

## Women's Bureau

# WB Updates May 2020 | Issue III

Citizens and friends,

As the country faces these challenging times, I want to thank you for continuing to follow the Women's Bureau for important information about how the U.S. Department of Labor is working to assist working families across America. We recognize the hardship created by this pandemic and we know that women across the country are feeling the effects of COVID-19, at home and work.

The Department is helping provide critical support to working families – from clear workplace safety guidance to implementing paid family and medical leave and paid sick leave to ensure that workers who lose their jobs receive timely relief through expanded unemployment benefits. Learn more about the U.S. Department of Labor's efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic at [dol.gov/coronavirus](https://dol.gov/coronavirus).

With that said, the Women's Bureau's mission remains the same: To be a resource for working women across the country, whether they're employers, employees, "essential workers," someone that has been furloughed or laid off, or who wants to work.

Sincerely,

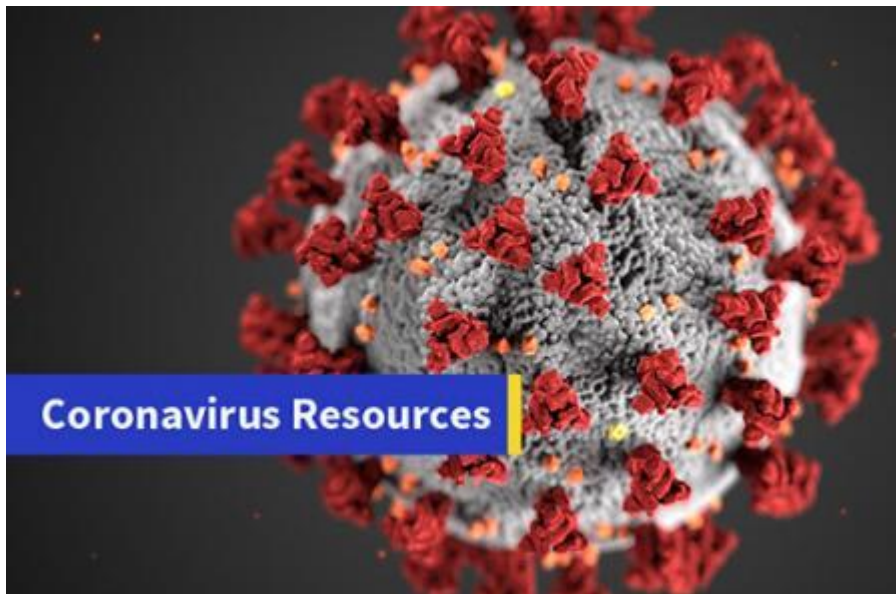
Laurie Todd-Smith, Ph.D.

Director

Women's Bureau

U.S. Department of Labor

**Department of Labor Coronavirus Resources**



The U.S. Department of Labor has resources to help workers and employers prepare for the COVID-19. [Visit the Department's resource page](#) to find information related to workplace safety, paid leave, unemployment insurance, and support for dislocated

workers, and more.

To learn more about the government's response to Coronavirus and to access other agency resources, please visit [www.usa.gov/coronavirus](http://www.usa.gov/coronavirus)

## **Coronavirus-Related Paid Family and Medical Leave and Paid Sick Leave**



On April 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of Labor announced new action regarding how American workers and employers will benefit from the protections and relief offered by the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act, both

part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA).

The Wage and Hour Division has released extensive plain-language guidance on the requirements of the law, including [answers to frequently asked questions](#), a [fact sheet for employees](#), and a [fact sheet for employers](#), available in both English and Spanish, required workplace [posters for employers](#), and an in-depth [webinar](#).

## Learn How to File for Unemployment Insurance



The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) provides additional flexibility for state unemployment insurance agencies and additional administrative funding to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Coronavirus Aid,

Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provide an extra \$600 per week for most unemployment beneficiaries and expands states' ability to provide unemployment insurance for many workers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including for workers who are not ordinarily eligible for unemployment benefits—such as self-employed, independent contractor, and gig workers. [Find more information about expanded unemployment insurance benefits and learn how to apply for unemployment insurance benefits in your states.](#)

## Child Care Resources

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families (ACF) COVID-19 resource page includes information on ACF's mission-related issues and programs affected by COVID-19. ACF will continue to provide COVID-19-related resources for programs that help the nation's children, families, and communities during this challenging time. For resources on Head Start, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Early Childhood



Development, and other child care resources in your state, visit the [ACE website](#). Visit [ChildCare.gov](#) to find child care providers and learn more about resources in your state.

## Share Your Ideas in the Opening America's Workplaces Again National Online Dialogue



The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) continues its efforts to support American workers and position the economy for a strong rebound. DOL is hosting a national online dialogue, Opening America's Workplaces Again about the challenges that may be faced as businesses reopen and how best to

help employers and workers safely reopen America's workplaces.

The public—including employers, workers, labor unions, local authorities, and advocacy groups—is invited to participate in the dialogue through May 7, 2020.

Join your fellow Americans and share your best ideas on these topics:

1. Reopening businesses;
2. Commuting safely;
3. Working safely;
4. Accommodating members of vulnerable populations;
5. Supporting America's families; and



6. Reducing regulatory burdens.

We want to hear from you. Get started at [OpeningWorkplaces.ideascale.com](https://OpeningWorkplaces.ideascale.com).

## Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grant Program



The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announced the availability of \$42.5 million in Youth Apprenticeship Readiness grants to support the enrollment of in-school or out-of-school youth apprentices (ages 16-24) into new or existing registered apprenticeship programs. ETA intends to fund approximately 15 to 25 Youth Apprenticeship

Readiness grants, with awards ranging from \$1 million to \$5 million. [Information on how eligible applicants can apply for funding is available here.](#)

## Tell Us Your Story—30 Days Until Our 100th Anniversary



In just 30 days, the Women's Bureau will celebrate our 100th anniversary. As we honor 100 years of working for working women, the "Our Purpose. Your Work." initiative presents women of all ages with the opportunity to share your work stories and talk about

how the Women's Bureau has helped advance your purpose. Throughout our centennial year

thus far, we have collected and shared stories to learn how the Women’s Bureau’s resources and initiatives have made a difference in your life, at work and at home. Don’t miss your chance to share your story; we want to hear how your life, your work, and your family have been affected.

[Tell us your story here.](#)



## Women's Bureau

An agency within the U.S.  
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