

	What to look for	Offer 1	Offer 2	Offer 3
Loan type	E.g., SBA 7(a), microloan, line of credit			
APR or pricing method	Ask for APR or use a calculator; factor rates and "cents on the dollar" pricing are hard to compare without converting			
Fees	Origination, broker, closing, packaging, and/or draw fees			
Term	Longer terms = lower payments but more total interest			
Repayment frequency	Monthly is standard; daily or weekly payments from some online lenders can strain cash flow			
Total repayment estimate	Multiply payment × number of payments to understand dollar cost			
Collateral/personal guarantee	Know what's at risk if your business defaults; SBA loans require personal guarantees from 20%+ owners			
Key restrictions	Some loans restrict use of funds (e.g., SBA microloans can't be used for real estate)			

Red flags	Lenders who won't quote APR or total cost; hidden fees; vague prepayment terms; pressure to sign fast			
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