

Small Business Updates – April 8, 2020

Current news and resources for business owners during COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic

City of Austin Construction Jobsite Guidelines



The City of Austin has released new Construction Jobsite Guidelines which can be found on the City of Austin's COVID-19 webpage under Information for Business and Industry.

You will also find information about activities permitted under the Stay Home Order and Types of Construction Work permitted.

Links:

COVID-19 site: www.austintexas.gov/COVID19

COVID-19 Business and Industry site <https://bit.ly/39OwRQ7>

Disadvantaged & Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE/ACDBE)



Do business at the airport or with the aviation industry? You should consider participating in the weekly conference calls hosted by the US Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Airport Industry Leaders and more.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (**CARES**) is awarding \$10 Billion in the form of rent waivers and other assistance in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information: https://www.faa.gov/airports/cares_act/

Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC)

AMAC is the only national, non-profit trade association dedicated in advancing the full participation of minorities and women in employment and contracting opportunities throughout the aviation and aerospace industries.

Airport Restaurant & Retail Association (ARRA)

ARRA works collaboratively with aviation-industry trade associations and the airport community on matters on policy decision making with a collective impact on restaurant/retail members.

DBE/ACDBE Program Requirements

COVID Public Health Emergency Program Guidelines [here](#).

Economic Recovery Assistance

Here's an overview of local, state, and federal assistance for small businesses seeking assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

Local Assistance

The [Austin Economic Development Department](#) is offering [funding programs](#) and [emergency planning resources](#) for businesses who may find themselves struggling in the coming weeks. For general resources, the Economic Development Department [Small Business Division](#) offers [free business coaching](#), [free online classes](#), and connections to community partners.

The Economic Development Department is also maintaining list of community resources on the [Small Business Resource Directory](#). Filter by "Disaster Relief" to find immediate support for your business or non-profit organization impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Workforce Solutions Capital Area](#) is available to help jobseekers find employment. Call them at 512-485-3792. There is also [a Job Seekers page](#) for immediate openings.

State Assistance

[Texas Workforce Commission](#) is where individuals can apply for unemployment benefits, including a tutorial to guide you through the process.

Federal Assistance

Small businesses and nonprofits in Travis County can apply for an [Economic Injury Disaster Loan](#) administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA will issue a \$10,000 grant to all small businesses that apply, and eligible organizations may receive loans up to \$2 million for fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that cannot be paid because of the disaster's impact.

Small businesses and nonprofits can also apply for the [Paycheck Protection Program](#) at any lending institution that is approved to participate in the program. SBA will forgive loans if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the money is used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities. Call your bank or find SBA-approved lenders in your area through SBA's online [Lender Match tool](#). You can call your local [Small Business Development Center](#) or [Women's Business Center](#) and they will provide free assistance and guide you to lender.

Federal Unemployment Assistance

On April 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of Labor announced new action regarding how American workers and employers will benefit from the protections and relief offered by the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act, both part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). The Department's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) posted a temporary rule issuing regulations pursuant to this new law, effective April 1, 2020. For more information, see <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/ffcra>.

116th Congress Stimulus Bill

Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security (CARES) Act COVID-19 & Disaster <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/748/text>

Open for Business



Small & Minority Business Resources Department (SMBR) is open for business and working from home. If you have any questions, please email or call us. Also feel free to follow us on Social Media

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AustinMinorityWomenBusiness/>
- Twitter - https://twitter.com/snbr_austintx
- LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-austin-small-minority-business-resources>

Visit SMBR's website: www.austintexas.gov/snbr
Visit our DBE/ACDBE page – [click here](#)