NAM COVID-19 Update
April 30, 2020

The Federal Reserve announced today new details on the Main Street Lending Program. The announcement included key reforms your NAM advocated, including lowering the minimum loan size to $500,000 to enable more small businesses to benefit from the program. It also expanded program eligibility to include companies with up to 15,000 employees or $5 billion in annual revenues, limited the application of the facilities’ “specific support” provisions so that fewer companies are excluded and clarified that pass-through businesses’ distributions do not exclude them from the program.

Loans will be offered to small and medium-sized businesses via the Main Street New Loan Facility, the Main Street Expanded Loan Facility and the newly announced Main Street Priority Loan Facility. The maximum loan size will be $25 million for the new and priority facilities and $200 million for the expanded facility, all subject to the borrower’s existing outstanding and undrawn available debt and its 2019 earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

The Federal Reserve has provided updated term sheets for the New Loan, Expanded Loan and Priority Loan facilities, as well as a comprehensive FAQ document on the program. More information, including the official program launch date and application procedures, will be available on the Federal Reserve’s Main Street page as it becomes available. You can also learn more about the Main Street program via this NAM overview.

The Main Street Lending Program is separate from the Paycheck Protection Program, which is primarily designed for companies with fewer than 500 employees. Companies may qualify for both programs. Learn more at the SBA website here.

IRS Provides Expanded FAQs on Employee Retention Tax Credit
The IRS has issued expanded FAQs for the employee retention tax credit, which the NAM called for in our “COVID-19 Policy Action Plan Recommendations.” The FAQs cover employer eligibility, allocation of qualified health plan expenses, interaction with other COVID-19 relief provisions and more. More information on this temporary, refundable payroll tax credit can be found here.

New CDC Guidance on Reopening
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention yesterday released new reopening guidance that is universally applicable to the broad U.S. population, including manufacturers and other businesses. The CDC webpage and its accompanying printout documents provide a general framework for cleaning and disinfection practices. This new guidance underscores the importance of the development, maintenance and constant reevaluation of cleaning and disinfection plans for businesses, workplaces and facilities.

Recap of Leading Edge Cybersecurity Webinar
Use the registration link here to access a recap of Wednesday’s NAM Leading Edge webinar with PwC on cybersecurity best practices in remote work environments.

If your company is looking for ways to contribute to COVID-19 relief efforts, we encourage you to email our Response Team at responseteam@nam.org with any N95 or Tyvek suit donations.
You can connect with NAM partner Good360 to donate items to families. Please reference the NAM as your source of referral so we can track the many positive contributions of our members.

Please keep visiting the regularly updated nam.org/coronavirus site for the latest information, including operational guidance, our policy plans and state-specific resources.

Best,

Jay

President and CEO
National Association of Manufacturers