

## Bulletin for ALL TSA Employees – 05/20/2020

### Update on CARES Act Temporary Loan and Withdrawal Options

This is an update to the TSA broadcast message released on May 11, 2020 regarding the temporary support via Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) loans and withdrawals for qualifying individuals through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020.

The CARES Act allows TSP to offer temporary loan and withdrawal options to TSP participants affected by COVID-19. The loan options described below will be available no later than June 22, 2020. The withdrawal option described here will be available in mid-July 2020.

**Both the loan and withdrawal options are available to you only if you can certify that you meet one or more of the following criteria:**

- You have been diagnosed with the virus SARS–CoV–2 or with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID–19) by a test approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Your spouse or dependent (as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) has been diagnosed with such virus or disease by such a test.
- You are experiencing adverse financial consequences as a result of being quarantined, being furloughed or laid off or having work hours reduced due to such virus or disease, being unable to work due to lack of child care due to such virus or disease, closing or reducing hours of a business owned or operated by the individual due to such virus or disease, or other factors as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate).

#### **Increased Maximum Loan Amount**

The maximum loan amount is increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000, and the portion of your available balance you can borrow is raised from 50% to 100%. **Note:** The deadline for applying for a loan with this increased maximum will be in September 2020. TSP will announce the exact cutoff date soon.

#### **Temporary Suspension of Loan Payments**

You may suspend your obligation to make payments on your TSP loan or loans for 12 months, which will also extend the term of your loan by 12 months. This applies to existing loans and loans taken in the remainder of

2020. TSP will make a new form available for you to request this suspension. **Note:** You have until December 31, 2020, to have your payments suspended.

### **CARES Act Withdrawal**

You may make a one-time withdrawal of up to \$100,000 from a civilian or uniformed services account. For those still in federal service, the usual requirements that you be at least 59 ½ years old or certify that you meet specific financial hardship criteria are waived. Though you may request that TSP withhold money from your withdrawal for federal income tax, TSP will not automatically do that. This withdrawal will be eligible for the favorable tax treatment described here, with all the same options and restrictions. **Note:** The deadline for applying for this withdrawal will be in December 2020. TSP will announce the exact cutoff date soon.

### **Questions?**

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the HCAccess Help Desk hours of operation have temporarily changed. Live agents will be available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays, and closed Saturday through Sunday until further notice. Employees can contact the HCAccess Help Desk by phone at 1-877-872-7990, by fax at 1-877-872-7993, or by email at this [link](#). Employees can visit the HCAccess website for valuable Human Resources (HR) information on a wide variety of topics at this [link](#) and visit Human Capital online at this [link](#).