

COVID-19 Resources for Fisheries and Aquaculture

7 April 2020

Financial Relief Programs

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>

Small Business Guidance and Loan Resources (SBA)

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

SBA Informational PowerPoint on COVID-19 Assistance

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-iP5QJGi0Zmjn8ZncSejYhWcD9atjA5f/view>

National Restaurant Association Restaurant Employee Relief Fund

<https://rerf.us/>

USDA

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/extension-grant-application-deadlines-fmlfpp-and-rfspp-grants>

Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program

Regional Food System Partnerships Program

Small Business Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

[The Paycheck Protection Program](#) provides small businesses with funds to pay up to 8 weeks of payroll costs including benefits. Funds can also be used to pay interest on mortgages, rent, and utilities.

How to Apply

A list of participating lenders as well as additional information and full terms can be found [here](#).

Paycheck Protection Program Borrower [Application Form](#)

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) [INFORMATION SHEET: BORROWERS](#)

Treasure Department COVID-19 [Small Business Assistance Homepage](#).

Q&A: <https://www.businessreport.com/business/graves-and-waguespack-answer-cares-act-questions>

- Q: Can PPP be used to pay 1099 contractors?
- Both: A company can pay their 1099 contractors with PPP funds, but that will not be considered part of the payroll costs that can be forgiven. Contractors can apply for PPP independently.

Other Notes:

Linda Shaw, NMFS in Alaska shared a provision from the CARE Act which speaks to aid to the fishing sector.

'Specifically, tribes, fishermen, fishing communities, aquaculture businesses, and other fishery-related businesses are eligible for assistance if they have incurred as a direct or indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic any economic revenue losses greater than 35 percent as compared to the prior five-year average; or any negative impacts to subsistence, cultural or ceremonial fisheries, according to the senator's office. '

<https://riponadvance.com/featured/members-praise-enactment-of-cares-act/>

Webinar from Saving Seafood's government relations on the federal relief package. About the 26 minute mark seems more specifically relevant.

<https://www.savingseafood.org/news/washington/the-federal-relief-package-is-your-business-small-medium-large-essential-and-or-critical-and-what-do-those-terms-mean-for-you-and-your-employees/>

Also in addition to the Paycheck Protection Program, there is an Employee Retention Credit Program. Applicants might want to consider both options as benefits seem to vary based on qualifying information and one might prove more beneficial than the other depending on the situation.

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/faqs-employee-retention-credit-under-the-cares-act>

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-employee-retention-credit-available-for-many-businesses-financially-impacted-by-covid-19>

Webinar Recordings on Funding:

US Farm Credit East

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Webinars>

US Department of Labor:

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic>

UMass-Amherst SBA Training:

<https://www.msbdc.org/training/>

Physical Distance, but Social Support Networks

Networks to pay attention to for summaries of the most up to date information:

Local Catch (commercial fisheries)

<https://localcatch.org/>

Webinars:

<https://localcatch.org/webinars/>

Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust

<https://montereybayfisheriestrust.org/covid19-resources>

Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance

<https://shareholdersalliance.org/coronavirus-response>

National Sea Grant Law Center

<https://nsglc.olemiss.edu/covid19/index.html>

U.S. Aquaculture Society (aquaculture)

<https://tinyurl.com/USASCovid-19>

Consumers (Information to give to your buyers)

Seafood Safety FAQs

National Fisheries Institute

<https://seafoodsafetycovid19.wordpress.com/>

Food and Drug Administration

<https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/food-safety-and-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/noaa-fisheries-coronavirus-covid-19-update>

Fresh vs Frozen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ec1R0_LHhGE

<https://www.seafoodnutrition.org/?s=frozen>

Search for local farms

<https://www.localfoodanywhere.com/>

<https://louisianadirectseafood.com/>

Preparing and Eating Seafood

<https://www.eatingwiththeecosystem.org/local-seafood-resources>

<https://freshwaterfeasts.com/>

Producers

Business Management

Tips for Managing Risk and Uncertainty in your fishing Business -
Alaska Sea Grant

<https://seagrants.uaf.edu/bookstore/pubs/MAB-76.html>

Fish Biz Project: General Management Tools - Alaska Sea Grant

<http://fishbiz.seagrants.uaf.edu/>

Planning seafood Cold Storage

<https://seagrant.uaf.edu/bookstore/pubs/MAB-46.html>

Changing your marketing plan in response to COVID-19

Direct Marketing

<https://www.cawconsult.com/direct-marketing-for-commercial-fishermen/>

Pickup and Delivery Tool/App

<https://www.fisherdirect.co/>

Alternative Marketing

<http://marketyourcatch.msi.ucsb.edu/>

Choosing an online selling platform comparison chart

<https://www.oeffa.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Online-Platform-Comparison-Chart.pdf>

Choosing an online selling platform webinar - Oregon Tilth

https://vimeo.com/399934146?fbclid=IwAR2LdQ5C8cgWYWcus8_i_W8n2npWVkaZx1kCNMuhOvApygGyY7cPCUW-WUw

Farm to Institution Networks

Farm to Institution New England (FINE: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)

Needs and surplus matchmaking tool

<https://www.farmtoinstitution.org/>

Forager

Source your local food

<https://goforager.com/>

Tribes

Resource Guides

Columbia River Inter Tribal Fish Commission COVID-19 Resource Guide

<https://www.critfc.org/columbia-river-tribal-fisher-and-fishing-access-site-resident-covid-19-resource-guide/>

Other

Local Food Economy Impact Tools

<https://localfoodeconomics.com/#farm>