



*We would like to wish everyone a great Friday and a fantastic, safe, and restoring weekend. As a reminder, we expect to switch to COVID-19 email updates every 2-3 days starting next week. If you have questions or are looking for information related to COVID-19, please check out our [webpage](#) or send us an email. We appreciate the opportunity to bring value to you, our members, during these challenging times and prepare for a successful recovery of our community and region.*

### **Free One-on-One Remote Video Conferencing Trainings**

Are you **new to remote work** or video conferencing? **Not sure what to do** when you are invited to participate in a Zoom, GoToMeeting, or WebEx **video conference**? Maybe you've been part of a few video conference calls, but you'd like to ask a few questions on **best practices** during a video call or webinar.

Hibbing Area Chamber staff will guide you **one-on-one** on remote video conferencing using the Zoom platform. You will find useful tips for other platforms like WebEx and GoToMeeting also! As a member of the Hibbing Area Chamber, your organization has **first priority** in booking a free session. [Click here](#) to sign up today before we open registration to the wider Hibbing Area business community.

JOIN THE HIBBING AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAFF FOR  
**ZOOM TRAINING**

Sign up today for your **FREE** 10 minute one-on-one **ZOOM Conferencing training**. Chamber staff will show you the **basics of remote video conferencing** and give you a trial run before your next meeting.

For more information contact the Chamber  
[info@hibbing.org](mailto:info@hibbing.org)

**\* Open to all members of the Hibbing area business community!**

To sign up for your FREE session, visit <https://bit.ly/2X7TKLF>



### **National Grant Opportunity - Verizon Small Business Relief Fund (LISC)**

Thanks to a \$2.5 million investment from Verizon, LISC is offering grants to help small businesses nationwide fill urgent financial gaps until they can resume normal operations or until other more permanent financing becomes available. The grants can be used for paying rent and utilities, meeting payroll, paying outstanding debt to vendors, and other immediate operational costs.

[Applications for the 1<sup>st</sup> round of grants](#) must be **completed by April 4th, 11:59 PM ET**. They will continue to accept applications for the 2nd round. *Please email [verizongrantsinfo@lisc.org](mailto:verizongrantsinfo@lisc.org) for questions and troubleshooting.*

### **Your Business Input Needed by NOON TODAY!**

Due to continued stress related to the COVID-19 outbreak, the [Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis](#) is attempting to gauge the economic effects on businesses across the Ninth District. **Please take this 5-minute survey** to help the Minneapolis Fed better understand business conditions at your firm at this critically important time. *All responses are anonymous. **Due to the urgency associated with this information, the survey will close Friday at 12 NOON*** (April 3).

In some cases, the Minneapolis Fed partnering with multiple organizations in one state to reach as many businesses as possible. If you get this survey from multiple sources, please respond to the survey only once.

### **Update from the Dept. of Labor on Work Hours for School-age Children**

The Dept. of Labor and Industry in Minnesota has clarified that [normal child labor laws](#) around hours that school-age children can work are in place. Now that distance learning is in effect for students, businesses should follow the laws as if school were in session. This limits the number of hours and the time of day that students can work who are 17 and younger.

### **Small Business Owner's Guide to the CARES Act**

The US Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship has created an 11-page document that provides answers to frequently asked questions on several topics related to small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic: Paycheck Protection Program Loans, Small Business Debt Relief Program, SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans and \$10,000 grants, Small Business Counseling and Contracting, and Small Business Tax Provisions. [Click here](#) to read the guide.

### **Advocating for Property Tax Extension for Businesses**

We know that cash flow is a challenge right now for many of our businesses in the Hibbing Area Community, and the upcoming May 15<sup>th</sup> property tax payment may be a burden on your business as you work to improve cash flow and access financing to help your business through this time. The Hibbing Area Chamber has partnered with the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and many other chambers and organizations through the state to encourage Governor Walz and the Commissioner of Revenue to issue a state-wide 60-day extension of business property tax payments. Businesses in virtually every industry, all sizes and throughout Minnesota have been negatively impacted.

We recommend action be taken by the Governor and Commissioner of Revenue so there is uniformity across the state versus a county-by-county approach. This is just one way that we are working to advocate for our business community and provide value to our members during this time. We believe that we can find solutions that help businesses in this critical time while maintaining cash flow and funding for essential county services funded by property taxes. We will continue to work with our government officials and legislators at all levels to advocate for your business during this crisis and every day.