



COVID-19 Business Resources

In the interest of supporting and equipping the business community with resources to weather the uncertainty ahead, the Chamber is providing information for owners and employees to help mitigate the impact of social distancing and other risk-lowering actions by customers.

Federal Resources

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

On March 27, the Congress passed and the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act that allocated \$350 billion to help small businesses keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic downturn. This federal stimulus bill is designed to help business weather the uncertain economic future.

In the interest of helping our small business community navigate how this can impact their business, your Chamber has gathered several tools to help walk you through the process:

- The U.S. Chamber has released a four-page guide to the CARES Act. To read and download the guide, check your eligibility, how to apply, terms of the loans and forgiveness guidelines, [please click here](#).
- The Alabama Bankers Association has developed a guide for the portion of the CARES Act known as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), that helps cover wages, leave, healthcare benefits, payroll taxes and more. To download this guide, [please click here](#).

Small Business Administration

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has set up a page with information about their Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, guidance for businesses and employers, SBA products and resources, access to capital and exporting assistance, government contracting and local assistance. To visit their page, [please click here](#).

State Resources

Information on Governor Ivey's August 27 amended "Safer at Home" order with mask requirement

On July 15, Gov. Kay Ivey issued her fourteenth supplemental emergency proclamation containing an amended Safer at Home Order that includes a statewide mask requirement. Individuals will be required to wear a mask or other facial covering when in public and in close contact with other people, as described in the order. This amended order extends until July 31, at 5 p.m.. For information on what that means for residents, essential and non-essential businesses, On August 27, Gov Ivey extended the order [please click here](#) for several slides and infographics.

Alabama's "ALtogether" Resource page

ALtogether is a one-stop-shop where Alabamians can ask for help or lend a hand during the COVID-19 crisis. This response effort is designed to connect businesses, nonprofits, and people that need help with the right program partners - and to connect program partners with people and resources to help those most in need. At a broader level, ALtogether is a coordinated effort to provide policymakers, businesses, foundations, and the public with (1) information about how the crisis is impacting hardworking Alabamians and (2) opportunities to offer assistance to Alabama business owners and workers. To visit the page, [please click here](#).

Alabama Department of Labor

The Alabama Department of Labor announced it has temporarily ordered that relief be offered to employers whose employees must file unemployment compensation claims for weeks filed dues to COVID-19 related issues. For more details about this move, [please click here](#). Also, the Alabama Restaurant and Hospitality Association has released an FAQ regarding unemployment insurance benefits and the Alabama Department of Labor. To read the two-page document, [please click here](#).

Alabama Department of Revenue

The Alabama Department of Revenue has established a helpful resource page for taxpayers to understand the tools, relief and information available to them during these challenging economic times for both individuals and businesses. This includes allowing small businesses to file late without penalty. For more information about the steps the department has taken to provide relief, as well as other informative content, please visit their page by [clicking here](#).

Chamber of Commerce / Small Business Resources

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has established “Combating the Coronavirus” on its website with resources including workplace tips for employees, customizable flyers and signage, preparedness checklists, social media toolkits, travel notices, and reports on the worldwide economic condition and how it may impact your business. To visit their page, [please click here](#).

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation has created a fund supported by corporate and philanthropic efforts to provide grants to those businesses that qualify. To visit the site, see if you qualify and what support may be available to your organization, [please click here](#).

East Alabama Regional Planning Development Commission Small Business Fund

Our friends at EARPDC have updated their loan policies to more quickly respond to the needs of small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 virus. To read their updated terms and conditions, loan guidelines, and information about the approval process [please click here](#). To visit EARPDC’s website for more information about their services, [please click here](#).

PPE Resource Guide and Vendor List

The Business Council of Alabama and the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama have teamed up with Lt. Governor Will Ainsworth, Alabama Works, Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Southeast Alabama Works, and West Alabama Works to develop a database to help connect businesses with personal protection equipment (PPE) vendors and suppliers. The database will serve as a conduit in helping businesses locate and acquire the supplies needed to open safely, protect their customers and employees, and adhere to public health guidelines. The effort is being hosted on the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama and has four categories of resources: PPE Supplies, Cleaning and Disinfecting, Other Supplies, and Services and Solutions. To visit the database, [please click here](#). To sign up as a vendor and be included in the database, please fill out [this survey](#)

Public Health Resources

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta hosts a page on their website with a thorough Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about COVID-19, resources on how to prepare your family, as well as information for travelers, schools and childcare, businesses and employers, and community and faith-based organizations. To visit their page, [please click here](#).

Alabama Department of Public Health

For the most updated information about COVID-19 in Alabama, please visit the Alabama Department of Public Health's resource page on the outbreak [by clicking here](#).

Remote Working Resources

Remote Working

Many businesses large and small are transitioning to remote working environments in the interest of keeping employees and customers from potential exposure. But what do you need to consider as a workplace to make sure it's safe, secure and efficient for the company? Take a look at this article that focuses on the questions you need to ask your IT professional by [clicking here](#).

Video Conferencing

Because of social distancing and a reduction of non-essential travel, business meetings – whether across town or across the country – must happen in non-traditional settings. The Chamber has used video conferencing tools to still connect when we can't be in the same room with members and partners. To read a great article about free video conferencing tools your business could use when you can't meet with team members or customers, [please click here](#).