

Resources for Small Businesses Navigating the COVID-19 Outbreak

At the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) we want to provide you and your business with all of the resources currently available during the COVID-19 outbreak. We are committed to assisting small businesses in need and connecting you to the services and resources out there to help whether you need to sustain, grow or build your business. The below resources contain information about the COVID-19 outbreak, as well as specific assistance for small businesses adjusting to a decrease in sales, employment and/or economic challenges.

Pennsylvania Department of Economic Development (PADCED):

Pennsylvania Department of Economic Development wants to keep you and your business up to date on the most recent information surrounding COVID-19. Visit <https://dced.pa.gov/resources/> for additional information.

Loan Assistance available to Businesses:

Small Business Administration (SBA):

SBA provides a COVID-19 guide to assist small businesses during this time.

<https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources>

To apply for a Disaster Assistance Loan visit: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>

The SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loan program assistance that can provide small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million to provide economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing.

Regional SBA Small Business Development Centers: Click link(s) below to connect:

[University of Pittsburgh SBDC](#)

[Clarion University SBDC](#)

[Duquesne University SBDC](#)

[Indiana University of Pennsylvania SBDC](#)

[St. Vincent College SBDC](#)

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC):

SPC serves the Southwest Pennsylvania 10 county region and provides a low-interest loans for small businesses who are looking to expand their business via the purchase of a building or land for construction, the purchase of equipment, or businesses in need of working capital lines of credit. If your business is looking to expand, or if your business suffers a downturn during the COVID-19 outbreak, please contact SPC's Business Finance team via email to obtain further information on our loan programs. We would be happy to help.

Steve Meredith – Business Finance Manager – smeredith@spcregion.org

Todd Stranko – Business Finance Assistant Manager – tstranko@spcregion.org

Sarah Francis – Business Loan Servicer – smf@spcregion.org

Urban Redevelopment Authority of Greater Pittsburgh (URA):

The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Greater Pittsburgh (URA) is offering resources to help small businesses potentially impacted by COVID-19. Small businesses located in the City of Pittsburgh who are currently borrowing from the URA are encouraged to contact their URA loan officer via phone or email. Additional information can be found at <https://www.ura.org/news/ura-offering-resources-to-help-small-businesses-potentially-impacted-by-coronavirus>

Catalyst Connection:

If you are a manufacturer in the Southwestern Pennsylvania region, Catalyst Connection gathers the latest intelligence on financial resources, grants, investor access, and loan programs that are available to the southwestern PA manufacturing community. Their financial experts work to assess a company's financial situation, develop a plan, and implement a solution aligned with your short- and long-range capital goals. Visit:

<https://www.catalystconnection.org/economic-development-services/financial-services/>

They also maintain a website with resources for COVID-19 in the manufacturing sector. Visit

<https://www.catalystconnection.org/covid-19-resources-for-manufacturers/> to learn more.

Hebrew Free Loan Association of Pittsburgh:

The [Hebrew Free Loan Association of Pittsburgh](#) has announced a Coronavirus Financial Bridge Loan Program to provide interest-free loans on a nonsectarian basis for up to \$5,000 to residents of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Westmoreland, Washington, and Armstrong counties who are facing financial challenges caused by COVID-19.

Workforce, Training, Retention and Employment Services:

Pennsylvania Office of Unemployment Compensation (UC) website <https://www.uc.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx> has resources for both employers and their employees regarding COVID-19 related unemployment and general unemployment claims. This website allows for individuals to file initial claims for unemployment compensation and up to the minute news on issues affecting unemployment compensation in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania Careerlink has resources that can help individuals, look and apply for work. Visit

<https://www.pacareerlink.pa.gov/jponline/> to get started.

For employees needing assistance with Workers' Compensation benefits, information on how to file a claim for compensation due to exposure to COVID-19 can be found at

<https://www.dli.pa.gov/Businesses/Compensation/Pages/default.aspx>

The Steel Valley Authority (SVA) Strategic Early Warning Network (SEWN) helps companies in crisis. SVA staff have compiled a list of resources to help businesses navigate downturns in the economy. Their resources can be found by visiting <https://www.steelvalley.org/coronavirus>.

Local Workforce Development Board(s): Available to help businesses, employees and jobseekers

LWDB	LWDB Website
SW Corner	southwestcornerwdb.com Opens In A New Window
Three Rivers	www.partner4work.org Opens In A New Window
Tri-County	tricountywib.org Opens In A New Window
Westmoreland-Fayette	www.westfaywib.org Opens In A New Window

U.S. Federal Government Resources:

Visit the Federal Government's most up to date information and latest news on COVID-19 at <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

To learn more about the COVID-19 outbreak including prevention techniques, you can visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) [website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html) on the disease. Additionally, the CDC is maintaining <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html> containing information targeted to the business community navigating the outbreak.

The U.S. Department of Labor has resources to help workers and employers prepare for the COVID-19 virus. Visit <https://www.dol.gov/coronavirus> to get information for you and your employees.

The IRS has established a special section focused on steps to help taxpayers, businesses and others affected by the coronavirus, to learn more about IRS COVID-19 Tax Relief please visit <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>

Information from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

If you are are looking for information on a range of topics related to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Commonwealth has compiled a host of resources in one place, at <https://www.pa.gov/guides/responding-to-covid-19/?fbclid=IwAR1son3YWTc36ylry10Ktn9USdmGtzL2qnURgqU2KaJd9tAHAavBm8obSaw>

Similar to DCED, the Pennsylvania Department of Health is maintaining a website featuring regularly updated information on the COVID-19 outbreak. You can learn more by visiting <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

If you believe to have been exposed to COVID-19, it is important that those individuals keep their distance from others, and contact their healthcare provider immediately. Additional guidance regarding testing protocols and procedures can be found at <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/PublishingImages/COVID-19%20How%20to%20Get%20Tested.png>

County/Local Resources

Below is a list of helpful County websites containing information on the COVID-19 outbreak:

Allegheny County:	https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/COVID-19/COVID-19.aspx
Armstrong County:	https://www.acmh.org/covid-19
Beaver County:	http://www.beavercountypa.gov/Depts/Commissioners/Documents/PressRelease-COVID-19.pdf
Butler County:	https://bc3.edu/services/coronavirus-2019.html
Fayette County:	https://www.fayettecountypa.org/DocumentCenter/View/2665/Firefighters-Considerations-COVID-19?bidId
Indiana County:	https://www.indianacountypa.gov/
Greene County:	https://www.co.greene.pa.us/coronavirus
Washington County:	https://www.co.washington.pa.us/646/COVID-19-Info
Westmoreland County:	https://www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/2881/Coronavirus-COVID-19

If you did not find the resource you are looking for please contact Jennifer Lasser Director of Planning & Development via email at jlasser@spreregion.org for additional assistance.