



*Although our office is closed, **our staff will be continuing to work remotely** to serve you and the business community as a whole. The best way to reach us is by email. You can call us during business hours, and we will call you back if we are unable to answer your call right away. We will be resuming daily email updates on Monday, March 30th. Our plans for Monday are to share details on the main provisions of the proposed federal CARES Act stimulus package.*

Roundtable on Remote Work – FREE Remote Event – Tuesday, March 31, 2020 – 11:00AM

Have you started working remotely or are you preparing for remote work for Monday? We are hosting an interactive roundtable event through Zoom remote conferencing on remote work best practices. Join us on Tuesday, March 31st at 11:00am on video and phone conferencing to [share your experiences](#), [learn what other businesses are doing](#) around remote work, and [get tips on remote work](#) from Chamber staff. FREE to attend, but registration is required.

Veteran remote workers and those new to remote work are all welcome! Employees, managers, business owners, and independent contractors are encouraged to attend. [Click here](#) to sign up for Tuesday's event and [click here](#) to download a PDF version of the event flyer.

Requirements to Work from Home - Governor Walz's "stay at home" order specifically notes that **all workers that are able to work remotely should do so**. The requirement to work from home when able includes all businesses and industries. The Dept. of Labor encourages all businesses to work with their employees to facilitate them working from home whenever possible.

Workplace Tasks for Non-Critical Industries - For non-critical industries, DEED has indicated that if you are the only person that will be physically at your place of work, you are allowed to go there to complete business tasks. However, your business may not be open to the public, and you should not meet customers/members of the public at your workplace. You are encouraged to use common sense, work from home whenever possible, and strictly limit your contact with others in the important effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Critical Business Designation Update - DEED has updated the [list of industries](#) classified as "critical" for the stay at home order. Items highlighted in yellow are changes that have been made since the original version was published. Industries with an asterisk (*) are not currently considered critical industries, but DEED and the Dept. of Commerce will be continuing to review these industries in the coming days.

MN Legislative Update – The Minnesota House and Senate passed a \$330m package related to COVID-19. Among many other items, this package included \$10m for a small business loan guarantee program. It will be up to an 80% loan guarantee up to \$200k. These loan guarantees will be available to existing economic development lending partners. This will not be a new loan program, but it will be a tool to help lenders provide credit to small businesses.

Hibbing Area Chamber COVID-19 Impact Survey – If you have not yet completed the [COVID-19 Impact Survey](#), it's not too late! We are using this information daily to advocate directly with local, state, and federal legislators for aid packages and policy changes that meet your needs. It's not too late to raise up your voice. Fill out the COVID-19 Business Impact Survey today by [clicking here](#). It will only take around 5 minutes to complete!

Free Webinar on "Stay at Home" Order – The Minnesota Chamber has recorded a webinar on the Stay at Home order with DEED Commissioner Steve Grove. This resource is provided for free to you as a Hibbing Area Chamber member! To watch the webinar recording, [click here](#) to register.