



Bland County

COVID-19 Business Resources

To provide additional information to businesses impacted due to COVID-19, the County of Bland with the assistance of the Bland County Economic Development Authority and the Virginia's Industrial Advancement Alliance, are maintaining a list of potential resources that may be able to provide assistance to local businesses. This list will be updated as new resources become available. This list will be maintained at the Bland County website

<https://blandcountyva.gov>.

Small Business Administration (SBA)

COVID-19 Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources

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

A disaster declaration was approved by the SBA for a number of Virginia localities including Bland County. The declaration can be viewed online. <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Declarations/> Businesses can now apply for SBA Disaster Loans online. <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/> If a business does not have access to a computer or smartphone, please call SBA at 1-800-659-2955 for assistance.

Virginia Department of Health

The Virginia Department of Health has a dedicated website dedicated with Coronavirus information and a special business section. <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>

Center for Disease Control

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention have issued COVID-19 guidance for businesses: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>

Governor of Virginia

Latest information: <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates>

Input Needed from Business Owners

The Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity is asking that business owners complete a survey so they can share the results with State and Federal partners. The survey will remain open through Friday, March 27 at 5 p.m. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7RMY8SH>

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management Private Sector Team published a survey for private sector to submit issues they are experiencing and offers of assistance to Virginia (donation, in-kind contribution, discounted, or contracted). That survey can be accessed at <https://arcg.is/1amrze>.

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Department of Labor guidance on workplace safety. <https://bit.ly/39Zub3c>

State Corporation Commission

The State Corporation Commission issued an order directing regulated utilities, such as electric, natural gas and water companies in Virginia, to suspend service disconnections for 60 days to provide immediate relief for any customer, residential and business, who may be financially impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

Businesses are encouraged to join the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Private Sector Portal. This portal provides useful information to businesses in the private sector.

<http://bit.ly/VaPrivateSector>

Port of Virginia

Information about the Port of Virginia is available on their website.

<http://www.portofvirginia.com/>

Internal Revenue Service

Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief for Individuals and Businesses

<https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/disaster-assistance-and-emergency-relief-for-individuals-and-businesses>

Scams

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is cautioning the public to be on the lookout for scammers taking advantage of fears surrounding the Coronavirus. The FTC and U.S. Food and Drug Administration have jointly issued warning letters to seven sellers of unapproved and misbranded products, claiming they can treat or prevent the Coronavirus. Please visit the FTC website for more information. <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/coronavirus-scams-what-ftc-doing>

Price-gouging protections are in effect now that Virginia is under a State of Emergency. If you see excessive price increases for COVID-19 necessities, report it to Attorney General Mark Herring's office https://oag.state.va.us/consumer-protection/index.php/file-a-complaint?fbclid=IwAR2ZwzYjS5zXBd0n6470X9p62Nr9-Wh6aMuSxWRDMzlkGjLhFX_Fukh5SkM

Virginia's Industrial Advancement Alliance

A regional non-profit and industrial focused organization representing the Counties of Bland, Wythe, Grayson, Carroll, Smyth and the City of Galax. If you are an employer located within the partner localities and have any questions regarding programmatic support please feel free to reach out to **Jake Tabor, Business Investment Manager**, at invest@viaalliance.org. Also feel free to visit <http://viaalliance.org/>