
OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 1, 2020



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 1

Restaurants Renew Call for Help

The **National Restaurant Association, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo** and an array of other trade groups and companies are calling on Congress for aid again as efforts to pass another coronavirus relief bill drag on. "We write to encourage Congress to work with the National Restaurant Association toward providing additional, targeted relief to help an essential American industry as it struggles to deal with the ongoing COVID-19 crisis," they wrote in a letter last Friday to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, and Senators Mitch McConnell and Chuck Schumer. The National Restaurant Association previously asked for a dedicated relief fund for the hospitality industry worth \$240 billion. You can read the text of the letter [here](#) and the press release [here](#).

Outdoor Dining Opportunities

The OH&LA has been working with several cities to ask for details around the issue of expanded outdoor dining opportunities for restaurants. During this time, some of your customers may be more comfortable dining outside, so we began working with city officials on opportunities to expand on to sidewalks, parking lots and even street closures where that is allowed and feasible. So far, Oklahoma City and Norman have provided information on how you can begin the process of approval to expand your outdoor opportunities. ORA has also worked with ABLE and has been told that if you receive permission to expand outdoor seating, **ABLE will work expeditiously with you** for a change in the licensed premises to allow for alcohol to be served, as long as you are licensed.

You can view the information and application for outdoor dining in Norman [here](#) and [here](#).

For information about outdoor dining in Oklahoma City, view those regulations [here](#). ORA is continuing to work with the city of Tulsa on opportunities there and will share that information as soon as it is available.

Register: The Hotel Scoop: Oklahoma Regulations and Best Practices

As our state enters Phase 3 of the Oklahoma Bounce Back Plan, join OH&LA on **June 3 at 10:00 am** for a frequently asked questions session facilitated by OH&LA's Collin Graham, Director of Membership and Patti Colley, Chief Strategy Officer. We know the industry is on information-overload and in this session, we will share insights to help you manage all of the city, state and brand protocols. OH&LA will also share regulations and guidelines from the Department of Health and ABLE Commission, as well as best practices for banquets, pools, guest service, enhanced sanitation and more. You will also learn how your hotel can follow any brand standards and still become a "Safe Stay" lodging property. [Click here to register!](#)

Hygiene Standards and Hotel Brands

Hotel brands have responded to heightened public health concerns tied to the COVID-19 pandemic by working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), trade groups like the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), and other partners to develop new health and safety guidelines for owners and operators to implement at their properties. Lodging magazine provides a roundup of the individual initiatives and enhanced hygiene standards that hotel companies have launched in the past few weeks as they prepare to welcome back more travelers. You can read those initiatives [here](#).

HR 6995 Would Freeze Per Diem

AHLA issued this [press release](#) in support of new bipartisan legislation ([HR 6995](#)) that freezes the federal **per diem rate** at a certain level to prevent an adverse impact due to the severe drop in room revenue and occupancy resulting from the ongoing pandemic.

OH&LA STR 18 mo. Forecast Review

On an early June date to be announced, we invite you to join with other Oklahoma properties as CHIA certified facilitator and OH&LA board member, David Davis, provides a detailed virtual look behind STR Tulsa and OKC custom forecasts. These custom forecast will enable you to make informed, data-driven decisions with performance projections for 18-months with considerations of the impact of COVID-19 on travel and hotel activities, and will include:

- Hands-on forecast based on historical performance and specific market dynamics
- Projects 18 months of performance for Tulsa and OKC hotel markets
- Occupancy, ADR and RevPAR data



OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 2, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 2

Tomorrow: The Hotel Scoop: Oklahoma Regulations and Best Practices

As our state enters Phase 3 of the Oklahoma Bounce Back Plan, join OH&LA tomorrow morning on **June 3 at 10:00 am** for a frequently asked questions session facilitated by OH&LA's Collin Graham, Director of Membership and Patti Colley, Chief Strategy Officer. We know the industry is on information-overload and in this session, we will share insights to help you manage all of the city, state and brand protocols. OH&LA will also share regulations and guidelines from the Department of Health and ABLE Commission, as well as best practices for banquets, pools, guest service, enhanced sanitation and more. You will also learn how your hotel can follow any brand standards and still become a "Safe Stay" lodging property. [Click here to register!](#)

Urge Our Senators to Vote YES on the PPP Flexibility Act

The PPP Flexibility Act (H.R. 7010) is critical to enhancing the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to meet the needs of our industry. The Senate is currently considering the House passed legislation and we need your help to ensure passage in the Senate! Contact your Senators and urge them to swiftly pass the PPP Flexibility Act and maintain the key provisions in the bill. This includes:

- Allowing forgiveness for expenses beyond the eight-week period to 24 weeks
- Amending the restrictive 75/25 rule on loan proceeds to 60/40
- Expanding the loan term from 2 years to 5
- Ensuring full access to payroll tax deferral for businesses that take PPP loans
- Extending the June 30 rehiring deadline to December 31

[Click here to contact your senator today!](#)

Phase 3 Guidelines Updated

We have been working with the State Health Department and the Health Departments from Tulsa and Oklahoma City on new general guidelines for the hospitality industry for Phase 3 guidance. These guidelines will replace the guidelines posted last Friday in our update. These will also be posted on the Oklahoma Commerce Department website soon. You can view the new general guidelines [here](#). As always, if you have questions you can reach out to [Jim Hopper](#).

