

# SBA 504 LOANS

## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



### WHAT IS THE 504 LOAN PROGRAM?

The 504 Loan Program is owner-occupied real estate and equipment financing. SBA created the 504 to provide small businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing for the expansion of their business.

### WHO QUALIFIES?

- Most for-profit, owner-occupied small businesses in the U.S.
- Net worth less than \$15 million
- Net profit after-tax (2 year average) of no more than \$5 million (including affiliates)
- Will occupy at least 51% of the project property, or 60% of a new construction
- Equipment will be used for business operations

### BENEFITS FOR BORROWERS

- Low down payment (10% in most cases)
- Low, fixed interest rate on 504
- Long loan term
- Include soft costs
- Include leasehold improvements
- Payment stability
- Preserves working capital
- Protection from balloon payments
- Keep your lender

### BENEFITS FOR LENDERS

- Reduces exposure to 50%
- Bank gets first lien position
- Debt refinance for loans with high loan-to-value ratios
- Preserves borrower's working capital
- CRA credits
- Includes eligible soft costs
- Unique marketing tool

### OCCUPANCY

- 51% for existing facilities/buildings (renovations and expansions)
- 60% for new construction (must occupy 80% within ten years)

### ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS

- Land
- Acquisition of an existing building
- New construction
- Building expansion or renovation
- Long-term equipment
- Refinance of qualifying debt
- Furniture and fixtures
- Leasehold improvements
- Professional fees
- Other costs such as appraisals, fees, permits, etc.

### INELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS

- Working capital
- Inventory
- Goodwill assets from business purchase
- Franchise fees
- Investment in rental real estate

### BORROWER'S INJECTION

- 10% in most cases
- 15% for start-up businesses or special-purpose properties
- 20% if both a start-up and special-purpose property
- 10% or 15% for equipment

### LOAN AMOUNT LIMITS (SBA PORTION)

- \$5 million (typical projects)
- \$5.5 million (manufacturers)
- \$5.5 million (energy initiatives or public policy goals met)
- No maximum lending limit on participating lender's portion

### INTEREST RATE & TERMS

- Fixed-rate
- Fully amortized over the life of the loan (no balloons)
- Real estate – a 10 or 20-year term
- Equipment – 10-year term
- Rate locked when debenture is sold

### JOB CREATION/RETENTION

- One job for every 65,000 of the debenture (for most projects)
- One job for every 100,000 of the debenture (for manufacturers)
- Projects are excluded from the job requirement goals if a Public Policy Goal is fulfilled

### PUBLIC POLICY GOALS

- Rural development
- Women, Minority, or Veteran ownership
- Enhancing economic competition
- Expanding exports
- LEED certified projects
- Revitalizing economic development areas
- Generating renewable energy
- Reducing energy consumption by at least 10%

### THREE PLAYERS IN A 504

- Lending institution, usually a bank
- Growth Corp (SBA 504 loan)
- Small business borrower

### TYPICAL FINANCING STRUCTURE

- 50% of the project's total cost is provided by a lending institution
- 40% is provided by Growth Corp as a 504 loan
- 10% equity is provided by the applicant small business/borrower (higher equity requirements exist for start-ups or special purpose properties)



## 504 LOAN PROCESS



## TYPICAL 504 PROJECTS

- Medical facilities
- Manufacturers
- Industrial buildings
- Office buildings and condos
- Child care facilities
- Restaurants
- Animal care facilities
- Warehouses
- Assisted living facilities
- Sports arenas
- Professional offices
- Retail stores
- Mini storage facilities
- Irrigation equipment
- Grain elevators
- Printing presses
- Auto repair centers

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Corporate tax returns for business and affiliates
- Interim financial statements for business and affiliates
- Schedule of debts
- Most recent aging of accounts receivable and payable
- Two-year projection of income and expenses with assumptions
- Owner's personal financial statement
- Owner's last 3 years income tax returns
- Copy of Driver's license
- Personal data sheet
- Detailed breakdown of costs
- Documentation of equity injection
- Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and/or Operating Agreement
- Real estate appraisal
- Environmental Report
- Application deposit

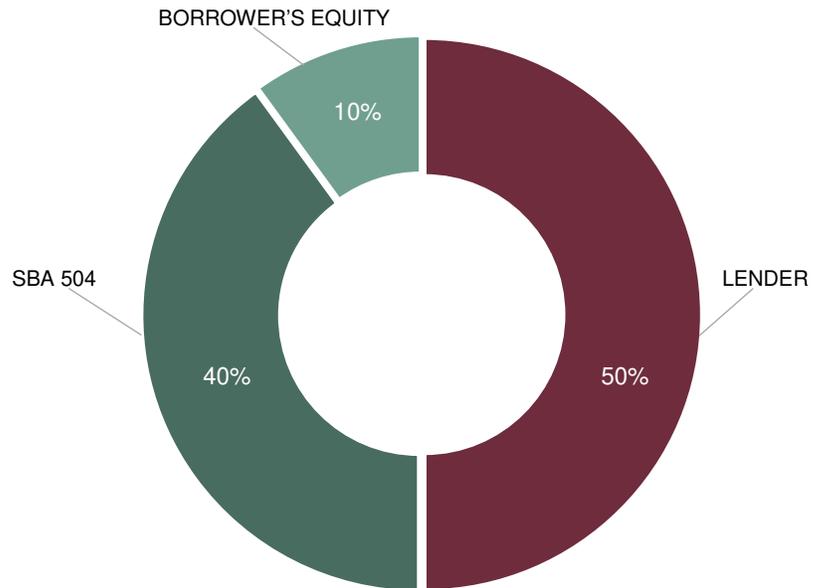
## ITEMS TO COLLECT EARLY IN THE PROCESS

- Life insurance
- Real estate appraisal
- Environmental report

It's vital to obtain these items early in the process as they can be time consuming



## TYPICAL 504 PROJECT STRUCTURE



The 504 Loan Program is partnership at its best. There's simply no other product on the market that offers entrepreneurs an affordable way to grow their business, gives banks a low-risk addition to their menu of lending solutions and promotes job growth and economic development in communities across the country.

Growth Corp is a not-for-profit organization empowered by the U.S. Small Business Administration to marshal the 504 Loan Program to small businesses throughout the state of Illinois, and parts of Missouri, Indiana, Iowa and Kentucky. Growth Corp is focused exclusively on local economic development and job creation. In 2015 alone, Growth Corp facilitated the investment of more than \$494 million into the small business community, which created and/or retained hundreds of jobs.

[WWW.GROWTHCORP.COM](http://WWW.GROWTHCORP.COM)

