

# Federal Tax Deadline Extended to July 15<sup>th</sup> and Other Updates

By Scott Kaup

Information is coming at the speed of light, but we wanted to give you the latest information as of today. I just got off the phone with a representative from Senator Deb Fischer's office who called to see what we felt was needed. I mentioned that in addition to providing SBA forgivable loans to businesses who continue to pay their employees, that a tax credit would accomplish the same thing for employers and save them and the banks from a crush of SBA loans. He also expressed their dissatisfaction that the senate bill proposed yesterday did not pass. It is hopeful that something will be completed this week and when it does, we will forward you more specific information.

## IRS and State of Nebraska Extend Tax Filing Deadline to July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The IRS and State of NE have extended the filing deadline from April 15<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>. This means that you have until July 15<sup>th</sup> to file AND pay your 2019 federal income tax liability. They have also extended the deadline to make your April 15<sup>th</sup> quarterly estimated payments to June 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Financial Assistance for Individuals

As of this writing, the senate is in negotiations on a bill that *could* provide cash payments to individuals. The most recent proposal *could* provide up to \$1,200 per adult and up to \$500 per child. There is likely to be an income threshold. Of course, this is a fluid situation with legislators still actively negotiating the finer points of the bill. We will update as soon as final information comes out.

## Unemployment Insurance

If you have lost your job, you need to apply online for unemployment insurance now. On Tuesday, Governor Ricketts announced that from March 22 through May 2, NDOL would be waiving the requirement to search for work, as well as the requirement to serve an unpaid waiting week once eligibility is determined. Currently you cannot be paid any benefit for lost wages before the date you apply. You will need to create an account here: <https://networks.nebraska.gov/vosnet/loginintro.aspx>

If an employer is laying off a large number of workers, they may file a claim in NEworks on behalf of these workers. Instructions are found on the NDOL website at: <https://dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits>

## Financial Assistance for Small Businesses

### SBA Loans

There is currently talk of direct assistance to both affected business and possibly all businesses with under 500 employees. Our government leaders understand the importance of providing assistance for our small businesses to be able to continue paying employees and provide cash flow assistance. It appears likely that there will be SBA loans that would be forgiven if used for payroll and other overhead expense. Hopefully we will have specifics this week.

### Short-Time Compensation

In addition to regular unemployment insurance benefits, employers also have the option of utilizing Short-Time Compensation (STC). The Short-Time Compensation program helps prevent layoffs by allowing employers to uniformly reduce affected employees' hours by 10 to 60 percent while permitting the employees to receive a prorated unemployment benefit. You will need to click on "Apply Online" and register/create an account here: <https://dol.nebraska.gov/STC> Employer instructions: <https://nvcn-cio.webex.com/recording-service/sites/nvcn-cio/recording/721783972873464c9d5643edb3891795>

## **Kaup's Financial Operations Update**

We will continue to maintain our operations as normally as possible. You can drop off information either inside our front door or in the secure drop box behind our office. We are still preparing tax returns with a staff that has been limited in the past few weeks. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work to provide the best assistance to all our clients and other businesses that may need professional advice.

With the extension of the tax filing deadline to July 15<sup>th</sup> we have committed some of our time and resources to help businesses understand and take advantage of any available resources to continue paying their employees and other expenses. We are committed to keeping you up to date and providing information and assistance on available programs as they are approved and guidelines issued. This includes helping navigate the process to apply for the Nebraska Short-Time Compensation program and any assistance from the federal government including SBA loans.

## **Donate Blood**

As you may have heard there is a critical need for blood donations due to cancellations of blood drives and a loss of people going to blood donation centers. This would be a great time to start donating if you have not before. Anyone age 16 to 18 can donate with their parents' permission.

### **Atkinson**

There is a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Community Center on April 1<sup>st</sup> from 11 to 5. They have requested Red Cross to expand the hours of the drive in anticipation of more people. Please call Agnes Carey at 925-2329 or Belinda Asher at 340-1652 to make an appointment. Belinda also has the parent's permission form if needed.

### **O'Neill**

There is an O'Neill Community blood drive on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 6. Please call 800-287-4903 to schedule an appointment. (Someone told me this had been cancelled but as of the writing of this email the reservation center said it was still planned.)

If you or anyone you know have any questions or concerns, PLEASE CALL. Feel Free to pass this email on to any other individual or business who may not be one of our clients. To be added to our email list click this link: [https://www.kaupfinancial.com/contact\\_us/](https://www.kaupfinancial.com/contact_us/)

In addition to what we all have been told about hand washing and social distancing, make sure you also:

- Make a call to your older family member, friends and neighbors who are more isolated due to the higher risk
- Wash your face
- Clean your phone
- Eat healthy
- Get plenty of sleep
- Exercise
- Support businesses any way you can – Buy gift certificates
- Take your shoes off when you return home
- Remain Calm – This will pass

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