As has been the case in Phase 1 and Phase 2, some cities have created their own guidelines for the industry:

- Norman: (Group sizes limited to 25 people or less until June 12)
 - [Healthier at Home Initiative: Phase 3](#)
- Oklahoma City: (no specific mention of Hotel or Restaurant restrictions)
 - [Phase 3 Guidance](#)

- Tulsa: (no specific mention of Hotel or Restaurant restrictions)
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- Yukon: (no specific mention of Hotel or Restaurant restrictions)
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**Note: This is the most up-to-date information available at the time this email was sent. Some information may have changed since then, so we encourage you to check other sources as well.*

Contract Tracing

In light of increased contact tracing efforts in the state, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) released a [Contact Tracing Overview](#) document to inform the public on what to expect when contacted by a health department contact tracer. Contact tracing is a method aimed at reducing the spread of an infectious disease like COVID-19 and involves public health department employees contacting people who have tested positive for the disease. [Watch this video](#) to learn more.

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 3, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 3

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Urge Our Senators to Vote YES on the PPP Flexibility Act

The PPP Flexibility Act (H.R. 7010) is critical to enhancing the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to meet the needs of our industry. Although it will be difficult to pass the House Bill in the Senate by unanimous consent, there is still hope this may happen. If any changes are made to the bill in the Senate, it will have to return to the House to vote on those changes thus delaying the fixes to the PPP Loan needed by the industry. The Senate is currently considering the House passed legislation and we need your help to ensure passage in the Senate! Contact your Senators and urge them to swiftly pass the PPP Flexibility Act and maintain the key provisions in the bill. This includes:

- Allowing forgiveness for expenses beyond the eight-week period to 24 weeks
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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 4, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 4

Breaking News - US Senate passes changes to PPP

In case you missed our announcement this morning, we were very pleased to report that the Senate late yesterday approved H.R. 7010, the Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act. This bill will make a number of retroactive improvements to the PPP, including:

- 24-week covered period (instead of 8)
- 60/40 split (instead of 75/25)
- Loan forgiveness still possible if FTEs won't come back, or if revenue in December is below Feb 2020 levels.
- Five year (instead of 2 year) loan-repayment terms for future PPP loans
- Payroll tax deferment restored

Analysis of how the bill would change PPP for current users can be found [here](#). The bill is expected to be signed into law by the president very soon. Expect a memo outlining its retroactive application and how you can take advantage of it after consulting with Treasury regarding implementation.

Our partners at AHLA and friends at NRA were among the first ones to call for changes to the PPP after realizing it was broken for our industry. Today's action is a much needed relief for Oklahoma's lodging industry.

Session Video from OH&LA: The Hotel Scoop

We hope you joined OH&LA yesterday for our informational session presented by Patti Colley, Chief Strategy Officer and Collin Graham, Director of Membership. The session provided insights behind new guidelines and recommended practices from the State Department of Health, Municipalities and ABLE. Some of the issues examined were the responsibilities of employee PPE, sanitation, social distancing practices, and guidance for room service and self-serve. To view the video recording of today's webinar [click here](#).

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Many members have asked about Pool regulations in Phase 3 of the OURS Plan. Currently, there is no guidance offered, but the state department of health recommends following CDC Guidelines and practicing social distancing where possible.

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 5, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 5

ABLE Approves Alcohol to Go Rules

At the ABLE commission meeting today commissioners approved the emergency rules to implement the new law contained in SB 1928 which made alcohol to go permanent in the statutes. The emergency rules will go into effect as soon as approved and signed by Governor Stitt. You can view the newly adopted rules here.

Highlights of the rules are:

- Retail Beer, Retail Wine, Mixed Beverage, Caterer/Mixed Beverage, and Beer and Wine licensees allowed to sell sealed original containers of beer and wine only for curbside to go or delivered to consumers over 21
- At time of delivery a valid signature of the person at least 21 years old receiving the alcoholic beverage shall be obtained.
- Records of delivery shall be available to ABLE for a period of 12 months and must include:
 - Purchaser's name, date of birth, delivery location
 - Employee's Name, liquor license number of employee making the delivery
 - The signature receipt of the consumer receiving the alcohol
- Vehicles used for delivery shall display a sign with the name of the business and their ABLE license number (can be a magnetic sign)
- Alcohol to go can be sold anytime during the hours a licensee is authorized to sell alcohol. Such sales shall be considered completed at the time of delivery to the end consumer.
- To go alcohol may be delivered within the county where the licensed premise is located AND any immediately contiguous county
- Employee of a licensee making a delivery must carry in the vehicle an invoice or receipt with the following:
 - Name of licensee selling the alcohol
 - Name and address of the consumer purchasing the alcohol
 - Date and time the transaction occurred
 - The price charged for the alcoholic beverages
- Third party delivery of alcohol to go is not allowed

As a reminder: All sales of alcohol to go are not subject to the 13.5% gross receipts tax, only the applicable sales tax, since the alcohol is not being consumed on-premises.

As always, please contact [Jim Hopper](#) or [Collin Graham](#) if you have questions or need additional information.

President Signs PPP Fix Legislation

Earlier today, President Trump signed the Paycheck Protection Flexibility Act into law. Thank you again for all of your efforts over the past several weeks to advocate for these important changes.

