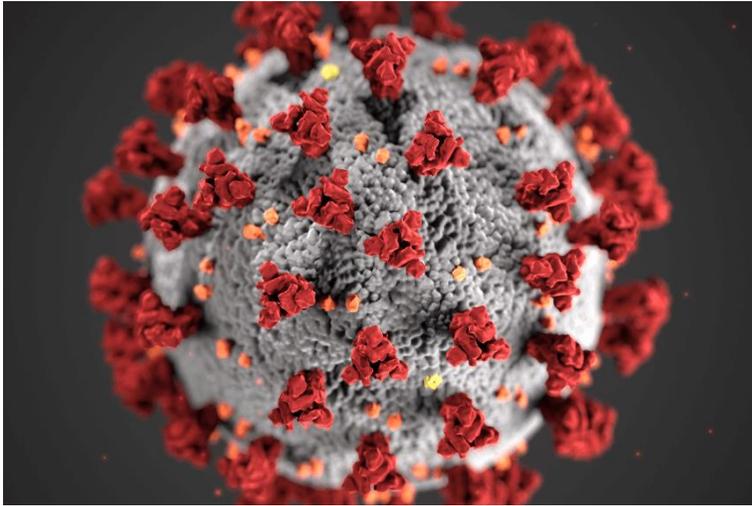


# 9 RESOURCES TO HELP BUSINESSES WITH COVID-19

There is no question that the coronavirus pandemic is having a large negative impact on our economy and the businesses, and that this will continue for at least the next few weeks.



COVID-19

We want to share these nine resources up and running to help businesses during the coronavirus pandemic. We hope to continue to update this page as we become aware of more resources.

## 1. COVID-19 Governmental Websites

The federal [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention \(CDC\)](#) has a “[Resources for Businesses and Employers](#)” site, featuring an Interim Guide for Businesses and Employers as well as Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations guide.

The Ohio Department of Health’s COVID-19 site ([coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)) is the place to go for Ohio-specific information, including the Governor’s Executive Orders and update press conferences.

Lorain County Public Health’s COVID-19 site ([Coronavirus Disease COVID-19](#)) is the place to go for County-specific information.

## 2. Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

The Ohio Development Services Agency is preparing to submit an application in the coming week to qualify Ohio for the U.S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) [Economic Injury Disaster](#)

Loan Program. This program provides low-interest loans up to \$2 million in order to help businesses overcome the temporary loss of revenue during the state of emergency.

Non profit organizations in Ohio will also be eligible for low-interest loans through the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program.

In order to complete the state's application, businesses impacted by the current public health crisis should immediately send their contact information to [BusinessHelp@Development.Ohio.gov](mailto:BusinessHelp@Development.Ohio.gov). Additional information on the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program is available at [SBA.gov/Disaster](https://www.sba.gov/Disaster).

### **3. SharedWork Ohio**

SharedWork Ohio is a voluntary layoff aversion program. It allows workers to remain employed and employers to retain trained staff during times of reduced business activity. Under a SharedWork Ohio plan, the participating employer reduces affected employees' hours in a uniform manner. The participating employee works the reduced hours each week, and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) provides eligible individuals an unemployment insurance benefit proportionate to their reduced hours.

Interested employers provide ODJFS with a list of participating employees and specify their normal weekly hours of work, not to exceed 40 hours and not including overtime. Part-time employees may be eligible, but all employees in an affected unit must have their hours reduced by the same reduction percentage. Reduction percentages must be at least 10 percent but no more than 50 percent of the normal weekly hours of work.

### **4. Enhanced Unemployment Aid for Ohioans**

The Governor issued an executive order on March 16 which will grant the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) the authority to accept and grant requests for unemployment compensation suspending the normal 1-week waiting period.

This order gives relief to applicants who are not offered paid leave through their job, as well as those who have been quarantined by a medical professional, their employer, or whose employers must temporarily close. Those who apply for unemployment under these circumstances will be exempt from the requirement that they be actively seeking work.

For more information, go to the ODJFS site "[Coronavirus and Unemployment Insurance Benefits](#)."

### **5. One-Time Liquor Buyback**

The Ohio Department of Commerce began on March 16, 2020 to offer a one-time liquor buyback option to support bars and restaurants. This will especially aid those establishments

that have stocked up on high-proof liquor ahead of the St. Patrick's Day holiday for which they now have no use, due to their closure to in-house patrons.

Bars and restaurants wishing to take advantage of this opportunity should return their unopened, high-proof liquor products (obtained within the past 30 days) to the agency where they purchased the product. This opportunity is also extended to those with temporary (F2) permits for events scheduled between March 12 and April 6, 2020. If a business has questions about this program, they should reach out directly to the Liquor Enterprise Service Center (LESC) at 1(877)812-0013 or by emailing [OhioLiquorInfo@Com.Ohio.gov](mailto:OhioLiquorInfo@Com.Ohio.gov). (See [release](#) at the Ohio Dept. of Commerce website.)

## **6. Remote Working Solutions**

One remote working company, LogMeIn, is offering a remote working toolkit for free for three months. Find out more information here – <https://blog.gotomeeting.com/coronavirus-disruptions-and-support/>. As other offers become known, we will update this post.

## **7. Tax Relief from the IRS**

The IRS has established a special section focused on steps to help taxpayers, businesses and others affected by the coronavirus. "[Coronavirus Tax Relief](#)"

## **8. US Chamber of Commerce**

The US Chamber of Commerce has prepared a free, customizable [workplace flyer](#) to tell your employees and customers how you are handling the COVID-19 situation. They also have social media graphics for free use in their [Coronavirus Response Toolkit](#).

The US Chamber of Commerce Foundation also has a [Disaster Help Desk](#) for businesses, including a toll-free number to access experts that can help you at any stage of disaster – 1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP. The Foundation's [Coronavirus Resource](#) page has additional helpful information.

## **9. Other Industry Online Resources**

- [National Restaurant Association](#)