

## Resources for Businesses Affected by COVID-19

### WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Refer to the [Cal/OSHA Guidance on Coronavirus](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html), located at <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html>
- Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website located at <https://www.cdc.gov/> for help with planning and responding to COVID-19; <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>
- Contra Costa County Public Health Guidelines are available at <https://cchealth.org/coronavirus/>

### REDUCED WORK HOURS

To prevent layoffs and retain employees, check out the **Workshare Program**. Employers experiencing a slowdown in their businesses as a result of the COVID-19 impact on the economy may apply for the UI Work Sharing Program, which allows employers to seek an alternative to layoffs, i.e., retaining trained employees by reducing hours. Wages may be partially offset with UI benefits. Workers of employers who are approved to participate in the Work Sharing Program receive the percentage of their weekly UI benefit amount based on the percentage of hours and wages reduced, not to exceed 60 percent.

- Visit [https://www.edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Work\\_Sharing\\_Program.htm](https://www.edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Work_Sharing_Program.htm), to learn more about its benefits for employers and employees, and how to apply.

### POTENTIAL CLOSURE OR LAYOFFS

Employers planning a closure or layoffs due to COVID-19 impact may get help through their local workforce development board's **Rapid Response** program. Rapid Response teams will meet with you to discuss your needs, help avert potential layoffs, and provide immediate on-site services to assist workers facing job losses.

- Refer to the *Rapid Response Services for Businesses Fact Sheet* at [https://www.edd.ca.gov/pdf\\_pub\\_ctr/de8714rrb.pdf](https://www.edd.ca.gov/pdf_pub_ctr/de8714rrb.pdf). The Contra Costa Workforce Development Board Rapid Response Team may be reached at <https://www.wdbccc.com/layoff-and-outplacement/>.

### BUSINESS HARDSHIP & EMERGENCY REQUEST TAX ASSISTANCE

Employers experiencing a hardship as a result of COVID-19 may request up to a 60-day extension to file their state payroll reports and/or deposit state payroll taxes without penalty or interest. A written request for extension must be received within 60 days from the original delinquent date of the payment or return.

- For questions, employers may call the EDD Taxpayer Assistance Center:
  - Toll-free from the U.S. or Canada: 1-888-745-3886
  - Hearing impaired (TTY): 1-800-547-9565
  - Outside the U.S. or Canada: 1-916-464-3502

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Labor Commissioner's Office <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.htm>
- <https://ogletree.com/insights/2020-03-09/covid-19-faqs-on-federal-labor-and-employment-laws/>
- Dept. of Fair Employment & Housing website <https://www.dfeh.ca.gov/employment/>

## **SBA To Provide Small Businesses Impacted by Coronavirus (COVID-19) Up to \$2 Million in Disaster Assistance Loans**

The U.S. Small Business Administration is offering designated states and territories low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Upon a request received from a state's or territory's Governor, SBA will issue under its own authority, as provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act that was recently signed by the President, an Economic Injury Disaster Loan declaration.

For additional information, please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center. Call 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or e-mail [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov).

More Guidance and Resources for Businesses @SBA.gov [https://www.sba.gov/page/guidance-businesses-employers-plan-respond-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.sba.gov/page/guidance-businesses-employers-plan-respond-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

**Federal, state, and local agencies are working to find ways to help small businesses in this time of need. San Pablo EDC has gathered some resources that will be helpful for our members and their clients.**

### **GENERAL RESOURCES**

- Follow [CDC guidelines for businesses](#).
- <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/64474/Stay-at-Home-Except-for-Essential-Needs-FAQ>

### **STATE RESOURCES**

- The California Department of Public Health has [up-to-date official information on COVID-19](#).
- GO-Biz has a [dedicated page for business assistance information](#) related to the novel coronavirus outbreak.
- The Labor & Workforce Development Agency is sharing [Coronavirus-related resources for employers and workers](#).
- Visit California has [information for businesses in the travel industry](#).
- The California Employment Development Department has a [resource website for workers and employers](#).
- The League of California Cities has a page with the [latest Coronavirus news](#).
- The California Department of Industrial Relations has information on [sick leave for those affected by COVID-19](#).
- The California Department of Social Services has provided [guidance on serving communities affected by the outbreak](#).
- Covered California has opened a [special enrollment period](#) through **April 30, 2020**.
- JEDE has put together a [webpage to help small businesses, entrepreneurs, workers, and economic and workforce development professionals](#) respond to COVID-19 challenges.

