

IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

June 9, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

President Trump signs bill to improve small business COVID-19 relief program

Today, President Trump signed legislation that will improve Iowa small business owners' ability to use COVID-19 relief programs. The Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act makes critical changes to the Paycheck Protection Program that will provide businesses trying to stay afloat with additional flexibilities, including:

- Adjusting restrictions limiting non-payroll expenses to 25% of loan proceeds, allowing smaller Iowa businesses to cover higher relative costs for rent, mortgage or utilities.
- Allowing forgiveness for expenses beyond the eight-week covered period, ensuring businesses can spread their program loans over the full course of the crisis as it affects their revenue.
- Ensuring full access to payroll tax deferment for businesses that take program loans, allowing businesses access to both forms of relief without penalty.
- Extending the term of the loan to five years, to allow for the possibility that businesses in sectors like entertainment and event planning experience longer recovery periods.

The legislation has been endorsed by the National Restaurant Association, National Small Business Association, National Federation of International Business and Small Business Roundtable.

COVID-19 testing available to the uninsured

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act created a new Medicaid eligibility group for the uninsured. The new eligibility group, COVID-19 Testing, will provide a limited benefit package of services for just the testing and diagnosis of COVID-19 during the public health emergency. Services for treatment of COVID-19 will not be covered for the new eligibility group.

Iowa Medical Enterprise is enrolling people into the COVID-19 Testing group and will continue enrolling eligible individuals throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency. Uninsured Iowans who wish to be tested for COVID-19 for free are encouraged to complete the [Application for COVID-19 Testing Coverage \(Form 470-56181\)](#) electronically on the Department of Human Services' [website](#). Applications also may be submitted by fax (515-725-1351), telephone (855-889-7985) or mailed to IME Member Services, P.O. Box 36510, Des Moines, IA 50315. A printable version of the application is available on the department's website.

CDC names three Iowa counties as 'areas of concern'

Three Iowa counties have been identified as coronavirus "areas of concern" by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The counties are:

- Buena Vista.
- Woodbury.

Wright.

Meat-processing plants are in each of the counties. A health department spokesperson said the increase in cases is partially due to increased testing efforts in certain areas.

CEO update call

The next CEO update call is scheduled from **1-2 pm Wednesday, June 17**. Register [here](#).

Free webinar opportunities

- 2-3 pm Tuesday, June 9, ***The Times They are a-Changing: Thriving in Uncertainty***. For the health of our communities, it is important for health care workers to thrive and succeed. But COVID-19 places additional stressors on health care workers. This webinar provides information and practical tools that health care workers can use to improve patient care by improving the resilience and well-being of employees and their employers. Register [here](#).
- 11 am-Noon Wednesday, June 10, ***COVID-19 Investment Implications for Health Care Organizations***. Speakers will share valuable insights into the macroeconomic and capital markets and offer views on where areas of investment risk and opportunity may lie. They also will discuss the investment implications of COVID-19 and best practices for managing health care investment funds in a time of uncertainty. Register [here](#).
- 2-3 pm Tuesday, June 23, ***Cultivating Good Health Through Personal Vitality Series***. We are living in a time in which good health is defined as much by our resiliency and vitality as it is by physical measurements. This webinar focuses on living a vibrant life, even when dealing with anxiety, depression, pain or stress. Register [here](#).



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