

# Administration

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Worker, business assistance becomes available

**March 19, 2020** – Assistance is now available for workers and businesses adversely affected by closures and social distancing measures required in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Those residents whose employment has been negatively impacted as a result of COVID-19 may be eligible to receive Reemployment Assistance. Go to [www.floridajobs.org](http://www.floridajobs.org) and click on [Reemployment Assistance Service Center](#) to learn more about the program, or go to [frequently asked questions](#).

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) as of Wednesday (March 18) is offering Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by coronavirus.

Small Business Administration Resource Partners information is available at [www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/](http://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/).

The Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in aid to help small businesses overcome the temporary loss of revenue resulting from the disaster. These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that cannot be paid because of the disaster's impact.

Interest rates are as low as 3.75 percent for businesses without credit available elsewhere; businesses with credit available elsewhere are not eligible. The interest rate for non-profits is 2.75%. The Small Business Administration sets loan amounts based on the applicant's financial situation.

To apply, go to <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. Questions should be directed to the Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or by e-mail [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov).

Additionally, Gov. Ron DeSantis activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program on Monday (March 16) to support small businesses impacted by COVID-19. The bridge loan program, managed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), will provide short-term, interest-free loans to small businesses financially impacted by COVID-19. The application period runs through May 8.

Charles Ericksen, Jr.  
District 1

Greg Hansen  
District 2

David Sullivan  
District 3

Joe Mullins  
District 4

Donald O'Brien, Jr.  
District 5

For more information, go to [www.floridadisasterloan.org](http://www.floridadisasterloan.org) or call the Florida Small Business Development Center Network 866-737-7232, or by email at [disaster@FloridaSBDC.org](mailto:disaster@FloridaSBDC.org).

Officials urge all residents and businesses to follow Department of Health and CDC guidance, to include:

- Washing your hands often
- Stay home when possible
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Those who are sick and/or told to self-isolate
  - Staying home
  - Covering coughs and sneezes
  - Wearing a face mask around others
  - Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces daily.

Anyone with government services questions should call Flagler County's main telephone line to get further clarification, 386-313-4000. All COVID-19 related questions should be directed to the hotline, 866-779-6121.

Check for current information on Flagler County's website [www.flaglercounty.org](http://www.flaglercounty.org), and follow "Flagler County Government" or "Flagler County Emergency Management" on Social Media. The county's social media team will provide updates through these *official* accounts:

- [Facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment](https://www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment)
- [Facebook.com/FlaglerEOC](https://www.facebook.com/FlaglerEOC)
- [Twitter.com/FlaglerEOC](https://twitter.com/FlaglerEOC)
- [Instagram.com/FlaglerEOC](https://www.instagram.com/FlaglerEOC)

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