

WVDA COVID-19 Pandemic Resources for Farmers and Food Producers

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A COVID-19 Pandemic Resource Directory for Farmers and Food Producers

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WVDA Business Development Division

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture's Business Development Division remains available to help farmers, processors and distributors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our staff quickly adopted teleworking technology and disease prevention practices to minimize the chance of spreading the coronavirus while maintaining our functionality. We have listed below several resources that may be of assistance to our farmers and producers.

CONTACT US: If there's anything we can do during this crisis or afterward, please contact our office at 304-558-2210, businessdevelopment@wvda.us or contact a staff member directly using their numbers listed in this directory.

General COVID-19 Web Resources

- **Recommendations for West Virginia farmers' markets* during pandemic:**

<https://agriculture.wv.gov/Media/news%20releases/Documents/WVDA%20Issues%20Recommendations%20for%20Farmers%20Markets,%20Encourages%20Support%20for%20Local%20Foods.pdf>

**Several WV counties are now under stricter regulations by order of the Governor due to the increased spread of COVID-19. Please refer to <https://governor.wv.gov/News/Pages/default.aspx> to see which counties this affects.*

- **USDA Food and Nutrition Service COVID-19 Homepage**
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19>
- **West Virginia COVID-19 Homepage**
<https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>

U.S. Small Business Administration Pandemic Programs

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program

- <https://covid19relief.sba.gov>
- <https://zoom.us/j/498988675?pwd=a2ZocTRLd0pjaHF6TWtoKzZrSmJ0Zz09>

Meeting Phone: 646-876-9923, Meeting ID: 498 988 675#, no registration requirement, limited to the first 100 participants (log on early)

SBA Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Programs

<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program-ppp>

Basic Primer on CARES Act Especially for Farmers and Food Businesses

<https://www.growingfarmers.com/caresresource>

Specialized Resources

Child Nutrition Webinars

April 16 — [Possibilities Through Partnership During COVID-19](#)

April 23 — [Maintaining Program Participation During COVID-19](#)

Child Nutrition Resources

- **[Ensuring Access to the Child Nutrition Programs in the Event of School Closures](#)**
Guidelines from FRAC for adjusting Child Nutrition Programs if schools are closed.
- **[Emerging Strategies & Tactics For Meal Service During School Closures Related To The Coronavirus](#)**
This resource from No Kid Hungry highlights meal distribution strategies put into place across the country in response to widespread school closures due to the coronavirus.
- **[Summary of School Districts and Program Providers' Efforts to Serve Meals During School Closings](#)**
An active spreadsheet compiled by FRAC of school districts serving meals and broken down by state, district, and model.
- **[Emergency Meal Service Toolkit](#)**
Resources from Lunch Assist for planning and modifying school meal operations in response to COVID-19, including answers to frequently asked policy questions, templates, and safety tips and procedures to protect nutrition services staff and the families they serve.

- **Nationwide Waivers of Child Nutrition Monitoring**
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/child-nutrition-monitoring-nationwide-waiver>
- **No Kid Hungry Coronavirus Grant Request**
<https://www.nokidhungry.org/coronavirus-grant-request>
- **USDA Temporarily Extends Expiration Dates for Some Good Agricultural Practices**
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/content/usda-temporarily-extends-expiration-dates-some-good-agricultural-practices-domestic-origin>
- **USDA Guidance on grants management requirements due to COVID-19 (includes Specialty Crop Block Grant Program & ACER Grant)**
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/M-20-17.pdf>
- **American Farmland Trust Farmer Relief Fund Grant Programs**
<https://farmland.org/farmer-relief-fund/>

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