

## **PBA COVID-19 Relief Fund FAQs**

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: The PBA COVID-19 Relief Fund will never ask you to purchase gift cards to receive funding\*\*\***

**Did you receive my application?** If you submitted your application successfully, you will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours. If you haven't received a confirmation email check your spam or junk folder. If it isn't in your spam or junk folder, please email us at [covidrelief@probeauty.org](mailto:covidrelief@probeauty.org) prior to submitting a new application. Submitting multiple applications will disqualify you from the Fund.

**How are applications being selected?** Applications are selected using a lottery process. All applications remain in the lottery until they are selected for funding.

**How often are you funding applications?** We are funding applications daily or as soon as we receive funding. 100% of donations go directly to funding applications. Applications are randomly selected, qualified, and notified of the \$500 grant.

**How will I know if I'm selected?** If your qualified application is chosen, you will receive an email with instructions on how to access your \$500 Visa gift card grant.

**I applied weeks ago, what's the status of my application?** Since funds are distributed by lottery your application remains in the lottery process until selected. The timing of your application submission does not impact the ability to be selected or cause favoritism in the lottery process.

**What if I need to update my application?** If you think you've made an error in your application information, you can send changes to [covidrelief@probeauty.org](mailto:covidrelief@probeauty.org) for pertinent updates.

**Is this a scam?** No. The PBA COVID-19 Relief Fund is a program of the PBA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Visit <https://www.probeauty.org/pba-charities> for more information.

**Does funding affect my ability to collect unemployment?** No. This is a one time grant and will not impact unemployment qualifications.

**Do I have to pay taxes if I'm awarded funding?** No - this is not considered taxable income. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

**Do I have to pay this back?** No. This is a tax free grant, not a loan.

**How many people have received funding so far?** As of October 15 we have awarded more than \$1.5 million in funds and will keep funding as long as we continue to receive funds.

**Are there restrictions in what I can use the funds on?** These funds are to help with whatever your greatest needs are whether to help with bills or purchase needed items. Since it is a virtual gift card, you may use it online or over the phone wherever Visa is accepted for payment. The funds cannot be converted to cash or deposited into your banking account unless you have a merchant account with the ability to charge the gift card as a payment in that account and have the ability to transfer funds from that merchant account.

**If awarded, when will I receive my gift card?** Since this is a virtual gift card, nothing will be sent via USPS mail. We send award emails within 24 hours of fund approval via email. Once awarded, you have 7 days to activate your gift card so check your spam filter regularly just in case it ends up there.

**Does everyone who applies receive funding?** Funds are limited and not all applications will be funded. When the Fund is exhausted, we will notify all applicants.