

Five Ways to Increase Cash Flow

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Agenda

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| Loan Forgiveness Maximization Strategies | Sara Bailey |
| Payroll Planning | Sara Bailey |
| Research and Development (R&D) | Sara Bailey |
| Net Operating Loss (NOL) Carrybacks and Carryforwards | Sara Bailey |
| Balance Sheet Management | Danielle Newhouse |
| Q&A | ALL |

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Paycheck Protection Program & Loan Forgiveness Maximization Strategies

Paycheck Protection Program – Overview

• Payroll costs – "at least" 60% of expenditures

- Gross salary, wage, commission, similar (limited to \$100K/yr) (Owner compensation limited for 24 week period at \$20,833 or 2.5 months compensation)
- Certain employee benefits health insurance & retirement benefits paid by employer
- State & local taxes assessed on compensation (i.e. unemployment)
- Other forgivable "covered" costs "up to" 40% of expenditures
 - Mortgage interest on real and personal property (no pre-payments) (in place before 2/15)
 - Rent/lease payments on real and personal property (agreement in place before 2/15)
 - Utilities electricity, gas, water, transportation, phone, internet (services started before 2/15)
- Other allowable uses (not forgivable) included in 40%
 - ✤ Interest (on/after 2/15)
 - Interest (nonmortgage liabilities)
 - **Rent (lease in force on/after 2/15)**
 - Utilities (service began on/after 2/15)

Forgiveness Haircuts

- Reduction in headcount
 - Based on change in FTEs (40 hrs/wk) between base period and covered period
 - Safe harbor: December 31 headcount restoration
 - Special rule: worker refuses re-hire must document
 - NEW safe harbor not able to re-hire individuals who were employees on 2/15/20 AND unable to hire similarly qualified employee
 - NEW safe harbor not able to return to the same level of business due to compliance with HHS, CDC, or OSHA related to sanitation, social distancing, or worker/customer safety
- Wage reduction
 - Decline in an employee's pay over the covered period > 25%
- Document all assumptions based on guidance currently in existence

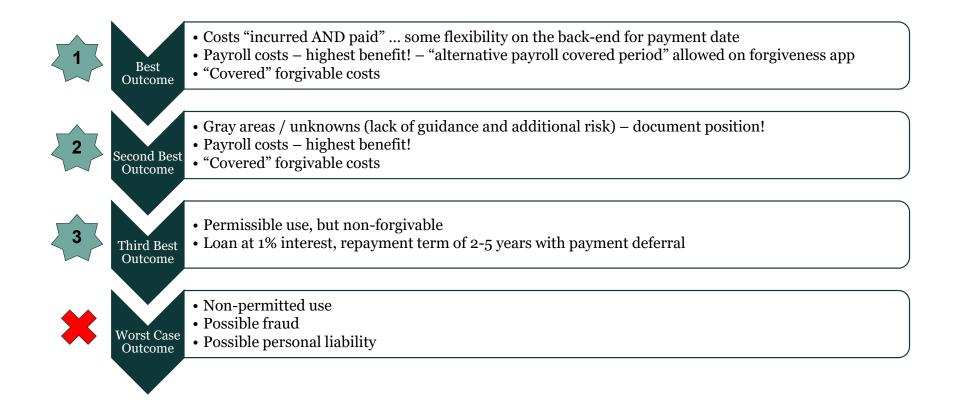
PPP Loan Forgiveness: Unknowns

- Application submission prior to the end of the covered period no guidance on how to calculate FTE ratio if submitting calculation before the end of covered period.
- 2. Loan forgiveness applications "between" the 8-week and 24-week covered period
- 3. Are expenses paid with forgiven funds tax deductible currently NO

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4. Loan forgiveness "haircut" specifics – complex area which will require calculations; ability to use "simplified method"

