

Updated: June 9, 2021

The Alameda County Workforce Development Board (ACWDB) is here to help point businesses in the right direction to find resources that mitigate COVID-19 related impacts.

New resources are at the top of this list. If you have questions or need assistance from ACWDB, please contact our Business Services Unit.

- (NEW) In our webinar series with the California Employers Association, learn about Hiring Right the First Time to learn about new HR laws and tips for identifying talent to meet your business needs. Use access passcode wzD?1V06 to replay the webinar.
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- Listen in on our Labor Law Update 2021 presentation (held on February 18, 2021), that we sponsored in partnership with the California Employers Association, and gain detailed updates on: California Family Rights Act (CFRA) and Paid Family Leave (PFL) updates, salary and exempt laws, workers' compensation, and new COVID-19 reporting requirements. Access Passcode to the presentation: k*rGV#b5
- Join the Hayward Chamber of Commerce's first-ever Black Business Roundtable event on February 12th at noon, facilitated by Angela Andrews the City's first-ever African American woman City Council member! The Zoom link:
 https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/85315970080pwd=NoxqYVp2TG5TQUxIUVZlWHIzZWY0QT 09
 Meeting ID: 853 1597 0080 | Passcode: 606834 | One tap mobile +16699006833
- Join ACWDB and the California Employers Association for a free employer event on February 18th from 10 am-11:30 am to learn about new labor law updates in California!



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- So many topics will be discussed, from work site safety to workers' comp to sick leave and more! Save your virtual seat and <u>sign up</u> today!
- The California Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant Program offers \$5,000-\$25,000 for eligible California businesses. The application opens on December 30, 2020 and closes on January 13, 2021.
- ACWDB has partnered to bring businesses and employers a FREE hotline to answer
 pressing questions about hiring, paid leave, COVID-19 issues and much more! See flyer
 for details.
- On November 30, Governor Newsom announced a package of assistance for small businesses impacted by COVID-19, including \$500 million in grants. California's Office of the Small Business Advocate is working quickly to establish the program; please sign up for updates.
- Main Street Small Business Hiring Tax Credit SB 1447
 - Allows certain California qualified small business hiring credit against state income taxes or sales and use taxes. Under the Main Street Hiring Tax Credit, companies are eligible to receive a \$1,000 tax credit for each employee they rehire, and a maximum of \$100,000 in tax credits. To qualify for the credit businesses must:
 - Had 100 or fewer employees on December 31, 2019 (all employees, including part-time employees).
 - Have experienced a 50% decrease in gross receipts from April to June 2020, compared to the gross receipts in April to June 2019.
 - Apply for a tentative credit reservation from CDTFA during the period of December 1, 2020 through January 15, 2021.
 - Not be required or authorized to be included in a combined report.



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■ Meanwhile, the application window for the new \$100 million hiring tax credit program opened on December 1, 2020.

• IBANK: CA Rebuilding Fund

- o The California Rebuilding Fund is a public-private partnership that drives capital from private, philanthropic and public sector resources including a \$25 million anchor commitment and \$50 million guarantee allocation from the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).
- o Through CDFIs, lenders will offer standardized loan products with affordable and flexible terms for small businesses with loan sizes of up to \$100,000. These loans are meant to be timed and structured to support businesses that are adapting their business and face upfront or ongoing expenses to operate safely in a post-COVID economy.

ACWDB RESOURCES

Layoffs and Downsizing

- Our Business Services Unit will partner with you to develop layoff aversion strategies to
 assist in keeping your business afloat and workforce in-tact. If layoffs are inevitable,
 please learn more about state-required down-sizing requirements by reviewing the
 California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) process for
 companies with 75 workers or more.
- Please note that the Local Elected Official for Alameda County is Richard Valle, President
 of the County of Alameda Board of Supervisors and the Mayor of the city where your
 site/establishment is located. The address for Supervisor Valle is 1221 Oak Street,
 Oakland, CA 94612. If needed, please find your mayor's contact information.



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 Businesses of all sizes considering layoffs are encouraged to contact ACWDB's Rapid Response Coordinator at Javier Contreras or by phone at (510) 259-3831, to set up a call to discuss your downsizing efforts and assist impacted workers.