### **LOCAL RESOURCES**

- The San Pablo EDC's Nano RLF is designed to stimulate economic growth in West Contra Costa County through lending small businesses the capital they need <http://www.sanpabloedc.org/NanoRLF>

- City of San Pablo <https://www.sanpabloca.gov/2676/CORONAVIRUS-COVID-19-INFORMATION>

## ACCESS TO CAPITAL

- [California Capital Access Program](#)
- California IBank's [Small Business Finance Center](#)
- The City and County of San Francisco is offering [grants of up to \\$10,000 to affected microbusinesses](#).
- The U.S. Small Business Administration is offering designated states and territories [low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to small businesses](#) suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- **Kiva:** Effective immediately, [U.S. applicants for a Kiva loan](#) will have access to expanded eligibility, loan increase to \$15,000, and a grace period of up to 6 months.

## TECH TOOLS

- Google is offering [free access to "Advanced Hangouts Meet"](#) video-conferencing capabilities for G-Suite customers through **July 1, 2020**.
- Comcast is providing [free Xfinity hotspots](#), unlimited data, and no disconnects or late fees for all customers experiencing hardship over the next 60 days. Comcast is also offering a free [Internet Essentials](#) internet plan for all new customers for 60 days.
- Dropbox invites nonprofits and NGOs focused on fighting COVID-19 to apply for a [free, three-month subscription](#) to Dropbox Business.
- Verizon is [waiving late fees](#) incurred by any residential or small business customers due their economic circumstances related to COVID-19 for the next 60 days. Furthermore, the company will not terminate service to any residential or small business customers who are unable to pay their bills due to disruptions caused by COVID-19.

## ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES

- Crowdsourced list of [resources from the Freelancers Union](#) for independent entrepreneurs.
- Accounting firm WIPFLi LLP has put out a [COVID-19 preparedness checklist](#).
- Facebook created a [free Business Resource Hub](#) with resources for businesses struggling to navigate the COVID-19 outbreak.
- TechSoup created a page with [nonprofit resources for remote work](#).
- Fast Company is sharing [strategies to set up remote work](#).
- Taproot is offering a [free virtual consultation session for nonprofits](#) to connect with a subject matter expert for an hour of brainstorming and problem-solving in their area of need.
- What other things might you need to consider: [insurance, web security, etc.](#)

## REGIONAL SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

- Updates & resources for small and micro businesses: [California Association for Micro Enterprise Opportunity \(CAMEO\) Resource Page](#)
- Human resources advising: [California Employers Association \(CEA\)](#)
- Small business advising and loans: [Pacific Community Ventures](#)
- Small business support: [ICA Fund Good Jobs](#)

## GRANTS

- [The East Bay Community Foundation](#) seeks to provide one-time general operating grants to organizations that provide critical services around economic security to the most vulnerable populations in the East Bay. The first phase will initially focus on nonprofit organizations.
- The [United Way Bay Area COVID19 Community Relief Fund](#) will be applied to immediate and long-term recovery assistance for residents and community agencies in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Solano counties.
- Facebook Small Business Grants Program  
FB is offering \$100M in cash grants and ad credits to help during this challenging time. You can sign-up for their alert to learn more about this program. [#smallbusinesses](#)  
<https://lnkd.in/ensrDXY>

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

- *Business resources for economic development professionals:* [California Economic Development \(CALED\)](#)
- *Messaging & Graphics:* [U.S. Chamber of Commerce Toolkit](#)
- *Peer Exchange & Best Practices:* [Main Street America](#)
- Resources for Manufacturers

### **Organizations supporting the manufacturing community in the Bay Area with current information & resources:**

- [Association of Manufacturers Bay Area \(AMBayArea\)](#)
- [California Manufacturers & Technology Association \(CMTA\)](#)
- [National Association of Manufacturers](#)
- [California Employers Association \(CEA\)](#)

**Disclaimer:** The content of this page is intended to assist in sharing information about resources available to individuals and businesses in relation to the current coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic. Content is updated to the best of our ability and knowledge, and does not serve as an endorsement of any product, program, or business. We have sourced many updates and links from local agencies and service providers. We are grateful to them for making this information available to the public.