Loan Forgiveness Maximization Strategies



Loan Forgiveness Maximization Strategies

- 1. Strategy: Waterfall maximization: bucket 1, bucket 2, bucket 3; never go to bucket 4!
- 2. 8 week v. 24 week covered period decision
- 3. Model payroll during covered period (\$100K cash compensation limit, annualized)
- 4. Consider payment dates for "incurred" payroll costs not normally paid on next payroll date (commissions, retirement, etc)
- 5. If not at 40% for "incurred", consider accelerating other "covered" forgivable use expenses at end of 8 weeks (if selected) to capture "paid" document position
- 6. Organized schedules and supporting information is key
- 7. Model and track all expenses in the covered period and project through end of period what action/planning needs to be done now?
- 8. Always document assumptions & consult with legal counsel

Tips and Rumors

<u>Tips</u>

- If you haven't applied yet, get your loan application in before June 30 for PPP loan.
- If you haven't strategized how to maximize forgiveness, <u>do it now</u>.
- If your loan is over \$2 million, document reasons and evidence that current economic uncertainty made the loan necessary to support ongoing operations
- We advise against distributions to owners (non-coops) during the covered period.
- Avoid intercompany loans by the PPP recipient to related companies unless wholly owned.
- Document occasions when furloughed employees decline to return.
- Contractors and 1099 labor do not count as employees.
- Bank's will make the first call on most questions. Be in touch on critical points.

<u>Rumors</u>

- There are varying views on whether interest other than on real or personal property is forgivable
- Watch for revisions to the SBA's loan forgiveness application several areas will need to be modified

Payroll Planning

CARES Act – Tax Credits & Deferrals

- Payroll tax credits
 - Employee retention credit (not available w/ PPP)
 - Paid family leave credit (no double dipping w/ PPP forgiveness)
 - Paid sick leave credit (no double dipping w/ PPP forgiveness)
- Employer portion of Social Security tax deferral
 - \circ $\,$ Can defer even if you received PPP loan $\,$
 - \circ 50% due 12/31/21; 50% due 12/31/22

Research and Development (R&D) and Net Operating Losses / Loss Limitations

Research & Development Tax Credit

- Significant federal tax savings: For every dollar deemed as a qualified expense ~ 6.5% can be captured as net federal credit
- Four-Part Test
 - 1. Technical Uncertainty
 - 2. Process of Experimentation
 - 3. Technological Nature
 - 4. Permitted Purpose
- Qualified Expenditures
 - o Wages
 - o Supplies
 - o Contract Research

How to Identify Potential R&D

- Designing processes or techniques that result in increased efficiency, quality, or performance
- Prototyping, modeling, and trial-and-error testing
- Developing specialized machinery and tools
- Significantly improved processes i.e. quality or performance enhancement
- Engineering/Product Development Departments
- Patents intellectual property

Research & Development Tax Credit

- Grape Growing
- Crushing & Pressing
- Fermentation
- Post-Fermentation
- Aging & Bottling

CARES Act – Changes in Loss Rules

- Excess business losses
- Net operating losses
- Interest expense limitation
- Revisit all elections made on 2018 & 2019 filed returns

Tax Planning Cash Flow Opportunities

- Quick refund claim for C-Corp (estimated tax payments refunded early)
- NOL carrybacks/carryforwards & Excess Business Loss limitations (2018 2020)
- Electing to treat certain 2020 losses as 2019 deductions
- Inventory strategies
- Accelerating deductions for partially worthless bad debt
- Cost segregation studies & qualified improvements
- Tax accounting method changes
- Payroll tax planning opportunities
- Property tax (check local opportunities)
- Research & Development tax credit
- Tax credit for alternative fuels
- Considerations of any specific state & local tax opportunities (deferrals, grants, etc)

Balance Sheet Management



Maximizing Cash Flow

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- Inventory
- Receivables
- Self-distribution
- Expense Control

We are here to help





Sara Bailey, CPA Tax Senior Manager <u>Sara.Bailey@mossadams.com</u> 509-834-2463

Danielle Newhouse, CPA

Assurance Manager

Danielle.Newhouse@mossadams.com

509-834-2437

HELPING YOU ADAPT TO UNCERTAIN TIMES



Find more information and resources here: <u>https://mossadams.com/covid-19-implications</u>

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