Recruitment Assistance

- Alameda County employers seeking recruitment assistance can contact Samantha Miller or by phone at (510) 259-3832 to discuss hiring needs.
- Employers can also take advantage of our Customized Training/Incumbent Worker Training programs. Both programs are designed to support training programs that can grow your workforce, train workers for new duties due to COVID-19 impacts, and upskill your current workforce to advance workers in their careers, while subsidizing the cost of internal training needs. These programs offer cost savings to your company and a benefit to your workforce!

ACWDB COVID-19 Resources

- ACWDB has partnered with MANEX Consulting to offer free business assessments for small to mid-size manufacturing companies in Alameda County impacted by COVID-19. Applications are still being accepted!
- Our COVID-19 toolkit was designed with the business community and job seekers in mind. Follow us on social media for bite-sized information to helpful resources.

STATE RESOURCES

• The Employment Development Department (EDD) has resources to help businesses answer questions related to employee furloughs, reducing hours, as well as the UI Work Sharing Program, and information and assistance for independent contractors and sole proprietors through the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program.



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- GO-Biz has a new COVID-19 page to assist businesses in finding information and resources.
- The State Labor and Workforce Development Agency has various resources on their website to assist employers and workers regarding reducing hours, the workshare program, protecting workers, and more.
- The California Employers' Association has vast offerings of Free COVID-19 webinars for California businesses.
- California non-profits can find a wealth of COVID-19 resources.

REGIONAL AND LOCAL RESOURCES

- East Bay Economic Development Alliance maintains a growing and expansive list of resources for Alameda County and Contra Costa businesses.
- Contact the Alameda County Small Business Development Center (ACSBDC) for information on applying for Small Business Association (SBA) loans. The ACSBDC is 100% remote, available by email, through website updates, and at (510) 516-4118 (messages picked up throughout the day). One-on-one advising is also available.
- The Northern California SBDC has activated a small business hotline and rapid response website. Business owners also can call 833-ASK-SBDC (833.275.7232) to reach the hotline for SBDC support and business financial urgent care. There are two email addresses that are being served by the hotline as well:
 - Email loans@asksbdc.com for assistance with available loans
 - o Email espanol@asksbdc.com para asistencia en español.



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- Microlender Kiva is expanding eligibility for U.S. entrepreneurs. They have increased maximum loan amounts from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and new borrowers may access a grace period of up to 6 months for greater financial flexibility.
- Association of Manufacturers Bay Area (AMBayArea) has a list of resources to assist manufacturing companies.
- Bay Legal COVID-19 Economic Impact Payments Information and Resources.

COVID RECOVERY AND RE-OPENING

Local guidance and technical assistance for businesses for safe re-opening:

- COVID Recovery webpage for the following information:
 - o Health Officer Shelter in Place Order
 - o Site-Specific Protection Plan
 - o Construction Safety Protocol
 - o Retail and Shopping Center guidance
 - Restaurant Operating Procedures
 - o COVID-19 Screening Guidance for Employers
 - o COVID-19 Self-Assessment Guidance for Personnel
 - o Email: COVIDRecovery@acgov.org
- State reopening guidance for businesses
- COVID-19 Workplace <u>COVIDWorkplace@acgov.org</u>
- Employers report positive cases among employees
- ACPHD will receive report and provide guidance on next steps
- Alameda County Health Officer Order FAQs
- Alameda County Face Covering Order FAQs
- COVID-19 Testing Locations



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RESOURCES FOR LAID OFF WORKERS

We may also be able to help you avert the layoffs altogether so please contact us. If layoff is not avoidable laid off workers searching for full-time or interim work, please connect the job seeker to one of our service providers located throughout Alameda County:

Eden Area Comprehensive America's Job Center of California

www.edenareaonestop.org edenareaajcc@rubiconprograms.org (510) 672-4150 or (925) 914-7675

Tri-Cities Career Center

www.ohlone.edu/careercenter careercenter@ohlone.edu (510) 742-2323

North Cities Career Center

<u>coa-ncitiescc@peralta.edu</u> (510) 748-2208

Tri-Valley Career Center

www.trivalleyonestop.org employerservices@clpccd.org (925) 560-9431

For more information about employer and business services, please contact Samantha Miller at samiller@acgov.org or Javier Contreras at Javier.Contreras@acgov.org.

OTHER BUSINESS RESOURCES

There are several resources available for employers in California. Learn more about ways to connect!

- Employment Training Panel (ETP)
- California Small Business Development Center Alameda County
- California Competes
- California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED)



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CalJOBS