While the legislation extends aspects like the 24-week period, **June 30th is the final day for those who have not previously received a PPP loan to be issued one.** If you already received the loan, you cannot be issued a second one.

We wanted to let you know about this June 30th deadline for receiving an initial PPP loan. If you want to apply you should speak with your lender right away.

Testing sites for COVID-19

Regional COVID-19 testing sites are open in multiple cities in Oklahoma as a result of a cross-county, city and state health system partnership. COVID-19 testing is open to everyone; people no longer need to exhibit symptoms to be tested for COVID-19. [Click here](#) to view the full list.

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 8, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 8

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"Safe Stay" Version 2 Program Guidelines Released

Has your property endorsed Safe Stay? Are you rolling our Safe Stay industry standards in your cleaning and guest/employee protocols? Safe Stay is a new industry-wide enhanced standard of health and safety protocols. [Safe Stay](#) is designed to prepare America's hotels to safely welcome back guests and employees as the economy reopens. OH&LA highly encourages lodging operations throughout Oklahoma to adopt these guidelines for employee and guest safety. Visit [our website](#) to learn more and download the Version 2 Guidelines. Sign-On to Safe Stay: Please support our industry by showing your hotel as [endorsing Safe Stay](#), an industry-wide initiative aimed at providing a common set of health and cleaning protocols to help hotels as they reopen.

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Highlights of the rules are:

- Retail Beer, Retail Wine, Mixed Beverage, Caterer/Mixed Beverage, and Beer and Wine licensees allowed to sell sealed original containers of beer and wine only for curbside to go or delivered to consumers over 21
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OH&LA Quarterly Member Event: 2020 STR Forecasting Luncheon on Sept 8th

At the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in OKC on September 8th, lodging and tourism professionals and industry suppliers are invited to join the OH&LA Board of Directors for an OH&LA Member Event to discuss industry issues and formulate association activities via Committee Meetings. These discussions will be followed by the STR 2020 review and 2021 Forecasting Luncheon, which will provide interesting data considering the effect COVID-19 has had on the lodging industry ever since our June STR session. These discussions are in partnership with STR and presented by Vail Ross, CMHS, Senior Vice President of Global Business Development & Marketing. The luncheon will conclude with the OH&LA Board of Directors meeting. Committee meetings begin at 10:15 pm, lunch begins at 11:45 am,

and the OH&LA Board Meeting begins at 1:30 pm. **Note: Only OH&LA members may attend committee meetings.* [Click here to learn more and register!](#)



OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 9, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 9

Thanks for Support of Oklahoma's Hospitality Industry

On behalf of Oklahoma's hospitality industry, we would like to recognize and thank Governor Kevin Stitt, Legislators, Regulatory agencies and others for their continuing leadership and guidance throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The engagement by those below has helped to move the hospitality industry forward:

- Governor Kevin Stitt for inviting many OH&LA members and leadership to be a part of the "Oklahoma Bounce Back Advisory Board", which provided insights and recommendations on best steps for hotels to begin welcoming guests back
- The Oklahoma State Health Department, Tulsa Health Department and Oklahoma City-County Health Department for working side by side with the OH&LA to develop the three-phase "OURS Plan" reopening guidelines for hotels
- The ABLE Commission for writing emergency rules that allowed mixed beverage, catering mixed beverage, beer, and wine licensees to sell unopened beer and wine through curbside and delivery and Senator Roger Thompson, Representative Kevin Wallace, and other legislators for their work in passing SB 1928 making alcohol to go a permanent part of the Oklahoma Statutes
- The American Hotel & Lodging Association for working with the OH&LA to shape conversations around nation-wide hotel industry issues, as well as offering valuable webinars and their valuable research and statistics that tell the story of the impact of the coronavirus on Oklahoma's hotel industry
- And finally, to Senator James Lankford, Congressman Kevin Hern, Senate President Pro Tempore Greg Treat, and Speaker of the House Charles McCall for engaging in discussions with OH&LA members and other operators about issues vital to the survival of the hospitality industry

FAQ's on the PPP Loan Fix Bill

As we have been reporting, Congress passed legislation with fixes to the PPP Loans. It has been signed by the President and is now law. Below is an article with good information on FAQ's. It is provided to us by Sheryl Willert, a partner in the law firm Williams Kastner. Her firm is affiliated through the USLAW Network with Pierce, Couch, Hendrickson, Baysinger,

& Green, one of the firms in our Legal Resource Center. You can read the article [here](#).

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**Note: Only OH&LA members may attend committee meetings. [Click here to learn more and register!](#)*

We Stand Together

Our industry, at its core, is about hospitably serving everyone. Unconscious bias based on race happens across all sectors, including our industry. As we listen and learn through these difficult times, we must always commit to make tomorrow better than today.



OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 10, 2020

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COVID-19 Membership Update: June 10

PPP Loan Reminder

As a reminder, if you have not already applied for a PPP loan, there is still money available in that fund. The deadline to apply for a PPP loan for those who have not already applied is June 30. We encourage you to talk to your lender soon!

