

Do You Have a COVID-19 Preparedness & Response Plan?

On May 7, the construction industry and realtors got back to work and on May 11, manufacturing will get up and running again. Under the [“Stay Home, Stay Safe” Executive Order](#), every business that is open for in-person work must take a number of precautions included under section 11 of the order, including developing a COVID-19 preparedness and response plan. This plan must be consistent with the Occupational Health and Safety Administration's recommendations in Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19. The plan must then be available at the company headquarters or the worksite.

There are templates available from the Michigan Chamber, developed in partnership with Bodman PLC, to help you create a plan for your business.

[Plans and resources.](#)

Manufacturing Reopening to Begin May 11

The Governor recently announced manufacturing will reopen on May 11. Under the revised [“Stay Home, Stay Safe” Executive Order](#), manufacturing facilities must adopt [measures](#) to protect their workers from the spread of COVID-19. That includes conducting a daily entry screening protocol for workers and everyone else entering the facility, including a questionnaire covering symptoms and exposure to people with possible COVID-19, together with a temperature screening as soon as no-touch thermometers can be obtained. They must also create dedicated entry points at every facility, and suspend entry of all non-essential in-person visits, including tours.

The Alliance & Traverse Connect hosted an Industry Forum Discussion this week [with John J. Walsh, president & CEO of the Michigan Manufacturers Association](#), Mr. Walsh answered questions from area manufacturers and offered insight into how the industry will operate in the months ahead.

[Details on the guidelines.](#)

Watch the Industry Forum Discussions

As we prepare for the reopening of businesses and our regional economy, the Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance, in partnership with Traverse Connect, is continuing to host industry forum discussions for northern Michigan businesses focused on worker and customer safety, social distancing in business and retail settings, and more.

The first industry forum discussions were held over the last week with [restaurants and lodging](#), [builders and construction](#), [salons and spas](#), [retail](#), [grocers](#) and [human resources](#). We're continuing to schedule future industry-focused discussions and have the following forum scheduled:

- Friday, May 15 from 1-2 p.m.: [Industry Forum Discussions: Chiropractors & Physical Therapists](#)

Where can businesses find PPE?

We know that access to sufficient PPE will directly dictate how our businesses are able to open and operate. Thankfully, there are several resources to help businesses connect to PPE distributors and suppliers. If you're a member of the [Small Business Association of Michigan](#), you can access their PPE resource. Not a member? [The Michigan Chamber also has a list.](#)

Register for an Unemployment Webinar for Businesses with the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

Date and time: Thursday May 14, 2020 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

Join Sean Egan, Deputy Director for Labor; Ed Duggan, Senior Advisor; and Darryl Hunter, Tax and Employer Services Division Administrator, Unemployment Insurance all from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity for a presentation on unemployment and resources available to businesses. All businesses are welcome to join and there will be time for Q&A.

[Learn more and register here.](#)

Register for Chief Justice McCormack’s Michigan’s Judiciary AC (After COVID-19) Webinar

Date and time: Tuesday May 12, 2020, 11:00 AM – 12:00pm

[Register in advance for this webinar.](#) Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack will talk about how courts statewide responded to the pandemic while providing essential functions, safeguarding rights, and protecting public health. She will also highlight lessons learned and how changes implemented during the crisis – such as virtual courtrooms – will help courts be more accessible, transparent, and efficient in the future.