



COVID-19 RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Dear Members,

As new information emerges hourly on the COVID-19 emergency, below is a roundup of the best resources and information we have seen with regard to your vineyard, winery, and supporting businesses as well as your families and employees. SVVGA continues to be in communication with our local and state officials as the situation evolves. Please keep your communication channels open with us so that we can serve and convey your needs.

Recommendations:

- Prepare for a potential extension to the Shelter in Place past April 7.
- Stay home unless you are an 'essential business'.
- Limit your exposures to those around you if you are an essential business and still conduct business from your physical place of work.
- Take any other necessary precautions as directed by the CDC.

HOW CAN SVVGA HELP?

We would like to hear from you:

1. What additional information or resources do you need?
2. How can SVVGA help you and your business during this time?

Please respond to this email with additional information or resources that you are seeking during this time.

Clarification Around “STAY AT HOME”

Wineries & Vineyards May Operate Under Governor's New "Stay at Home" Order
Governor Gavin Newsom issued a new statewide order on Thursday, March 19, for all Californians to “stay home or at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of federal critical infrastructure sector.”

Wine Institute has confirmed with the Governor’s administration their interpretation that the new order allows winery and vineyard operations to continue under the Food and Agriculture Sector critical infrastructure plan. [Click here to read the full announcement on the ‘Stay at Home’ order.](#)

GUIDANCE AROUND CA ABC LICENCES

The California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) has issued guidance for licensee privileges related to the Governor’s directive to close restaurants, bars, wineries and breweries to in-person seating.

Director of the California ABC (CA ABC), Jacob Applesmith, has verbally confirmed that during the current crisis, the agency will suspend enforcement of California credit regulations, which means that suppliers will be allowed to extend credit to purchasers without interest beyond 30 days.

He has also clarified that restaurants may sell bottles of wine with take-out food sales provided the restaurant’s permit does not specifically prohibit such sales.

The official guidance allows for **the purchase and pick up of wine and other off-sale retail privileges with appropriate social distancing.**

It also allows production, storing, distributing and other non-retail privileges.

[Click here to read more specific information.](#)

[Click here to read the ABC law and policy.](#)

FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT

The Senate passed the H.R. 6201: [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) yesterday afternoon, Wednesday, March 18, 2020. In a vote 90 to 8, the Senate approved legislation to provide paid sick leave to American workers affected by the new coronavirus.

[Click here to read the overview](#) provided by our partners at The Saqui Law Group, a division of Dowling Aaron Incorporated.

RESOURCES FROM THE EDB

Resources and assistance are available to help Sonoma Valley businesses and workers affected by the coronavirus emergency. The Economic Development Board (EDB), in partnership with the County of Sonoma and the Department of Health Services, has compiled a comprehensive list of local, state and government resources and benefits for businesses and employees affected by the emerging situation. [Click here to learn more about EDB resources.](#)

TAX RELIEF, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND RESILIANCY

Tax Relief in Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak

Our partners at Farella Braun + Martel have developed a Coronavirus (COVID-19) Insights and Resources center on their website to provide information and content focused on COVID-19 and its effects to wine business clients, their businesses, and their industries.

[Tax Relief Response](#)
[Business Interruption Coverage](#)

State of CA EDD Programs

The State of California's Employment Development Department (EDD) updated its [WEBSITE](#) with a complete page dedicated to information assistance available as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. The site not only provides information for employees who have been laid off or had their hours reduced but also provides information for employers.

The State has waived the one week waiting period for workers who have been laid off or had hours reduced due to impacts from the COVID-19 outbreak. Employees should file for benefits as soon as possible after lay off or reduction of hours.

EDD Resources for Employers

[Click here for the complete information.](#)

Reduced Work Hours

Employers experiencing a slowdown in their businesses or services as a result of the coronavirus impact on the economy may apply for the UI Work Sharing Program. This program allows employers to seek an alternative to layoffs — retaining their trained employees by reducing their hours and wages that can be partially offset with UI benefits. Workers of employers who are approved to participate in the Work Sharing Program receive the percentage of their weekly UI benefit amount based on the percentage of hours and wages reduced, not to

exceed 60 percent. [Click here to view the Work Sharing Program](#) to learn more about its benefits for employers and employees, and how to apply.

Potential Closure or Layoffs

Employers planning a closure or major layoffs as a result of the coronavirus can get help through the Rapid Response program. Rapid Response teams will meet with you to discuss your needs, help avert potential layoffs, and provide immediate on-site services to assist workers facing job losses. For more information, refer to the [Rapid Response Services for Businesses Fact Sheet \(DE 87144RRB\)](#) or contact your local [America's Job Center of California](#).

HEALTH RESOURCES

- Center for Disease Control – [COVID-19 Microsite](#)
- World Health Organization – [COVID-19 Webpage](#)

During this time of rapid change, please refer to our internal SVVGA Members Only Facebook Group feed for latest updates.

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