

NAM COVID 19 Update March 24

Today, I spoke with Rear Admiral John Polowczyk, who is leading FEMA's efforts to activate the supply chain, to ensure alignment and coordination with the vast capabilities of the National Association of Manufacturers. He stressed that our country needs manufacturers to offer their services at this critical moment, and the administration is building a structure to allow the NAM to connect manufacturers with their efforts.

The administration's initial focus is on the available supply of personal protective equipment and critical medical equipment, and they are asking manufacturers to increase production to respond to our country's growing need. Second, they are looking for incremental capacity that could be activated through possible conversions of capacity. They are working to identify the scope and scale of that need and welcome our input as many of you have offered to convert production as needed.

If your company can help produce vital supplies and component parts, fill out the Creators Respond form [here if you have not already](#). If your company has already offered your support, thank you. With the outpouring of responses, we are working with the administration to coordinate with you as quickly as possible.

Our coordination with FEMA and the White House provides a direct path for the NAM to highlight not only available inventory and critical production but also manufacturers' many additional offers to convert to the production of more critical items.

We are also actively informing the American public, policymakers and the press about manufacturers' efforts. Please send us your stories, social media posts and other ways we can share your efforts to responseteam@nam.org.

Here are some of the other recent developments:

Labor Department Asks for Input on Paid Leave Implementation

The U.S. Department of Labor will be hosting an online dialogue to provide employers and employees with an opportunity to offer their perspectives as the department develops compliance assistance materials related to the implementation of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. As a reminder, the FFCRA requires all employers with fewer than 500 employees to offer up to 12 weeks of paid leave for absences related to COVID-19. The deadline for submissions is Sunday, March 29. You can provide input [here](#). [Contact](#) the NAM's Drew Schneider if you have any questions.

Overview of Small Business Administration Loan Program

The Small Business Administration's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides targeted, low-interest loans to small businesses that have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Read the NAM's overview of the SBA loan process and other programs to aid in businesses' response to the COVID-19 crisis [here](#).

Overview of Financial Regulators' Response to COVID-19

Federal financial regulators have taken aggressive steps to respond to the COVID-19 crisis, designed to free up capital and liquidity for small businesses across the country. The NAM has prepared an overview of these programs and regulatory changes as a resource for our members. Read the overview [here](#).

NAM–SHRM Call on COVID-19 and Workforce

The NAM and the Society for Human Resource Management are hosting a special call about how manufacturers can limit the impact of COVID-19 on their workforce and keep their businesses strong even during a time of quarantine. The call will take place tomorrow, Wednesday, March 25, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EDT. Spaces are limited. Sign up [here](#).

Continuing the Effort for Essential Business Designations

The NAM continues working with our state association partners across the country to help manufacturers continue their essential work. And we are ensuring your voice is heard on Capitol Hill, sharing resources with members of Congress so they can help keep their constituents informed and advocate to allow manufacturers to continue their critical work. If you haven't already, you can help improve the guidance that many states are adopting by emailing CISA.CAT@cisa.dhs.gov and rjones@nam.org with detailed examples of why all manufacturing and supply chain is critical, life-sustaining infrastructure.

View federal guidance from DHS [here](#) and our state resources page [here](#).

“Phase Three” COVID-19 Legislation

There is growing optimism between both parties that an agreement on the “phase three” COVID-19 legislation is near. As we have done throughout this process, the NAM is ensuring your voice is heard and manufacturers' priorities are included as this legislation makes its way through Congress.

Read manufacturers' plan [here](#).

As always, visit nam.org/coronavirus for the latest information, including state-specific resources, on ensuring the health of your employees, the NAM's policy leadership and more.

Email our Response Team at responseteam@nam.org with any questions or feedback.

Best,

Jay

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