



Economic Development COVID-19 Update

It's been a while since we have gotten you all an update on the federal government's COVID-19 responses and resources so here is a fresh round of updates! There are several new provisions and resources now available and we are still waiting on announcements and guidance from a few different agencies – mainly the Department of Agriculture - to know more about how they will be allocating their funding.

In the meantime, if you have questions, would like to get our staff on the phone with a group of your business and community leaders to talk through any of this, or just want more information about a specific provision or topic, please let us know. We've been trying to reach out to as many different industries and interest groups as possible but know there are still people unsure about what resources and funding options may be available to them.

As always, you can find all of this and more on our resource page:

Marshall.House.Gov/Coronavirus – there is also a big, red banner at the top of our homepage to take you directly to the resource page.

New Resources :

HUD CDBG Guidance: HUD has released guidance on eligible activities for COVID-19 responses for its CDBG grants. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Main Street Lending Program: The Treasury Department and Federal Reserve Board announced last week a new and expanded lending facilities aimed at further assisting American consumers and businesses. The Main Street Lending Program will be available to small and mid-sized businesses seeking financial assistance as a result of COVID-19. Businesses employing up to 10,000 workers will be eligible for loans through the program, and can even apply if they have also participated in the Paycheck Protection Program through the US Small Business Administration. Additionally, the Municipal Liquidity Facility will provide additional liquidity to state and local governments who are struggling to respond to the demands of the ongoing pandemic. More details on these programs can be found [here](#). *We know this program will likely benefit several of our mid-sized employers and those not eligible for the SBA lending programs so are tracking the program closely and will get everyone updates as they become available.*

Department of Ed Funding: We have been in touch with colleges across the district to better understand their needs and concerns. The Department of Education announced its first round of funding for colleges last week. At least half of the funding must go to help students impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak.

FCC Telehealth Grants: The FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau will begin accepting applications for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program today at www.fcc.gov/covid19telehealth. The COVID-19 Telehealth Program will provide \$200 million in funding, appropriated by Congress as part of the CARES Act, to help health care providers furnish connected care services to patients at their homes or mobile locations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications can be filed through a dedicated application portal on the COVID-19 Telehealth Program page at www.fcc.gov/covid19telehealth. To assist applicants in preparing their applications, an explainer video will also be posted on Monday on the FCC's [website](#). Questions specific to

the application process should be directed to EmergencyTelehealthSupport@fcc.gov.

USDA Resource Guide: The USDA Rural Development office issued a very good summary of resources available to communities, farms and agriculture businesses. Click [HERE](#) to find the entire publication.

Small Business Assistance: We have already started hearing from business owners in the district who have received their EIDL and/or PPP payments and we couldn't be happier. If you have success stories you would be willing to share, we would love to hear them. Good news is chicken soup for the soul! Send us a link, direct us to your Facebook page or tell us where these stores are posted. We want to re-share some, if possible. I have also attached a consolidated handout for business owners that explains the SBA lending opportunities, unemployment program and tax provisions.

PPE Procurement Process: The email below was sent to all county health department officials this morning. Our office continues to receive calls and emails from medical providers and health department staff on how to submit orders for PPE to the state. Below is a little background and protocol for submitting an order. We wanted you all to be aware of this process so you could help coordinate communication within your county if you had heard of confusions or issues surrounding submitting orders. Kansas has already received two shipments from the National Strategic Stockpile.

Background: As promulgated by the governor through the Kansas Response Plan, once local governments have exhausted all resources, including within their jurisdictional boundary, all mutual aid pursuant to state law, and all contractor support, they can request state assistance through KDEM. Counties are also required to declare a county declaration of emergency. In cases where the Emergency Support Function (ESF) at the state cannot fulfill the resources requested, the state acquires resources through Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOADS), donations, the private sector, procurement/contracting or thru the federal government.

Clarification on Orders: In counties with disaster declarations and all resources are exhausted, the County Emergency Managers are the only entity to place orders to the state for additional PPE on behalf of their counties and local healthcare and long-term care providers. County health departments may assist the County Emergency Managers in coordinating the orders. This will make orders move more efficiently.

Non-Coronavirus Grants

FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants: The application period for the FY 2019 SAFER Program opens Monday, April 13, 2020 at 8 am ET and will close on Friday, May 15, 2020 at 5 PM ET.

FMEA has allocated \$350,000,000 for the SAFER Grant Program to assist fire departments and volunteer interest organizations to increase the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available in their communities. The SAFER Grant Program seeks to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities to better respond to emergencies and assure communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

The NOFO and technical assistance documents for this program are available at www.grants.gov, and at www.fema.gov/staffing-adequate-fire-emergency-response-grants. For applicants requiring assistance, please visit www.fema.gov/grants or contact the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Programs Help Desk 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday at firegrants@fema.gov or 1-866-274-0960.

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CARES Act -
Business Tax Provisions