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**Note: Only OH&LA members may attend committee meetings. [Click here to learn more and register!](#)*

ONE Gas: Tulsa Test Kitchen Survey

Oklahoma Natural Gas, a division of ONE Gas, is considering building a test kitchen in downtown Tulsa. This project will help Tulsa further support customers along with commercial food rebates already in place. Interested in using this space? [Click here to complete a quick survey.](#)



OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 11, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 11

FAQ's on the PPP Loan Fix Bill

Congress passed legislation with fixes to the PPP Loans. It has been signed by the President and is now law. Below is an article with good information on FAQ's. It is provided to us by Sheryl Willert, a partner in the law firm Williams Kastner. Her firm is affiliated through the USLAW Network with Pierce, Couch, Hendrickson, Baysinger, & Green, one of the firms in our Legal Resource Center. You can read the article [here](#).

Partial Loan Forgiveness

The U.S. Treasury Department and the Small Business Administration further clarified on Monday that business owners who apply **less than 60%** of the funding toward paying their staff are still eligible for partial forgiveness of the loan.

- The agencies' clarification reassures business owners and restaurant operators that they won't be on the hook for the full amount borrowed if less than 60% of the proceeds goes toward payroll.
- Tax professionals called this a "cliff," meaning that employers would have no forgiveness unless they met the spending requirements exactly.
- The deadline for applications is **June 30**.

Save the Date: ORA Expo on August 19-20

Join us for the ORA Expo! With the reopening of Oklahoma, restaurants are back in business and operators are searching for the latest and greatest to support their businesses. The ORA Expo will take place on August 19 and 20 the OK State Fair Park in Oklahoma City, and should be considered the best opportunity of the year to mingle with your peers, as well as exhibitors showing off their best in hospitality products and services.

This annual event is the largest trade show in the state and the most important event for foodservice and hospitality industry professionals, offering an amazing (and socially distanced) floorplan as well as exciting educational seminars and demonstrations! Easy access, convenient parking, and tons of ORA hospitality make this an event you don't want to miss. Save the date, or go ahead and [register today!](#)

PPP Loan Reminder

As a reminder, if you have not already applied for a PPP loan, there is still money available in that fund. The deadline to apply for a PPP loan for those who have not already applied is June 30. We encourage you to talk to your lender soon!

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you to make informed, data-driven performance projections with considerations of the impact of COVID-19 on travel and hotel activities. [Click here to register for this 10:00am session!](#) The overview will include:

- Overview
- Historical and Projected data
- Monthly Forecasts in Occupancy, ADR and RevPAR data

"Safe Stay" Version 2 Program Guidelines Released

Has your property endorsed Safe Stay? Are you rolling out Safe Stay industry standards in your cleaning and guest/employee protocols? Safe Stay is a new industry-wide enhanced standard of health and safety protocols. [Safe Stay](#) is designed to prepare America's hotels to safely welcome back guests and employees as the economy reopens. OH&LA highly encourages lodging operations throughout Oklahoma to adopt these guidelines for employee and guest safety. Visit [our website](#) to learn more and download the Version 2 Guidelines. Sign-On to Safe Stay: Please support our industry by showing your hotel as [endorsing Safe Stay](#), an industry-wide initiative aimed at providing a common set of health and cleaning protocols to help hotels as they reopen.

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 15, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 15

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Upcoming Webinar: Optimizing Guest Safety & Experiences in Arrival & Departure Post Covid-19

On June 17th at 1pm (CDT) the American Hotel and Lodging Association will host a webinar in partnership with Towne Park regarding employee and consumer expectations on safety and cleanliness. Towne Park will share a range of best practices for hotel owners including: parking, valet, bell and door services, shuttle and VIP car operations. [Click here to register!](#)

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 16, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 16

PPP Loan Forgiveness

45 Senators, including Senators Lankford and Inhofe, sent a letter to the Treasury and SBA requesting that they create a one page PPP forgiveness certification for loans less than \$250,000. This would make the forgiveness process for smaller PPP loans simpler. You can read the letter [here](#).

The ORA, in partnership with other state restaurant associations and the American Hotel & Lodging Association will be sending a similar letter. We will share more details on these efforts as they become available.

Please Sign: Commercial Real Estate Relief

We need your help! AHLA continues to request swift action by the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve to help thousands of small business hotel owners who are struggling to make debt service payments on their mortgages, including commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) debt to keep their doors open and avoid foreclosure. Reps. Taylor, Heck, Barr and Lawson are leading this Congressional effort and their letter can be found [here](#). [Please contact your Congress member](#) to join this letter now!

New PPP Guidance and Applications Released

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 17, 2020

1 message



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May 2020 Coronavirus National Survey Results

[Click here](#) to view an infographic created by the National Restaurant Association about the latest survey results.

- In May, the industry had another revenue shortfall of \$40B, which brought losses March-May to **\$120B**. The industry is likely to lose \$240B by the end of the year.
- At the height of the pandemic shutdown more than 8 million employees were furloughed or laid off. While there has been rehires across our country, it's going to be a slow recovery process.

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 18, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 18

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 19, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 19

Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program Reopened

This week, SBA has reopened its Economic Injury Disaster Loan program to all small businesses.

- The reopening comes after the SBA quietly closed the program to new applicants, except for agriculture-related companies.
- The closure, first reported by The Washington Post, sparked a backlash from business groups and lawmakers. The agency at the time had also reportedly lowered the total loan amount available to a small business from [\\$2 million to \\$150,000](#).
- In addition to traditional SBA funding programs, the [CARES Act established several new temporary programs](#) to address the COVID-19 outbreak.

