COVID-19 Resources for Writers:


- PEN’s U.S. Writers Aid Initiative: https://pen.org/campaign/pen-america-writers-emergency-fund

- Dramatists Guild Foundation: https://dgf.org/programs/grants/grants-for-writers

- List of COVID-19 journalism funds (scroll to bottom of page): https://cpj.org/covid-19/

- Fund for Investigative Journalism: http://fij.org/

- Economic Hardship Reporting Project. The relief fund is suspended, but they also commission journalism: https://economichardship.org/submissions/


- The Learned Fangirl Freelance Emergency Fund, run by TheLearnedFangirl.com and Independent Arts & Media: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdfR9UFBlxxOvdHY7zyvffq4OCnPdkwgWUkt_HriQnZGtnO_w/viewform

- Unemployment has been expanded to include freelancers and gig workers, including self-employed writers, contract writers, book authors, etc. This is called PUA. Visit your state’s Employment/Labor Division website to apply. Congress has extended PUA to September 6, 2021, with $300/week added to the base benefit. Dual W2 and 1099 earners can now receive an additional $100/week. Unfortunately, some states have dropped these benefits. The Authors Guild and Freelancers Union are great resources for guidance on PUA, e.g. Authors Guild advice for self-employed writers applying for PUA: https://www.authorsguild.org/industry-advocacy/applying-for-pua-here-are-some-important-reminders/

- If you received a PPP loan, apply for forgiveness: https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program/ppp-loan-forgiveness

- The SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans. The $1,000 Advance Grants are no longer available, but low-interest SBA loans are available to self-employed freelancers:
Behind the Scenes has an extensive mental health support website tailored to the needs of the entertainment industry. This includes access to a chat app, a therapist finder tool, and phone numbers to get support right away: https://wp.behindthescenescharity.org/mental-health-and-suicide-prevention-initiative/mental-health-resources/

Relief for the General Public:

-Unfortunately, the CDC eviction moratorium has been struck down. There are ~550 state, county, and city rent relief programs still operating. Search in your state:


-NEW YORK STATE RESIDENTS - apply for rent and utility relief: https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance/

-CALIFORNIA STATE RESIDENTS - apply for rent relief: https://housing.ca.gov/covid_rr/


-The expansion of the child tax credit will send $3,000-$3,600/year per child to 93% of American families; plus expansion of tax credit for child care expenses; expansion of tax credit for childless workers. FAQ and eligibility guidelines: https://www.getctc.org/en

-There is a reduction in cost of marketplace health insurance premiums and 100% funding of COBRA coverage through September: https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/06/29/american-rescue-plan-lowers-health-insurance-costs-americans-who-may-have-lost-their-job.html

-Emergency Broadband Credit, $50/month toward Internet service: https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/05/12/emergency-broadband-benefit-faq/

-General Support Database. Enter your zip code: https://findhelp.org/

-If you have accumulated debt because of the pandemic, or if you would like a template to contact your state representatives about the end of UI/PUA benefits, visit ExtendPUA.org to help them advocate for relief (you may do so anonymously).

**Aggregate lists of resources for writers, including regional opportunities:**

https://www.pw.org/content/resources_for_writers_in_the_time_of_coronavirus

https://creative-capital.org/2020/03/13/list-of-arts-resources-during-the-covid-19-outbreak/

https://covid19freelanceartistresource.wordpress.com/

https://dgf.org/resources-for-writers/

https://bombmagazine.org/articles/artists-resources/

https://artistsatriskconnection.org/story/covid-19-resources-for-artists

https://fundsforwriters.com/grants/

https://www.nyfa.org/Content/Show/Emergency%20Grants