

## News Release

# Indiana Banks Stand Ready to Help, Encourage Patience as Paycheck Protection Program Launches



For immediate release  
April 2, 2020

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) will offer some relief to small businesses in Indiana as it launches on Friday, April 3. Indiana bankers ask for patience from the public as the program begins. Application volume will be very high as the financial institutions qualified to offer these loans will strive to keep up with demand.

“Sheer volume won’t be the only reason the program will take time,” said Indiana Bankers Association president and CEO Amber Van Til. “Financial institutions are in the process of reviewing guidance released late Thursday evening from federal agencies and regulators as they prepare to counsel their customers on the Paycheck Protection Program. Even with the latest guidance, the emergency program remains unclear with less than 12 hours before the program is scheduled to begin. The lender agreement and lender application for guarantee forms have not yet been released resulting in an inability for banks to process applications. Banks are here to help. Once the appropriate SBA government forms and processes become available, your Indiana banks stand ready to serve their customers and communities.”

“Keep in mind that PPP loans aren’t the only way Indiana’s banks are helping their customers,” explained Van Til. “They worked one-on-one with their customers to find solutions before PPP became available, and they will continue to do so after the program is done.”

The good news is that Indiana’s banks entered this pandemic from a position of strength and are well-equipped to help their communities.

The IBA also recommends the following five things businesses can do right now:

- 1: Talk to your lender, if you haven’t already.** If you are experiencing or expect to experience cash flow problems, contacting your lender is the critical first step.
- 2: Plan for the next 3-6 months, if you haven’t already.** Many businesses we’ve heard from have sufficient funds or access to capital for the first 2-3 months. We don’t know how long the pandemic will last, however, so look ahead, both in terms of a potential lengthening of the pandemic and also in how you will handle recovery and re-opening of the business if you are currently closed.
- 3: Be ready to produce required information quickly to help your lender with your application.** All loan programs still require some information in order for the lender to underwrite the loan, including the ones created through the CARES Act. Be ready to produce required documentation quickly to help your lender with your application.
- 4: Don’t panic and draw on lines of credit unnecessarily.** There is plenty of liquidity in the system (unlike during the financial crisis in 2008), so don’t panic and draw on lines of credit unnecessarily. Just like we are encouraging consumers to keep excess cash in insured financial institutions, keep the lines of credit intact until you absolutely need to access them. There may be costs associated with accessing those funds, and if you don’t need to incur the added expense, don’t.

**5: Have patience.** The banking industry wants to help you through these unprecedented times, but not all programs are in place yet, and even when they are, technology can cause hiccups or delays (e.g. systems crashing).

For more information, please visit [sba.gov](https://sba.gov).

###

The Indiana Bankers Association supports Indiana banking through issues advocacy, professional education, and products and services that enhance financial institutions' ability to help build better communities.

**Indiana Bankers Association**  
8425 Woodfield Crossing Blvd., Suite 155E  
Indianapolis, IN 46240-7321  
indiana.bank / @indianabankers  
Contact: Emily Brooks, [ebrooks@indiana.bank](mailto:ebrooks@indiana.bank), 317-333-7167