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10 Exceptions for Refusing to Return to Work

Many of you have told us it is difficult to get some employees to return to work. The exceptions for not accepting a return work offer are these: Without having been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine, an individual who does **not** go to work due to general concerns about exposure to COVID-19, and who does not meet any of the other COVID-related criteria for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), is not eligible for unemployment. The CARES Act provides for PUA benefits under these 10 circumstances:

- They've been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are seeking a medical diagnosis;
- A member of the individual's household has been diagnosed with COVID-19;
- They are providing care for a family member or a member of their household who has been diagnosed with COVID-19;
- A child or other person in the household for which they have primary caregiving responsibility is unable to attend school or another facility that is closed due to COVID-19;
- They are unable to go to work because of a COVID-19 quarantine imposed;
- They are unable to go to work because they have been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to COVID-19;
- They were scheduled to commence employment and do not have a job or are unable to reach the job due to COVID-19;
- They have become the breadwinner of the household because the head of the household has died due to COVID-19;
- They have to quit their job due to COVID-19; or
- Their place of employment is closed due to COVID-19.
- If a claimant is requested to return to work and they don't meet any of the above circumstances, benefits will cease.



OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 22, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 22

Governor Announces Grant Program to Help Small Businesses

Over the weekend Governor Stitt announced a grant program to help small businesses in Oklahoma with losses they have suffered from Covid-19. Applications for the grants will be on first come first served basis and will open on Friday, June 26. Some of the highlights of the program include:

Maximum of \$25,000 per grant

Grant amount equal to two months of average total payroll. The business may choose from:

- Average of 2019 total payroll; or,
- Average of January-February 2020 total payroll
- Payroll definition is the same as the federal Paycheck Protection Program
- At least 20% of the total program funds will be designated for minority owned businesses
- This is a grant program and not a business loan.
- Must have suffered a revenue loss of 25% or more from March through May of 2020 due to reasons substantially related to COVID-19
- Operated continuously in Oklahoma on or before 1/1/2020
- Eligible business types include but are not limited to sole proprietorships, independent contractors, partnerships, corporations and nonprofit entities such as 501(C)(3) and 501(C)(6)
- As soon as the application process is released by the Commerce Department, we will share that information with you. You can read more details about this program [here](#).

Oklahoma Takes Part in Roundtable with President Trump

Governor Stitt joined with the nation's other Governors and visited President Trump at the White House on Thursday to participate in a roundtable regarding the reopening of America's small businesses. The discussion was centered specifically centered around the hospitality industry. Pete Patel, owner of Promise Hotels in Tulsa, accompanied Governor Stitt at the meeting and gave remarks about the current state of the lodging industry and the relief still needed. The roundtable concluded with the President planning to get deductions back for our industry. You can read the transcript from the roundtable [here](#).

New State Data Report

AHLA commissioned and released a new [report](#) by Oxford Economics to analyze lost state and local tax revenue from hotel operations. The study reveals a \$16.8 billion loss in 2020. Here are some of the report highlights:

- AHLA continues to request swift action by the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve to help thousands of small business hotel owners who are struggling to make debt service payments on their mortgages, including commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS)

debt to keep their doors open and avoid foreclosure. Reps. Taylor, Heck, Barr and Lawson are leading this Congressional effort and their letter can be found [here](#). Without action, this crisis will lead to widespread foreclosures.

STR Monthly Report: May 2020

COVID-19 has altered the way industries are operating around the world. STR is no exception as data is being collected through a period challenged by widespread property closures and the repurposing of hotels in the fight against the pandemic. With that in mind, we want to bring to your attention the impact on the April results. Click [here](#) to see the STR Monthly Report for May 2020.

Tripadvisor & The Return of Travel

As the travel industry embarks upon its path to recovery, join two Tripadvisor experts on June 23rd at 1pm CDT as they discuss recent consumer sentiment studies, market trends and best practices aimed at giving consumers the confidence to travel again during these unique times. [Click here to register.](#)

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 23, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 23

COVID-19 CMBS Relief

Recently, OH&LA joined efforts with AH&LA and other industry allies to encourage members of Congress to cosign the letter to Sec. Mnuchin and Fed Chairman Powell on **CMBS relief**. The final letter, cosigned by over 100 members of Congress, was sent yesterday and can be viewed here and attached. The Wall Street Journal also covered the letter (below). Congressman Van Taylor, one of the lead organizers of the letter, is developing legislation as a follow up to this letter. We will be sure to keep you posted on those efforts.

Congressmen Taylor and Barr joined recent AHLA committee calls to discuss CMBS relief efforts. Recordings of those calls are below:

- Topic: **O&M call with Congressman Taylor**
Meeting Recording: (link [here](#))
 - Access Password: 6y\$=*1wc
- Topic: **O&M call with Congressman Barr**
Meeting Recording: (link [here](#))
 - Access Password: 1E?8*9ZV

President Proclamation

President Donald Trump [signed a Presidential Proclamation](#), "Suspending Entry of Aliens who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak." This executive action extends foreign worker restrictions put in place on April 22 through the end of the year. The order impacts H-1B, H-2B, J, and L visas, equating to more than 500,000 legal guest workers (according to the White House). Certain exemptions have been allowed under the order, including for H-2B workers employed in our nation's food supply.

