

National Association of Manufacturers

June 11, 2020

The Small Business Administration has issued updated Paycheck Protection Program guidance and loan application forms following the passage of the PPP Flexibility Act last week. While the new rule does not address the reforms to loan forgiveness included in the PPP Flexibility Act, it does implement the bill's change to allow businesses more flexibility in how they allocate PPP expenses between payroll and nonpayroll costs. You can access the new resources [here](#).

Under the new standard, PPP borrowers must use at least 60% of their loan proceeds on payroll costs, a decrease from 75%. The new rule also extends the maturity period for PPP loans made on or after June 5 to five years; for loans made prior to June 5, the rule allows borrowers and lenders to mutually agree to extend loan maturity to five years. Going forward, the NAM will continue to press the SBA to provide the clarity our members need on PPP loan forgiveness, including timely implementation of the forgiveness reforms included in the PPP Flexibility Act.

Get Answers on Common EEOC Questions

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, manufacturers need to be mindful of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regulations while making reasonable accommodations for employees and adjusting normal business operations. Today, the EEOC updated its [Q&A publication](#) on common questions relating to age, health and race discrimination in the age of COVID-19. For additional resources, you can watch last week's NAM-hosted webinar with the EEOC's legal counsel, which highlights the priorities of the commission and reminds manufacturers of their employer requirements. You can view that webinar [here](#).

OSHA Publishes FAQs on Face Coverings and Respirators

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration released a series of frequently asked questions on face coverings, respirators and what employers need to consider as they adapt to operating during this public health crisis. The NAM has continued to call on OSHA to release thorough and updated guidance as more is learned about COVID-19 so manufacturers have the information needed to limit hazards in the workplace and keep workers safe. Read the FAQs [here](#), and be sure to understand your responsibilities when requiring face coverings or respirators.

Iowa Passes NAM-Backed COVID-19 Liability Protections

Manufacturers scored an important victory in Iowa last night after the state legislature cleared and sent to Gov. Kim Reynolds for signature new legislation extending crucial COVID-19-related liability protections for manufacturers and essential businesses. The [Iowa Association of Business and Industry](#), the NAM's state partner in Iowa, helped lead the charge for this legislation, which could serve as a model for many other states' efforts. The NAM joined with Iowa ABI earlier this week [to launch a campaign](#) in the state calling for members of the state's congressional delegation to advance complementary reforms in Washington.

June 12 NAM Climate and Trade Briefing

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted international trade in numerous ways and created greater uncertainty in climate change conversations. To help navigate these new uncertainties and find new opportunities, the NAM is hosting a briefing on Friday, June 12, at 11:00 a.m. EDT to discuss the nexus between climate policy and trade issues, including but not limited to tariffs and retaliation, WTO rules and intellectual property protections. The conversation will

include [Stephen Kho](#), [Stacey Mitchell](#), [Ken Markowitz](#) and [Thor Petersen](#) of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP. Click [here](#) to register. For more information on the briefing, contact [NAM Vice President of Energy and Resources Policy Rachel Jones](#).

NAM–FEMA Webinar: Disaster Preparedness, Hurricane Season and COVID-19

On Wednesday, June 17, at 1:00 p.m. EDT, the NAM will host a panel discussion with FEMA on its COVID-19 response efforts and preparations for hurricane season. As hurricane season begins, it is more important than ever to have a business continuity plan. The economy is fragile as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic, and resources are being taxed as manufacturers continue to ramp up. This conversation is an opportunity to receive guidance on how to prepare and protect ourselves from natural disasters, especially with many homes becoming the “new office.” Click [here](#) to register.

Please keep visiting the regularly updated nam.org/coronavirus site for the latest information, including operational guidance, our policy plans and resources and an [updated breakdown of state and local orders](#).

If your company is looking for ways to contribute to COVID-19 relief efforts, you can connect with NAM partner [Good360](#). They help companies do good by distributing highly needed product donations to people facing challenging life circumstances—all through their global network of vetted nonprofit partners. Please reference the NAM as your source of referral so we can track the many positive contributions of our members.

Best,

Jay

President and CEO
National Association of Manufacturers