

COVID-19 Interpretive Guidance

For information on all of the Governor's executive orders and guidance please visit: <https://governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance/>.

Under interpretive guidance from Governor Hogan's Office of Legal Counsel, issued on March 30, 2020, curbside pickup at restaurants is permitted.

The interpretive guidance can be viewed at <https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/OLC-Interpretive-Guidance-COVID19-08.pdf>

Maryland Support

- **Maryland Unites Resource Guide** – An [A-Z Resource Guide](#), outlining the latest updates and actions Maryland has taken thus far.
- **Comprehensive list of resources:** <https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/>
- **Maryland Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information for Business** <https://govstatus.egov.com/md-coronavirus-business>
- **Small Business Development Center (SBDC) COVID-19 Small Business Survival Guide.**
- **The SBA Disaster Relief Fund** - It is a loan, but sole proprietors can apply and the interest rate is low. This is separate from the CARES act.

<https://www.sba.gov/disaster/apply-for-disaster-loan/index.html>

Below is information from the SBA loan webinar, presented by the Howard County Chamber.

[SBA PowerPoint](#)

[SBA Disclaimer](#)

[Webinar Recordation](#) - Password is SBAlloan

- **Text Message Alerts.** To receive alerts, tips, and resources related to COVID-19 and other threats and hazards affecting, or that may affect Maryland, text "MdReady" to 898211.
- **For Employers** – Shawe Rosenthal LLP, Workplace Lawyers has prepared a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) webpage, that you may find helpful.
- **Another [CARES Legislation Summary](#)**

Resources for Manufacturers

The Maryland Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MD MEP) announced new programs to help Maryland's manufacturing community meet the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Go to www.mdmeep.org for a complete list of resources that include:

- Maryland Manufacturing Helpline, a Discussion Forum and MD MEP Impact Incentive
- [Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund](#)
- **Maryland Department of Commerce Manufacturing Innovation Grant Application**
<https://onestop.md.gov/tags/5e7ae502b5d67700fe1f1f2b>

Maryland Department of Commerce Programs

- [Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund](#)
- [Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund](#)

Maryland Department of Labor Programs

- [COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Fund](#)
- [COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Fund Fact Sheet](#)
- [COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Fund Application \(Excel\)](#)
- <http://www.labor.maryland.gov/employment/uibenefits.shtml>
- **COVID-19 Layoff Aversion Fund - Workforce Development and Adult Learning**

At this time the Department of Labor **is no longer accepting applications**. Please refer to the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information for Businesses webpage](#) for information on the new federal programs enacted by the passage of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act known as the 'CARES' Act.

Federal Government Support

- **FEMA - Coronavirus Rumor Control – Clarifies common rumors flying around. Fluid site to visit periodically.** <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control>
- **SBA Assistance.** <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>

Ways to Help

- **Does your company have** resources and capabilities that the state may need to assist in our efforts? If so, please send an email to Resource.MEMA@Maryland.gov We are actively looking to connect with the needs of the health care industry. ..Thank You!
- **To Volunteer** for Maryland Responds or other opportunities to help your fellow Marylanders, visit <https://governor.maryland.gov/marylandunites/>
- **Health professionals wishing to volunteer** their services, register for Maryland Responds by visiting <https://mdresponds.health.maryland.gov/>

Resources

Below are a list of resources provided by the State of Maryland.

- Governor Hogan provides an update on the extensive Maryland response to the Corona Virus Emergency [Follow him on Facebook](#)
- Governor's Office - Interpretive guide on business closures [Here](#)
- ***Maryland Office of Health Care Quality*** will allow you to report safety concerns about hospitals and other health care facilities.
- ***The Department of Aging*** offers the Senior Call Check program as a free resource to MD residents over 65+ and recommending all seniors use the program. Senior Call Check phone lines are open M-F 8 am-5 pm and Saturday 9 am-3 pm. During these hours, seniors can call toll-free 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-0560) and register. Registration is also available online at aging.maryland.gov.
- ***Business Express***: For the most up-to-date information pertaining to the business community and COVID-19.

- **Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund**: This \$75 million loan fund offers no interest or principal payments due for the first 12 months, then converts to a 36-month term loan of principal and interest payments, with an interest rate at 2% per annum.
- **Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund**: This \$50 million grant program offers grant amounts up to \$10,000, not to exceed 3 months of demonstrated cash operating expenses for the first quarter of 2020.
- **Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund**: This \$5 million incentive program helps Maryland manufacturers to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) that is urgently needed by hospitals and health-care workers across the country. If you have specific questions about these funds, please email fpaaworkflowcoordinator.commerce@maryland.gov.
- If you have specific questions pertaining to the business community and COVID-19, email secretary.commerce@maryland.gov.
- **Unemployment FAQ page**: For general questions related to unemployment.
- If you have specific questions related to unemployment please email ui.inquiry@maryland.gov.

Rural Health

- \$185 million to support rural critical access hospitals, rural tribal health and telehealth programs, and poison control centers.
- \$25 million to improve access to [distance learning and telemedicine](#) through U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development.

Agricultural Assistance

- \$14 billion to replenish the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), which is used to stabilize, support, and protect farm income and prices through initiatives like the Market Facilitation Program (MFP).
- \$9.5 billion to help specialty crop growers, farmers who support local food systems, dairy farmers, and livestock producers.
- A temporary three-month extension on repayment of commodity marketing assistance loans, from nine months to a year.

Rural Businesses and Communities

- The availability of [Economic Injury Disaster Loans](#) (EIDL) to cooperatives with fewer than 500 employees.
- \$100 million to improve access to rural broadband through the [ReConnect](#) program.
- \$20.5 million to support an additional \$1 billion of lending through USDA's Rural Development [Business and Industry Loan Guarantee](#) program.

Nutrition Assistance

- \$15.5 billion in additional funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to assist more participants. This will not increase benefit levels for individuals.
- \$8.8 billion in additional funding for Child Nutrition Programs.
- \$450 million for the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

NFU President Rob Larew said that the bill "would address many of our most urgent concerns," primarily ensuring that rural hospitals are adequately prepared to handle this crisis and that our food system can continue to operate. He thanked Congress for their efforts and urged them to enact the bill as soon as possible. "The challenges our country is currently facing are unprecedented - and they call for unprecedented solutions," Larew said. "In the coming weeks, we will learn more about the additional needs of our rural health care system, farmers, and rural communities, and we urge Congress to be ready to address them."

Read more in the NFU [release](#).

Domestic Violence Resources During Quarantine

Domestic Violence in this environment can look very different. Victims may not only be experiencing physical and sexual violence, but there could be increased incidence of:

- Isolation (denying victims phone access, internet access, vehicles...)
- Medical/Health Abuse (e.g. refusing access to medications or forcing medications on victims)
- Economic Abuse (e.g. refusing access to funds, forcing online purchases, ...)
- Verbal Abuse including Gaslighting
- Emotional Abuse
- Technology Related Abuses

Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence is here to help domestic violence victims that experience any of these forms of abuse. Visit <https://mscfv.org/> for more information.