Unfortunately, this executive order will have a profound impact on many OH&LA members who rely on seasonal, legal guest workers to augment their domestic workforce during peak season. Now is the worst possible time to prevent hotels from operating at full capacity.

AHLA, which co-chairs the H-2B Workforce Coalition, continues to work closely with our allies on Capitol Hill and in the Administration to determine what can be done to allow seasonal workers at a time they are needed most. With no change, this Executive action could significantly delay the economic recovery in the hotel and hospitality sector.

Updated Loan Forgiveness Rules

Last night, the Small Business Administration (SBA) and U.S. Department of Treasury released updated Loan Forgiveness rules. The improvements of the PPP Flexibility Act, new details on loan forgiveness timing, and required documentation for "business activity" exemptions from loan forgiveness reduction are included below.

[New Improvements – Confirmed for PPP Recipients](#)

- Extends the PPP covered period from eight to 24 weeks, or an additional 16 weeks for current PPP recipients.
 - PPP recipients who obtained a loan before June 5, 2020 can choose to use the original eight-week period.
- To maximize forgiveness, 60% of PPP loan funds must be spent on payroll expenses (this updates the previous 75% requirement).
- For loan maturity, the minimum maturity is five years for PPP loans made on/after June 5, 2020. Lenders and borrowers can extend the maturity date of earlier PPP loans by mutual agreement.

Clarity on Timing for Loan Forgiveness Process

- A restaurant can submit its loan forgiveness application before the end of the covered period if the restaurant has used all of the loan funds for which the business is seeking loan forgiveness.
- The lender has 60 days after receiving a PPP loan forgiveness application to issue a decision on forgiveness to the SBA.
- In turn, the SBA will remit the appropriate forgiveness amount to the lender, plus any interest accrued through the date of payment, no less than 90 days after the lender issues its decision on PPP loan forgiveness to the SBA.
- The lender must inform the borrower of the loan forgiveness amount and the date on which the borrower's first payment is due, if applicable.
- Documentation Required to Obtain an Exemption from Loan

Forgiveness Reductions Regarding FTE Rehiring

- PPP recipients must certify in documentation that their reduction in business activity during the PPP covered period is due to compliance with COVID Requirements or Guidance
 - If PPP recipient maintains this documentation, they are exempt from any reduction in loan forgiveness due to a reduction in FTE employees during the covered period.
- Documentation must include copies of applicable COVID
- Requirements or Guidance for each business location and relevant borrower financial records.
- SBA and Treasury believe this includes “both direct and indirect compliance with COVID
- Requirements or Guidance,” because much of the reduction in business activity due to COVID
- Requirements or Guidance is the result of state/local government closure orders that are based in part on guidance from the three federal agencies.

SBA Example: A PPP borrower is in the business of selling beauty products both online and at its physical store. During the covered period, the local government where the borrower's store is located orders all non-essential businesses, including the borrower's business, to shut down their stores, based in part on COVID-19 guidance issued by the CDC in March

2020. **Because the borrower's business activity during the covered period was reduced compared to its activity before February 15, 2020 due to compliance with COVID Requirements or Guidance, the borrower satisfies the Flexibility Act's exemption and will not have its forgiveness amount reduced because of a reduction in FTEs during the covered period, if the borrower maintains records regarding the reduction in business activity and the local government's shutdown orders that reference a COVID-19 Requirement or Guidance as described above.*

Enhanced Transparency.

As of June 19, SBA and Treasury [plan to publicly share](#) PPP recipient business names, addresses, NAICS codes, zip codes, business type, demographic data, non-profit information, jobs supported and PPP loan amount ranges as follows:

- \$150,000-350,000
- \$350,000-1 million
- \$1-2 million
- \$2-5 million
- \$5-10 million

Your Employee Tests Positive... What Should You Do?

Even if a business follows all of the state and federal COVID-19 protocols, it is very likely that someone who comes into that business will later be diagnosed with COVID-19. Restaurants and hotels are no exception, which is why the industry continues to follow strict sanitation, social distancing and health screening protocols. Oklahoma has not issued requirements or recommendations to businesses who learn that an employee came into the business before being diagnosed with COVID-19. However, employees with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 cannot work until the quarantine period has passed. However, the CDC has issued guidance on this question, and so the Oklahoma Hotel and Lodging Association recommends [following these CDC guidelines](#) at least until the state issues additional guidance.

Suggestions for When an Employee Tests Positive:

- Notify the other employees on staff about the positive test so they can self monitor for any symptoms from the exposure, and/or notify the local Health Department of the positive test to allow the Health Department to begin contact tracing while maintaining confidentiality according to the ADA.
- Once an employee knows they have had direct contact and notifies the employer, inform them they should quarantine for 14 days OR get tested and follow the recommendations from the health care provider.
- Once an employee has been identified for testing or has been tested it is suggested to follow the Health Care Providers guidance for that individual as they may be different for each case.
- Recommend continued proper sanitization of that portion of the restaurant used by the employee who tested positive.

- Advise those who have had close contact with the employee testing positive to self monitor for symptoms and follow **CDC guidance** if symptoms develop and follow the State Health Department Guidelines found [here](#).

Oklahoma Business Relief Program

Starting **June 26**, Oklahoma businesses can apply for \$25,000 grants from the Oklahoma Business Relief Program. Approved applications will be submitted to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and funds will be provided to the business through the financial institution. During the first phase of applications, at least 20% of the program funds will be designated for minority-owned businesses. Learn more [here](#).

