



Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Fund

In response to the ongoing and impending layoffs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Maryland has implemented a program to help Maryland small businesses retain and continue to employ their workforce. The Layoff Aversion Fund is a program designed to provide up to \$50,000 for qualified Maryland small businesses in order to reduce the need for layoffs in the midst of this economic downturn.

How does this program work?

The Layoff Aversion Fund will grant up to \$50,000 for creative solutions to keeping people employed. These can include, but are not limited to:

- Providing funds to cover the cost of remote access (i.e. printers, computers, etc.) which will allow employees to work remotely
- Providing funds to cover the cost of tele-work software
- Paying for liability insurance for restaurants that convert to delivery while under emergency circumstances
- Providing training or professional development opportunities for employees to avoid layoffs
- Adopting other creative approaches and strategies to reduce or eliminate the need for layoffs in the small business community

Do I qualify?

Eligible applicants include Maryland Businesses that:

- Have 500 employees or fewer based within the State of Maryland
- Are up-to-date on Unemployment Insurance taxes and are in good standing with the Comptroller of Maryland and Maryland Department of Labor; and
- Can demonstrate a need for layoff aversion support due to the impacts of COVID-19

To apply, complete the application which can be found [HERE](#).

If you have any questions about the process, the qualifications, or need assistance in filing, please contact Morgan Dilks, Esq., at 410-659-1317 or at mdilks@wcsllaw.com.