



Stimulus Package Provides Help to Small Businesses

FINANCIAL, MANAGEMENT AND CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES

Fresno District Office
2719 N. Air Fresno Dr.
Suite 200
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 487-5791
www.sba.gov/
Email:
fdo.helpdesk1@sba.gov

Your Small Business Resource
Every day, the U.S. Small Business Administration and its nationwide network of partners help millions of potential and current small business owners start, grow and succeed.

Resources and programs targeting small businesses provide an advantage necessary to help small businesses effectively compete in the marketplace and strengthen the overall U.S. economy.

SBA offers help in the following areas:

- Starting a Business
- Financing a Business
- Growing a Business
- Opportunities in Contracting
- Recovering From Disaster
- A Voice for Small Business

Visit SBA online at www.sba.gov for 24/7 access to small business news, information and training for entrepreneurs.

All SBA programs and services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Act) is good news for small businesses. While the Act contains a package of loan fee reductions, higher guarantees, new SBA programs, secondary market incentives, and enhancements to current SBA lending programs that will help unlock credit markets and begin economic recovery for the nation's small business sector, the Act also contains other federal assistance to make small businesses sound.

SBA has established teams to tackle a wide variety of policy decisions, system modifications, regulatory changes, legal requirements and new programs launches authorized by the President and Congress. Implementation is now underway. The Act provides \$730 million to SBA to make changes to the agency's lending and investment programs so that they can reach more small businesses that need help. Funding includes:

- \$375 million for temporary fee reductions or eliminations on SBA loans and increase SBA guaranteed shares, up to 90 percent for certain loans.
- \$255 million for a new loan program to help small businesses meet existing debt payments.
- \$30 million for expanding SBA's Microloan program.
- \$15 million for expanding SBA's Surety Bond Guaranteed program.

The Act also contains several tax provisions that will make small businesses more competitive that pertain to Small Business Capital Gains, Temporary Small Business Estimated Tax Payment Relief, Repeal of Treasury Section 382 Notice, Treatment of Certain Ownership Changes and numerous new credits and incentives too extensive to list including incentives to hire Unemployed Veterans. For a detailed listing go to the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0..id=20335.00.html?portlet=6>

The Act will provide unprecedented contracting opportunities for small businesses as both prime and subcontractors. State and local officials have identified the "shovel ready" projects to be funded with the Federal stimulus funds. Small Businesses are reminded that as the resulting contracts will be awarded by the States and localities, so firms should register/certify with those contracting agencies and become familiar with their contracting procedures.

Most Federal agencies will receive billions of dollars for upgrades to federal facilities. This literally translates to thousands of contracting opportunities for prime contractors and subcontractors, many of which will be small businesses. Knowing how to be competitive in Federal procurement is key and the local SBA district office can help. The first step should be registration at www.ccr.gov and attending a workshop provided by SBA or its many partners on selling to the Government.