Register for June 24th - OH&LA STR 18 mo. Forecast Review

Please join with OH&LA and other Oklahoma properties as fellow hotelier, OH&LA board member and CHIA certified facilitator David Davis, provides a detailed virtual look at STR custom reports containing data on what Tulsa and OKC can expect in the next 18-months. These forecasts will enable you to make informed, data-driven performance projections with considerations of the impact of COVID-19 on travel and hotel activities.

[Click here to register for this 10:00am session!](#) The overview will include:

- Overview
- Historical and Projected data
- Monthly Forecasts in Occupancy, ADR and RevPAR data

OH&LA Quarterly Member Event: 2020 STR Forecasting Luncheon on Sept 8th

At the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in OKC on September 8th, lodging and tourism professionals and industry suppliers are invited to join the OH&LA Board of Directors for an OH&LA Member Event to discuss industry issues and formulate association activities via Committee Meetings. These discussions will be followed by the STR 2020 review and 2021 Forecasting Luncheon, which will provide interesting data considering the effect COVID-19 has had on the lodging industry ever since our June STR session. These discussions are in partnership with STR and presented by Vail Ross, CMHS, Senior Vice President of Global Business Development & Marketing. The luncheon will conclude with the OH&LA Board of Directors meeting. Committee meetings begin at 10:15 pm, lunch begins at 11:45 am, and the OH&LA Board Meeting begins at 1:30 pm. Thank you to Skirvin Hilton Hotel and Riverwind Hotel and Casino for supporting the event.

**Note: Only OH&LA members may attend committee meetings.* [Click here to learn more and register!](#)

OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 24, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 24

Video from OH&LA STR 18 mo. Forecast Review

Earlier today, OH&LA members and industry associates took part in a session presented by CHIA certified facilitator David Davis. The session provided an overview of OKC and Tulsa STR forecasting data for the next 18 mos. considering the impact of COVID-19. The session included an overview of the historic impact, recession cycles, the most immediate impact, and a look at the next 18 months. The synthesis of the data is based on the strict impact of the early days of the pandemic and before this recent surge. A big thank you to David Davis of New Century Hotels for presenting this session. [Click here to access the video.](#)

Additionally, as sources of funding are currently limited, and Oklahoma banking institutions may not completely understand the impact on the lodging industry, please feel free to **share this presentation** with your banking institution if you believe it supports your needs and helps in discussions with them.

Survey: Travel Industry Recovery

A new survey conducted by Morning Consult commissioned by AHLA found that while Americans remain hesitant about traveling, they overwhelmingly support efforts by Congress to help the travel industry recover including helping hotels keep their doors open and bring back employees, as well as incentivizing Americans to travel again. Only 18% have traveled since March; Majority don't have travel plans in 2020. By a 3-1 margin, Americans support a temporary Travel Tax Credit to encourage domestic travel. [Click here to view the full survey.](#)

Let's Do Our Part

In response to the updated public health advisory from the Oklahoma Department of Health, we have provided updated guidance for industry members. As case numbers continue to rise, it is essential that we do all that we can to keep our employees and guests safe.

Additionally, we want to strongly caution everyone to abide by statewide orders and local regulations. While many are following the rules, we know that some are not. At a press conference yesterday, David Holt encouraged that masks be worn when out in public.

We are committed to keeping you informed and helping you navigate this difficult time. If you have any questions, need clarification or seek additional resources, please do not hesitate to [reach out.](#)

Reminder: Report Employees Who Test Positive

Please remember a restaurant has the responsibility to report to their Local Health Department when they have an employee who has tested positive for COVID-19. COVID-19 is a communicable disease and **must be reported** according to Health Department guidelines. No business is allowed to let an employee continue to work who has tested positive, or has COVID-19 symptoms. Failure to do so could put your hotel **at risk of**

closure as well as put the larger lodging and restaurant industry at risk of government mandates that are not in existence right now.

Streatory Applications

The City of Oklahoma City has created a streamlined process for bars and restaurants to obtain the necessary permit for a “streatory”, as demand increases for temporary outdoor seating. A streatory (street + eatery) uses on-street parking spaces adjacent to a business to allow for outdoor seating where sidewalk or patio space is not available or not practical. The City will review applications for a revocable permit issued by the Public Works Director. Creating well-defined criteria for use in an existing administrative process makes it easier for businesses to quickly adapt to increasing demand for outdoor, socially distant seating space. Find the full guidelines and requirements [here](#), and a link to the revocable permit application [here](#).

State of Oklahoma to provide Oklahoma Business Relief Program

The Oklahoma Department of Commerce is allocating \$50 million from the Federal CARES Act to provide Oklahoma businesses much needed financial assistance. The application period begins on Monday, June 29 and goes through July 10. This is a first-come, first served basis and funds will be provided to the business through financial institutions who choose to participate; At least 20% of the program funds will be designated for minority owned businesses. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce has released additional details on this program. The details can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 CMBS Relief

Recently, OH&LA joined efforts with AH&LA and other industry allies to encourage members of Congress to cosign the letter to Sec. Mnuchin and Fed Chairman Powell on **CMBS relief**. The final letter, cosigned by over 100 members of Congress, was sent yesterday and can be viewed here and attached. The Wall Street Journal also covered the letter (below). Congressman Van Taylor, one of the lead organizers of the letter, is developing legislation as a follow up to this letter. We will be sure to keep you posted on those efforts.

