COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

Overview
The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provide the following resources for independent contractors to help them cover their financial needs during the public health emergency.

Unemployment Insurance
The CARES Act provides independent contractors, self-employed individuals, and gig-economy workers with access to unemployment benefits. Income verification procedures for independent contractors have yet to be released. Our office is monitoring these updates so please check back frequently for more details. For more information, visit https://www.schatz.senate.gov/coronavirus/unemployment-insurance

Direct Cash Payments
CARES also directs the Department of the Treasury to make a one-time direct payment to individuals to help them recover from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, please visit https://www.schatz.senate.gov/coronavirus/direct-payments

Small Business Assistance
Relief is also available for small businesses that have trouble covering payroll and operating expenses because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The new law creates a Small Business Administration (SBA) loan program, called the "Paycheck Protection Program" (PPP), that expands benefits and eligibility for SBA disaster loans, covers payments on existing SBA loans, and creates new tax credits to help cover the cost of paid leave and payroll. For more information, visit https://www.schatz.senate.gov/coronavirus/small-businesses

Tax Relief for Individuals
The Internal Revenue Service and the CARES Act are providing several categories of tax relief for individuals to help them cover their financial needs during this time. For more information, please visit https://www.schatz.senate.gov/coronavirus/individual-tax-relief

More Information
For more information on federal resources available to you, please visit https://www.schatz.senate.gov/coronavirus/

This page will be updated continuously to reflect the most recent information. This page was last updated on April 2, 2020.