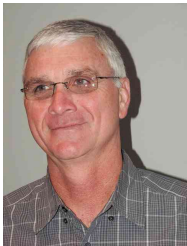


ATPA

MEMBER UPDATE

April 2, 2020 Issue

Dear Members & Affiliates:



You will notice on our Facebook pages ([ATPA](#) and [EXPO](#) pages) if you follow us all of the recent **Member Updates** we have distributed in the last two+ weeks. These will also be archived under the NEWS tab at our [website](#). **Why?** You may want to go back and review some of the important sources of **COVID-19** information that are generating regular, even daily updates, as well as information related specifically to loan and aid programs, policies, and procedures that will guide your business in the coming weeks and months as we work through this global crisis together.

I am keeping in today's **Member Update** the information on the **QUICK ACTION LOANS program**, a relief loan program for Arkansas businesses. Also repeated if you missed it yesterday is information on The \$2.2 trillion federal **Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security Act**, which offers loans, grants and tax breaks to big and small businesses.

New information includes today's Daily Update from the **Arkansas State Chamber and Associated Industries of Arkansas (AIA)**.

We will continue to keep you apprised of COVID-19 related information as we monitor for both impacts and opportunities for relief in our industry and broader sector.

Please stay connected and feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns, or even useful information you think our members would appreciate. All calls to our main office number, 501-224-2232 will be routed to my cell phone, as will your emails to me directly.

In deep appreciation, concern and hopefulness,

Larry Boccarossa, Executive Director





Ark Pro Logger Training Workshops

CODIV-19 BEST PRACTICES: WORKSHOPS IN THE COMING MONTH(S) POSTPONED

As a reminder, and per earlier correspondence and announcements on our website, *Ark Pro Logger* workshops have been postponed through the beginning of April, and we anticipate there may be a need to do so in the coming weeks as well. We will work to reschedule those once we have a better idea of what the CODIV best practices will entail to contain the spread. We will keep you informed via regular electronic correspondence, via our FB page (linked below), and also on our [website](#). We appreciate your patience and understanding - we are all in this together.



COVID-19 News - FEDERAL

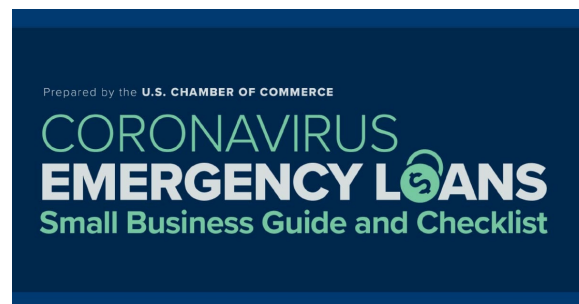
Arkansas Businesses Should Start Preparing for Federal Aid

Arkansas Congressional leaders and business representatives are urging businesses to begin preparations now to apply for Federal Aid

under the federal rescue package signed last week by President Trump. However, it will still be about two weeks before paperwork can be turned in, according to Arkansas banking and government officials.

The President signed the \$2.2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security (CARES) Act last week. This bipartisan aid package offers relief to individuals and businesses hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and will include loans, grants and tax breaks to both small and large businesses. It will also send billions to the nation's healthcare system, along with states and local governments.

Arkansas' share of aid totals \$1.25 Billion, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is currently developing guidance for administering some components of the package, a process that is expected to take up to two weeks. Many businesses are interested in the forgivable loan program, **Paycheck Protection**, which is designed to encourage smaller business (fewer than 500 employees) to maintain wages (maintaining above a 25% reduction in pay) and retain employees during the pandemic. Businesses will apply for **loans, up to 2.5 times their average payroll cost, through their banks.** The "Forgiveness" amount is based on the amount of payroll, salaries,



healthcare benefits, rent, utilities and mortgage interest spent in the 8 weeks after the loan is received. In addition, there is a grace period for businesses that have already furloughed or laid off employees to bring people back and restore their pay. In these scenarios, businesses will have until June 30 to rehire employees, or restore their pay, and not have either count against their loan forgiveness.

In an *Arkansas Business* article, Clay Glasgow with the business advisory and public accounting firm HoganTaylor LLP of Little Rock, offered sound advice for businesses who are hoping to take advantage of the Paycheck Protection Program loan funds. He suggested Businesses start thinking about their record-keeping practices, because they will as a condition have to document how they spent the Paycheck Protection Program loan money. “They're going to have to be able to go back to the bank later and show them that they spent the money on the expenses that are eligible for the forgiveness,” he said.

State & Association News

AEDC COVID-19 Resources for Businesses and Employers

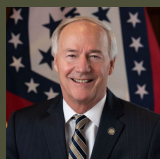
The *Arkansas Economic Development Council (AEDC)* has produced a downloadable Resource Guide for Businesses and Employers during the Challenge of CODIV-19. **We have attached that [HERE](#).** We will continue to share these up-to-date resources from AEDC when they are modified or provide additional listed resources.

