800 for new employees.
➢ Up To $900 for existing employees, per 12-month period
➢ Eligible employees must be full-time, W-2
➢ Training providers include public community or technical colleges, or Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
SSB Contact Information

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skillsforsmallbusiness@twc.state.tx.us

texasworkforce.org/skillsforsmallbusiness

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Paycheck Protection Program

This program offers loans of up to $10 million for payroll, mortgage, rent, utilities, etc.

- PPP Loan Period - February 15, 2020 to June 30, 2020
- Business in operation as of February 15, 2020
- Business must have been harmed by COVID-19 between February 15 through June 30, 2020
- Cash Flow Protection during emergency through 100% federally guarantee loans to employers
- If payroll maintained during emergency loans will be forgiven
How to Apply for PPP

- Step 1: Please use the following link to find an approved vendor: https://www.sba.gov/paycheckprotection/find


- Use the following link to find your local SBA office: https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/?type=SBA%20District%20Office&pageNumber=1
Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)

- Up to $2 million in assistance and can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.

- Emergency advance up to $10,000 harmed by COVID within 3-days of applying for EIDL (application must be submitted before a business can request the advance).

- The advance does not need to be repaid under any circumstances.

- May be used to keep employees on the payroll, sick leave, production cost due to supply-chain disruptions.

- Also, pay business obligations, including debt, rent and mortgage payments.

- For more information, please visit: [https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance](https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance)
Small Business Debt Relief Fund

- Immediate relief to small businesses with non-disaster SBA Loans
- SBA cover loan payments on 7(a), 504, and Microloans
- Debt relief available to new borrowers who take out loans within six months of President signing the bill into law.
- For more information, please visit: https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-debt-relief

- Provision would provide a refundable payroll tax credit for 50 percent of wages paid by eligible employers to certain employees during the COVID-19 crisis.

- Available to employers, including non-profits, whose operation have been fully or partially suspended as a result of a government order limiting commerce, travel or group meetings.

- Also provided to employers who have experienced a greater than 50 percent reduction in quarterly receipts, measured on a year-over-year basis.

- Wages of employees who are furloughed or face reduced hours as a result of their employer’s closure or economic hardship are eligible for the credit.

- For employers with 100 or fewer full-time employees, all employee wages and compensation, health benefits, for the first $10,000 in wages and compensation.
Counseling and Training

- Many business owners need a business counselor to help guide through uncertain times
- Turn to your local Small Business Development Center (SBDC) for support with counseling and up-to-date information and resources related to COVID-19
- Other resource partners include: Women’s Business Centers (WBC), Minority Business Development Agency’s Business Centers (MBDCs), and SCORE

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Commissioner Aaron Demerson, Commissioner Representing Employers

The Employer Commissioner has developed and is maintaining FAQs and other information located at:
https://twc.texas.gov/files/agency/faq-texas-employers-twc.docx

Hotline to his office for any questions you may have:
1-800-832-9394
Stay Up-to-Date!

Information regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing so make sure to get the most up-to-date information at the following helpful TWC links:

https://twc.texas.gov/news/covid-19-resources-employers

Facebook: @Texasworkforcecommission

Twitter: @Txworkforce

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/texas-workforce-commission/

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