Congressmen Taylor and Barr joined recent AHLA committee calls to discuss CMBS relief efforts. Recordings of those calls are below:

- Topic: **O&M call with Congressman Taylor**
Meeting Recording: (link [here](#))
 - Access Password: 6y\$=*1wc

- Topic: **O&M call with Congressman Barr**
Meeting Recording: (link [here](#))
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President Proclamation

President Donald Trump [signed a Presidential Proclamation](#), "Suspending Entry of Aliens who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the

Coronavirus Outbreak." This executive action extends foreign worker restrictions put in place on April 22 through the end of the year. The order impacts H-1B, H-2B, J, and L visas, equating to more than 500,000 legal guest workers (according to the White House). Certain exemptions have been allowed under the order, including for H-2B workers employed in our nation's food supply.

Unfortunately, this executive order will have a profound impact on many OH&LA members who rely on seasonal, legal guest workers to augment their domestic workforce during peak season. Now is the worst possible time to prevent hotels from operating at full capacity.

AHLA, which co-chairs the H-2B Workforce Coalition, continues to work closely with our allies on Capitol Hill and in the Administration to determine what can be done to allow seasonal workers at a time they are needed most. With no change, this Executive action could significantly delay the economic recovery in the hotel and hospitality sector.

Updated Loan Forgiveness Rules

Recently, the Small Business Administration (SBA) and U.S. Department of Treasury released updated Loan Forgiveness rules. The improvements of the PPP Flexibility Act, new details on loan forgiveness timing, and required documentation for "business activity" exemptions from loan forgiveness reduction are included below.

New Improvements – Confirmed for PPP Recipients

- Extends the PPP covered period from eight to 24 weeks, or an additional 16 weeks for current PPP recipients.
 - PPP recipients who obtained a loan before June 5, 2020 can choose to use the original eight-week period.
- To maximize forgiveness, 60% of PPP loan funds must be spent on payroll expenses (this updates the previous 75% requirement).
- For loan maturity, the minimum maturity is five years for PPP loans made on/after June 5, 2020. Lenders and borrowers can extend the maturity date of earlier PPP loans by mutual agreement.

Clarity on Timing for Loan Forgiveness Process

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 25, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 25

Corrected Reminder: Employees Who Test Positive

We would like to correct yesterday's announcement regarding your responsibility for reporting when an employee tests positive for COVID-19. We apologize for any confusion. Please remember that once an employee's COVID-19 test results are confirmed, a health department liaison will follow up with the employer to advise them of the positive test result and next steps the employer needs to take next. No business may allow an employee to continue to work who has tested positive, or has COVID-19 symptoms. Failure to do so could put your restaurant at risk of closure as well as put the larger restaurant industry at risk of government mandates that are not currently in existence.

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provided an overview of OKC and Tulsa STR forecasting data for the next 18 mos. considering the impact of COVID-19. The session included an overview of the historic impact, recession cycles, the most immediate impact, and a look at the next 18 months. The synthesis of the data is based on the strict impact of the early days of the pandemic and before this recent surge. A big thank you to David Davis of New Century Hotels for presenting this session. [Click here to access the video.](#)

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 29, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 29

Outdoor Dining Programs: Tulsa & OKC

The Tulsa City Council recently approved the parklet program and it was officially signed into law and instituted. Information about the program and sidewalk cafes can be found [here](#). On the website you'll find information, manuals, and applications for the sidewalk café and parklets programs and a flow chart to help determine which program(s) is right for your business. It is important to note that fees have been waived for both programs. Sidewalk cafes are allowed through June 30, 2021 and Parklets are allowed through March 31, 2021 to align with each program renewal date.

The City of Oklahoma City also created a streamlined process for bars and restaurants to obtain the necessary permit for a streatory (or parklet program). The City will review applications for a revocable permit issued by the Public Works Director. Creating well-defined criteria for use in an existing administrative process makes it easier for businesses to quickly adapt to increasing demand for outdoor, socially distant seating space. Find the full guidelines and requirements [here](#), and a link to the revocable permit application [here](#).

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OH&LA Hotel Industry Recovery: June 30, 2020

1 message



COVID-19 Membership Update: June 30

Oklahoma COVID-19 Testing Sites

Several of our members have requested a list of COVID-19 testing sites available in the state. We put together a list of both rapid testing sites which only take 15 minutes to receive results, as well as free testing sites that typically take around 48-72 hours to learn your results. They are listed below:

- [Rapid Results Testing Sites](#)
- [Free Testing Sites](#)

"Safe Stay" Program Guidelines

Has your property endorsed Safe Stay? Are you rolling out Safe Stay industry standards in your cleaning and guest/employee protocols? Safe Stay is an industry-wide enhanced standard of health and safety protocols. [Safe Stay](#) is designed to prepare America's hotels to safely welcome back guests and employees as the economy reopens. OH&LA highly encourages lodging operations throughout Oklahoma to adopt these guidelines for employee and guest safety. Visit [our website](#) to learn more and download the Version 2 Guidelines. Sign-On to Safe Stay: Please support our industry by showing your hotel as [endorsing Safe Stay](#), an industry-wide initiative aimed at providing a common set of health and cleaning protocols to help hotels.

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