ADDITIONAL LINKS FOR MONITORING CODIV-19

Arkansas State Chamber Updates on CODIV-19:

KNWA FOX24 Statewide Coverage and Resources

For Up-to-Date INFO on Reporting of CODIV-19, including not only cases, location, but also helpful information on where to get tested, KNWA FOX24 is a good resource online. LINKED [HERE](#):



Governor Asa Hutchinson: Nearly 300 Companies Seek *Quick Action Loans*

Gov. **Asa Hutchinson** says he expects \$3 million in state loans related to the COVID-19 outbreak to be distributed to Arkansas businesses early next week. *Arkansas Business* reports that by yesterday, 275 applications have been received for loans through the Quick Action Loan Program, which the governor created with money from his quick action fund. The program allows small- to medium-sized companies to apply for a loan or loan guaranty of up to \$250,000.



Federal News

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has developed new and updated resources to assist businesses in accessing resources created under the CARES Act (Phase III bill). This includes an update to the guide they released several days ago on the Paycheck Protection Program. See below.

- [NEW - Guide to SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans \(EIDL\)](#)
- [NEW - Guide to the Employee Retention Tax Credit](#)
- [UPDATED – Coronavirus Emergency Loans Small Business Guide and Checklist \(Paycheck Protection Program\)](#)

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Treasury issued additional guidance yesterday regarding the Paycheck Protection Program. Links to the resources provided by Treasury can be found below, or on their [webpage](#).

- A top-line overview of the program can be found [here](#).
- If you're a lender, more information can be found [here](#).
- If you're a borrower, more information can be found [here](#).
- The application for borrowers can be found [here](#).

Summary of **April 1 State Chamber/AIA call with the Arkansas Congressional Delegation** [here](#).

The **National Association of Manufacturers and Business Roundtable** are combining COVID-19 response efforts to address the critical health care supply shortage facing the nation's medical community. Central to their effort is [this new, detailed survey](#) for businesses to identify the specific ways they can provide or produce the supplies that are in high demand. Whether you have filled out similar previous surveys or not, they are asking all businesses to complete this detailed form.

IRS Provides New Guidance on Family Leave and Tax Credits. The IRS has released new guidance on tax credits authorized in the "phase two" COVID-19 bill to help small businesses offset the cost of new paid leave requirements. Click [here](#) to learn more about how to implement these policies.

State Travel Restrictions. The NAM continues to [track state activity](#) that could affect manufacturing operations and continues to intervene alongside state partners to ensure essential manufacturing can continue supporting our country and communities during this crisis. You can access resources to help your essential employees get to work safely [here](#).

State Department Creates Government-Wide Contact for Global Supply Chain Issues. The State Department has created a central point of contact for companies facing issues overseas that affect the import of goods critical to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. If your company is facing these global supply chain challenges, you can contact the State Department resource [here](#).

Hazardous Materials Transportation/COVID-19 – Pipeline and Hazardous Materials

Safety Administration Enforcement Policy regarding training [here](#)

NASCAR, Auto Manufacturers producing PPE and ventilators during COVID-19 crisis [here](#).

U.S. manufacturers answer GM's call for ventilator components. COVID-19 may speed shift of manufacturing components back to U.S. [here](#)

State News

Summary of **April 1 State Chamber/AIA Member Call with Secretary of Commerce Mike Preston and Arkansas Banking Association President & CEO Lorrie Trogden** [here](#).

Summary of **Gov. Hutchinson's April 1 Press Conference** [here](#). To see the entire press conference, click [here](#).

The Arkansas Division of Workforce Services is waiting on guidelines from the U.S. Department of Labor that will allow them to update their system to accept Unemployment Insurance (UI) applications from small entrepreneurs, independent contractors, self-employed individuals, etc. They hope to have the guidelines by the end of the week, which will allow them to start updating their application system. They are asking for patience as they work through this process and will have everything updated as soon as possible.

Arkansas State Chamber member **Delta Dental of Arkansas** has announced that through its DDAR Advance Receipts Program, the company will be providing up to \$6.5 million in emergency financial assistance to its in-network dental providers [here](#).

Arkansas State Chamber member **Walmart** is partnering with the state of Arkansas and Quest Diagnostics to bring a new drive-thru COVID-19 screening initiative to Northwest Arkansas [here](#).

Arkansas State Chamber member **Kutak Rock LLP** has COVID-19 resource guidance available [here](#).

Arkansas State Chamber member **Economics Arkansas** has retooled its educational offerings. Professional development for teachers continues with a free webinar. Families may benefit from online resources [here](#).

Arkansas State Chamber member **The Communications Group** provides crisis communications guidance and strategies for dealing with COVID-19 [here](#).

Arkansas State Chamber member **Landmark PLC Certified Public Accountant** has COVID-19 resource and CARES Act guidance available [here](#).

For additional information and resources, check our **COVID-19 Coronavirus and Arkansas** page [here](#).

We are proud to work as an entire sector, collaboratively, to help and keep one another safe and healthy, as well as our collective families, medical frontliners and staff, and our Natural State communities.

We are focused as an AG sector to doing our part to flatten the curve. So, take this seriously. Look to the real experts for guidance. Follow recommendations and protocols. Try to remain calm and attentive regarding new information, and although it may prove challenging, try not to be overwhelmed and provide yourself with self care when you can. That includes eating healthy, resting, and finding time to connect, via social distancing, with friends and family.



We are in this together.

Interested in learning more about ATPA and ARK LOGGER or becoming more involved?

[Click here to learn more](#)

[Links to More Federal and State News](#)

- [Arkansas Forestry Commission](#)
- [Arkansas Forestry Association](#)
- [Log A Load For Kids](#)
- [American Loggers Council](#)
- [Forest Resources Association](#)

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