



Message to the MassHire Greater Brockton Community

Greetings all,

I hope this message finds you well and staying safe. With so much going on amidst nothing going on, I wanted to keep you informed of our actions related to the services over the next few weeks.

- The physical offices of the Board and the Career Center are closed until April 7th but are remaining open virtually.
- The Career Center is offering most of their services remotely and are responding to calls made to the Center. Additionally, several staff from the Career Center have been reassigned to assist with the Dept of Unemployment Insurance and the claims that are being submitted. To give you an idea of volume, there were 17,000 new claims for the month of February while close to 20,000 in one day last week.
- The Youth Division is also maintaining services with dedicated times for resume writing, interview skills & other work readiness activities. Staff is also taking this time to update brochures and prepare for our summer jobs programming. Additionally, we are maintaining contact with our youth customers via our social media accounts.
- We have postponed all of our on-site training along with training that was scheduled with our educational partners until further notice. We are maintaining our Banking & Finance program through continued online learning.
- Our Full Board meeting scheduled for March 26th has been cancelled and staff are preparing written updates for distribution.

While most of our work is being completed on a remote basis, we are also keeping limited office hours to maintain the financial and administrative requirements of the agency.

In addition to informing you of Board activities, I also wanted to share several resources that are being offered to customers of our system.

- The Department of Unemployment Assistance is offering Town Hall sessions for individuals who have questions regarding claims. The url to get more info on the Town Halls: <https://www.mass.gov/forms/massachusetts-department-of-unemployment-assistance-dua-virtual-town-halls>
- The State has issued a list of Essential Services - The list can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>.
- Financial Relief for Small Businesses, is located at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massworkforce-wioa-general-information-information-issuances>
- Additional Small Business Resources www.sba.gov/MA. Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at

<https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information.

We have found that several of our partners have excellent resources on their websites and encourage you to view them for more information –

MA Workforce Association - <https://www.massworkforce.com/>

Commonwealth of MA – Mass.gov

UMass Donahue Institute - <http://www.donahue.umassp.edu/>

Metro South Chamber of Commerce - <https://www.metrosouthchamber.com/>

Please let us know if you have any questions, we are here to help.

The Staff and I wish you & your family good health during this time and we look forward to continuing our work in the community.

Thank you, Sheila

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