

ORO VALLEY CHAMBER

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Ducey sets May 1 date for elective surgery resumption

Stay tuned for more actions

Late Wednesday afternoon, Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey issued an executive order that allows hospitals, surgical centers, dental offices and other health facilities to resume elective surgeries next Friday, May 1, if they can demonstrate actions to keep health care workers and patients safe.

Still to come – the governor's decisions on how to re-open an Arizona economy greatly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Ducey's Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected order runs through next Thursday, April 30.

"It's not lost on me it's April 22," he said Wednesday. "Next

ACT NOW, to apply for a PPP loan

On Tuesday, the U.S. Senate approved \$483 billion in pandemic aid, adding \$310 billion to a second round of Paycheck Protection Program forgivable loans.

The U.S. House is expected to pass the legislation **today**, **Thursday**. President Trump may sign it almost immediately, and the money would be released through the Small Business Administration as soon as **Friday**.

It may be gone Monday.

Act **now!** If your small business needs PPP help to get through this pandemic, you **must apply now.**

Here's a link to a PPP <u>application form</u>. Here's a link to details on <u>how the program</u> works.

Here's a link to <u>local financial institutions</u>, whether they are SBA participants, who to speak with, and whether they are taking applications from people who are not current customers." If you are applying for a PPP loan, you typically need to know these facts, and have these documents available:

- Business name, address and contact information
- Company formation documents or details of business's legal organization, structure and ownership
- 2019 tax returns, as well as previous two years if available. Speak with your accountant.
- Payroll reports. Talk to your bookkeeper.

Friday is May 1."
He sees **3 options**: Let the order **expire**, **extend** it, or **modify** it. His message Wednesday: **Stay tuned**.

Arizona hospitals asked for permission to resume elective procedures, an important source of revenue for health care businesses and institutions. Under the new order. those providers must show adequate personal protective equipment and bed capacity, ample testing capability, symptom screening processes and other requirements.

- Mortgage or rent documents. Banks and landlords are interested in seeing that you get help.
- Documentation of utility expenses. A year's worth should suffice.
- Proof your business is <u>active and in good</u> <u>standing</u>. Be sure those Arizona Corporation Commission reports are filed.
- Documentation of how the coronavirus pandemic has negatively impacted your business. A paragraph should suffice. Use numbers – "my business is down percent."
- Be sure your business credit file is up to date and accurate. You can pay for credit reports through the major credit bureaus, Dun & Bradstreet, Experian and Equifax.

At Wednesday's press conference, the governor shared slides showing the capacity of Arizona hospitals, the availability of ventilators and the capacity for both diagnostic and antibody testing at this moment in the coronavirus pandemic.

"We are making some **progress**," the governor said. "Looking back, there have been a lot of unknowns, and there are still a lot of unknowns in front of us."

While epidemiologists predict Arizona's peak in cases is ahead, there's no recognizable trend in the daily reporting of state COVID-19 cases. Since the Stay Home order, the number of daily cases has **declined**. He repeated the strong recommendations regarding face coverings, personal hygiene and behavior, and physical distancing. "You're doing a **great** job," Ducey told the public.

In January, at his State of the State luncheons in Phoenix and Tucson, the governor talked about the "**bright light**" of Arizona's economy, as bright as anywhere in America. "The pandemic has done so much ... to dim our economy. ... I have heard the calls to turn it back on, as if it was a light switch. I like to present it as a dimmer switch." His approach will be "**calm and steady**," with a sense of **urgency**.

"We will be guided by public health, first and foremost," the governor said. "Our approach going forward will be **phased**," with gradual resumption of activity to "mitigate the risk of resurgence.

"We do **not** want to lose the ground we've gained" with an immediate, full-blown reopening. "What we don't want to do is make decisions too **early**." Ducey could phase in activity county-by-county; his preference is "to do things **statewide**."

"We were the strongest state economy in the nation" before COVID-19, Ducey said. "We can be the strongest state in the nation leading out of this pandemic.

I'm asking for some **patience**, continued **cooperation** and **partnership**."

