



Economic Development Agency

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Interim Economic Development Director

Dear Business Leaders,

As we continue to monitor the conditions, there has been an increase in new cases nationwide and raising concerns about the spread of the virus. Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic. The situation regarding COVID-19 continues to be dynamic, San Bernardino County Public Health also declared a public health emergency due to Coronavirus as a proactive measure. We recognize that these events may have impacted you and your businesses.

The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (DPH) has continued to monitor Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) as the situation is quickly evolving. Please see the link below to stay updated on all new information.

[San Bernardino County Department of Public Health \(DPH\)](#)

The California State Public Health Officer and Director of the California Department of Public Health is **ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence**, except as needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors.

[Frequently asked questions](#)

Our State and Federal partners are diligently working in partnership with counties to pursue SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Declaration with required documentation.

Please continue to check these resources that capture the State's current guidance as it is continuing to evolve.

- All official public health information can be found at the California Department of Public Health: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>
- The latest news on business assistance can be found on GO-Biz's website: <https://business.ca.gov/coronavirus-2019/>
- Employers and employees can find resources here: <https://www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/>

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Additional Federal and State Government Resources:

- The [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) is offering designated states and territories low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to small businesses suffering substantial economic injury as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
 - [Three-Step Process for Loan](#)
- The [Export-Import Bank](#) of the United States (EXIM) is announcing relief provisions for exporters and financial institutions located throughout the United States that may have been affected by COVID-19 (Coronavirus).
- [GO-Biz main COVID-19 resource webpage](#) with links to the IBank, Small Business Advocate, State Treasurer, Labor and Workforce Agency, Franchise Tax Board, and Department of Tax and Fee Management.
- [The California Office of the Small Business Advocate](#) is available to help businesses identify resources and obtain answers to critical questions (to the extent known).
- At [California's Small Business Finance Center](#), small businesses can access a range of financial products, including loan guarantees and direct loans.
- California IBank: [Small Business Finance Center](#)
- California Treasurers Office: [CalCAP](#)
- EDD: [Work Sharing Program](#)
- Summary chart with links to benefits available to workers:
<https://www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/#chart>
- Labor and Workforce Development Agency's primary website for COVID-19, including information on support services for workers and interim guidelines for protecting workers:
<https://www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/>
- Employers experiencing hardship as a result of COVID-19 may request up to a 60-day extension of time from the EDD to file their state payroll reports and/or deposit state payroll taxes without penalty or interest. A written request for an extension must be received within 60 days from the original delinquent date of the payment or return. For questions, employers may call the EDD Taxpayer Assistance Center. **Toll-free from the U.S. or Canada: 1-888-745-3886**

- [Treasury, IRS and Labor](#) announce plan to implement Coronavirus-related paid leave for workers and tax credits for small and midsize businesses to swiftly recover the cost of providing Coronavirus-related leave

Utility Partner Resources:

- [SCE](#) will help customers with their bills by suspending service disconnections for nonpayment and waiving late fees for business and residential customers impacted by the COVID-19 emergency.
- [Southern California Gas](#) is committed to helping customers experiencing hardships, including from the Coronavirus. If in need of assistance, we encourage customers to call us at 1800-427-2200. If you're experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19, we are supporting our residential and small business customers
- [Southwest Gas](#) is committed to providing safe and reliable service to our customers. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are immediately starting a temporary moratorium on natural gas disconnections for nonpayment that is in effect until further notice. We understand these are trying times for many of our customers and want to ensure that they focus on the well-being of their families without having to worry about the disruption of service. We will also offer flexible payment options for customers experiencing financial hardships due to this issue. Customers can manage their accounts and payment options through MyAccount on swgas.com or via the Southwest Gas mobile app." – *John Hester, President, and CEO, Southwest Gas*

Thank you for your partnership, and we wish you, your families and colleagues continued safety and health.