

The Economic Scene



A weekly economic development briefing from Volusia County Economic Development

Online version available at FloridaBusiness.org

COVID-19 Business Resources Center: VolusiaBusinessResources.com

[Follow us on Facebook](#) 

December 2, 2020

AWARD PROGRAMS

VMA VIRTUAL AWARDS CEREMONY LIVE ON DEC. 3

The Volusia Manufacturers Association will host its *VMA Virtual Awards Ceremony* live from noon to 1:30 p.m. Dec. 3. Hear inspiring stories about our local manufacturers. Awards will be presented for Manufacturer of the Year, COVID-19 Kindness, Best Practices, Exporter of the Year, Innovation, Green, We Make It Here, Manny (Hall of Fame), and Women in Manufacturing. [Watch the promo video and plan your watch party.](#)

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2021 FLORIDA STERLING MANUFACTURING BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

This award and process have been developed through the partnership between FloridaMakes and The Florida Sterling Council. All manufacturers with production facilities in Florida that have not won this award in 2019 or 2020 are eligible to participate. Any individual or organization – including any industry group, supplier, customer, workforce or economic development organization, or government agency – may make nominations, including self-nominations. The nomination deadline is Friday, Dec. 18. [View complete details on the nomination process.](#)

COVID-19 FUNDING PROGRAMS AND UPDATES

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR SMALL BUSINESS REOPENING GRANTS IS DEC. 11

Qualifying businesses with a physical, brick-and-mortar location in a commercial or industrial space in Volusia County may be eligible to receive a **one-time** Reopening Grant Program grant to help them recover from negative financial consequences resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The application deadline has been set for Dec. 11. Since the grant program's inception, nearly 2,700 grants have been awarded totaling \$8.14 million. [Brick-and-mortar businesses should review the grant criteria and apply online.](#) *If you have previously received funds from this grant program, a second application will be denied.*

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR HOME-BASED BUSINESS GRANTS IS DEC. 11

Qualifying home-based businesses located in Volusia County may be eligible to receive a **one-time** grant to help them recover from negative financial consequences resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and relaunch their Volusia County business. The application deadline has been set for Dec. 11. Since the grant program's inception, nearly 500 grants have been awarded totaling \$718,500. [Review the grant criteria details and apply online.](#) *If you have previously received funds from this grant program, a second application will be denied.*

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to [Heather Edwards](#).

BUSINESS NEWS

CDC DEVELOPS HOLIDAY SEASON GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYERS

As the holiday season approaches and COVID-19 cases are increasing, many employers are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 in their workplaces. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued detailed "[Holiday Celebrations and Small Gatherings](#)" guidance, which sets forth specific guidelines and recommendations to reduce the spread during the holiday season. Employers may wish to advise employees about this holiday guidance and encourage them to comply with the relevant recommendations.

DAB BUSIEST AIRPORT THREE MONTHS STRAIGHT

For the third month in a row, [Daytona Beach International Airport](#) was the busiest airport in Florida for total aircraft operations in October. Delta Air Lines and American Airlines continue to increase flights, but the high number of operations came mostly from fixed-based operators and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

VOLUSIA COUNTY COMMERCIAL RECYCLING

Did you know recycling is required if you own or operate a business or own nonresidential property in Volusia County? One of the primary goals of recycling is to reduce the amount of waste entering the landfill. A free Solid Waste Assessment can help you determine your recycle/solid waste needs. To request a free assessment, call Volusia County's Solid Waste Division at 386-943-7889. [Learn more about nonresidential recycling.](#)

WEBINARS, FORUMS AND SEMINARS

FREE SBA WEBINAR: FEDERAL CONTRACTING

The SBA North Florida District Office offers a free monthly webinar on *How to Do Business with the Federal Government*. The next webinar will take place from 10:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 15. For more information and to register, contact Carmen Gonzalez at carmen.gonzalez@sba.gov.

OPPORTUNITY ZONES WEBINAR SERIES

The White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council and HUD are [hosting a webinar series from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 3, 8 and 15 for local economic development leaders and stakeholders in communities with designated Opportunity Zones \(OZs\)](#). The series will assist participants in developing their own action plan to support short- and long-term community objectives for potential investments in OZs. National and local experts will provide illustrative examples, tips and resources focused on understanding local needs and the current environment, aligning place-based assets and resources, establishing policy tools and investments, partnering with aligned organizations, and measuring social impact.

SURVEY SAYS!

U.S. CENSUS SMALL BUSINESS PULSE SURVEY: TRACKING CHANGES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS

The Small Business Pulse Survey administered by the U.S. Census Bureau is a weekly survey that measures the effect of changing business conditions during the coronavirus pandemic on our nation's small businesses. The survey provides data on 18 major industry sectors and includes information on small business operations and finances, requests and receipt of assistance, and measures of overall well-being and expectations for recovery. Data collected from the three phases cover these periods: April to June 2020, August to October 2020, and November 2020 to January 2021. [View the topic results from each of the phases.](#)

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to [Heather Edwards](#).