

Industry Update

News and Information for NATA Members



May 2020

NATA working to bring you information



NATA has tried to keep up with the latest on financial assistance programs, sanitizing, social distancing and essential businesses requirements.

We recently added a [COVID-19 tab](#) to our website listing all of the updates, and we will continue to keep that as current as possible.

We also added an **online classes tab** for any laid-off employees that want to keep up with their trade.

Go to www.aboutnata.org to review the newest information.

We know these are very trying times for many of us, and there are so many questions and uncertainties. We just want you to know that NATA is here for you. Our staff is working from home but we are available. Please feel free to call or email us with your concerns or how NATA might be able to help you.

Thank you for your continued support of your association.

Stay safe and healthy, and this too shall pass!

NATA members' SAIF discount will rise to 10%

saif
Work. Life. Oregon.

Great news for NATA members: Starting July 1, you can get a 10% discount on your SAIF workers' compensation insurance through our group discount. If you're insured with another carrier, or if you're insured with SAIF but not enrolled in our group, call our office at (503) 253-9898, or [click](#)

[here](#) for more information.

SAIF on May 1 also stopped accepting applications for its coronavirus worker safety fund, which SAIF is using to distribute \$25 million to businesses to help offset their added costs for workplace safety related to the pandemic.

"While \$25 million is a lot of money, we knew it would not come close to meeting businesses' full needs," Christy Witzke of SAIF said in a statement. "In fact, we've received an enormous response, with requests totaling close to four times the amount available. These requests came from large and small SAIF policyholders all around Oregon, in a broad range of industries. We recognize our policyholders have experienced major impacts from the coronavirus that this fund cannot fully address. Nonetheless, we're pleased to be able to offer some assistance in making Oregon's workplaces safer for employees."

SAIF is continuing to review and process the applications it has received, and if your business applied, you should have received an

Upcoming Events

Looking For Online Training?
NATA has a webpage listing the options!
[Click for Details](#)

acknowledgment of your application from SAIF.

"We appreciate everyone's patience as our team examines each request," Witzke said.

Shop shifts to face shield fabrication



If you missed the news story on KOIN-TV, Central Auto Body last month converted one

of its Portland locations into a face shield production line to help supply protective equipment for medical workers and first responders.

"So what I'm trying to do is employ technicians that are pretty crafty by nature. They can assemble just about anything," owner Bret Bothwel said. "If they can fix a wrecked car they can certainly figure out how to build a mask or a shield for medical people."

[Click here](#) to read more, and [click here](#) to donate to the GoFundMe campaign Bothwel established to help fund ramping up the operation.

Help with 'social distancing' policies

What is social distancing?

Social distancing is a public health practice that aims to prevent and limit the spread of disease among people by reducing contact between individuals.

Social distancing is beneficial because it helps prevent the spread of disease by reducing contact between people. It is a key strategy for preventing the spread of disease, especially in crowded places. It is also a key strategy for preventing the spread of disease in crowded places, such as schools, workplaces, and public places.

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If you're looking for help implementing social distancing policies and practices at your business, [click here](#) for a helpful article from SAIF that also includes information on the role of the "social distancing officer."

Document your need for PPP



Our friends at Irvine & Company know that many of you received or will receive Small Business Administration "Payroll Protection Loans," and are offering the following recommendation about it:

As you have seen in recent news, PPP eligibility has been under scrutiny as funding ran short. Due to this additional scrutiny, we are suggesting you **document your need for PPP funds**, and if you have a board of directors, you document in your board minutes the Board's approval of the PPP loan.

Unfortunately, nowhere does the current guidance contain the level of detail necessary to address these issues with any degree of certainty. However, the Treasury has offered the limited additional guidance on PPP funding needs per below.

A PPP recipient has made two important certifications during the application process:

- "Current economic uncertainty makes this loan request necessary to support the ongoing operations of the Applicant."
- "The funds will be used to retain workers and maintain payroll or make mortgage interest payments, lease payments, and utility payments, as specified under the Paycheck Protection Program Rule; I understand that if the funds are knowingly used for unauthorized purposes, the federal government may hold me legally liable, such as for charges of fraud."

Further, the Treasury has provided two FAQs related to eligibility and

their future oversight.

- On April 23 and 28, the Treasury issued FAQ #31 and #37 that specifies, "Borrowers must make this certification in good faith, taking into account their current business activity and their ability to access other sources of liquidity sufficient to support their ongoing operations in a manner that is not significantly detrimental to the business. For example, it is unlikely that a public company with substantial market value and access to capital markets will be able to make the required certification in good faith, and such a company should be prepared to demonstrate to SBA, upon request, the basis for its certification."
- On April 29, the Treasury issued FAQ #39 that specifies that, "To further ensure PPP loans are limited to eligible borrowers in need, the SBA has decided, in consultation with the Department of the Treasury, that it will review all loans in excess of \$2 million, in addition to other loans as appropriate, following the lender's submission of the borrower's loan forgiveness application."

Therefore, our recommendation to all borrowers is to document your rationale for your certifications. We recommend that your documentation include an explanation of:

1. Borrowers current activity;
2. Borrowers access to other sources of liquidity to support its ongoing operations; and,
3. An evaluation of ability to access other sources of liquidity sufficient to support their ongoing operations in a manner that is not significantly detrimental to the business.

Beyond this, if you have concerns, we recommend you engage your legal counsel who can help you evaluate the legitimacy of your certifications and eligibility.

Portland events cancelled



In response to the pandemic, Portland Transmission Warehouse has chosen to cancel its annual Spring Classic Auto Exhibit & Gathering that was to be held on May 9, but is looking forward to hosting the event again next year.

Mecum Auctions also has canceled its Portland event scheduled for June.

Companies team up to offer free daily training



Carquest Technical Institute and Worldpac Training Institute have teamed up to **bring anyone in the industry free one-hour training classes being offered each weekday.**

"The goal is to keep our community working together and moving forward in a positive way during these challenging times," the companies said.

The live online classes feature technical and business management training, including courses focused on topics necessary to navigate business operations during the pandemic.

[Click here](#) for a flier about the classes, or [click here](#) to see a complete class schedule and to register.

Enjoy your retirement, Laurie!



After more than 25 years of incredible service to NATA and its members, Laurie Kolar has retired. Laurie always went out of her way to assist members, and was a great asset to NATA. She will be missed!

Congratulations and hope you enjoy your well-deserved retirement, Laurie!

Clark College hosting online session



Clark College Automotive in Vancouver is hosting an "Automotive Technology Virtual Information Session" this month to share information about its training program, paid internships, financial aid, transfer options, enrollment process and more. The session will be held at 2 p.m. on May 21. [Click here](#) for details.

Oregon agencies offer business training



Three Oregon agencies offer regular training for companies within the state.

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a class covering basic management of such waste. Registration is free but on a first-come, first-served basis. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training on such topics as hazard communications, safety meetings, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, etc. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule, call (888) 292-5247 (option 2) or send an email to ed.web@oregon.gov.

Need to reach us?

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