# Small Business Resiliency Guide Keeping the Lights On





## What is Grow with Google?

The Grow with Google initiative offers free tools, training, and events that help people across the United States grow their skills, careers, and businesses.

Visit google.com/grow to learn more.



## Who is America's SBDC?



America's SBDC represents America's nationwide network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs)—the most comprehensive small business assistance network in the United States and its territories.

SBDCs are hosted by leading universities, colleges, state economic development agencies and private partners, and funded in part by the United States Congress through a partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

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### What is covered?

#### America's SBDC will share ways to:

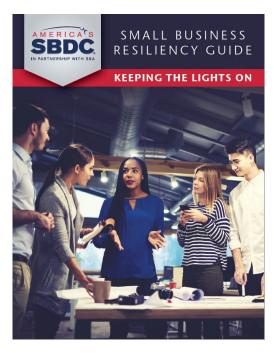
- Keep your business running and limit the financial impact on your business
- Develop a response plan
- Manage cash flow
- Receive further assistance from your local SBDC

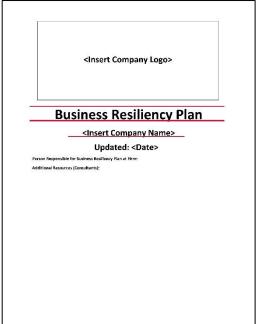
#### Grow with Google will help you:

- Discover Google tools that can help you work and manage your business during this time of uncertainty
- Get insights on more online and timely resources for small businesses



## Follow-up Resources







Resiliency Workbook

Fillable Resiliency
Plan Template

Webinar Slide deck



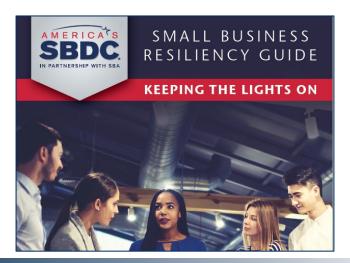
## What is Resiliency

The creation and execution of a proactive plan to help mitigate loss of cash flow during a business interruption, such as the Coronavirus, enabling the business to continue.

#### Examples

A retail store adjusts its marketing to increase online sales due to

social distancing





## **Examples of Interruption**

- Key Employees are unable to work
- Decreased foot traffic

- Supply Chain Interruption
- Event Closures





## **Identify Critical Functions**

#### What keeps business going?

- Selling products
- Manufacturing products
- Accepting payments
- Managing Cashflow





## **Supporting Resources**

#### **Key Employees**

Receptionists, accountants, special licenses (CDL)

#### Critical Equipment

• Laths, stoves, computers

#### **Utilities**

• Electricity, gas, water, sewer,

#### Example:

A company's Point of Sales (PoS) system needs reset, however the trained employee is sick and unable to work.





## **Alternative Resources**

#### Sick Employees

- Cross train employees
- Have anyone available telecommute
- Partner with other businesses
- Hire online support



#### Continuation of example:

Several workers are cross trained to reset the PoS system before the primary employee was sick. Enabling the business to continue sales and keep the lights on.



## **Identify Supplier Risk**

What affects your business affects your suppliers

**Get Creative!** 

#### Find alternative sourcing

- Purchase supplies from competitors
- Look elsewhere in your community
- Places outside of your region





## Managing Cashflow

Where the SBDC can help you most!

- Items to consider
  - Time is Critical!
  - Ask for a deferment from your bank and landlords
  - Communicate with your supplier for terms
  - Lower your inventory cycle
  - Decrease your accounts receivables
  - Find alternative markets
- Communicate with everyone!





## Three updates you can make now:

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Google My Business



Your Website



Google Ads

## Update Critical Business Information Online





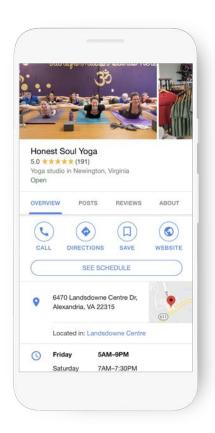


## Google My Business



#### IMPORTANT UPDATES YOU CAN MAKE

- Edit business description
- Update hours and special hours
- Mark business temporarily closed
- Publish posts
- Turn on messaging
- Add managers to help

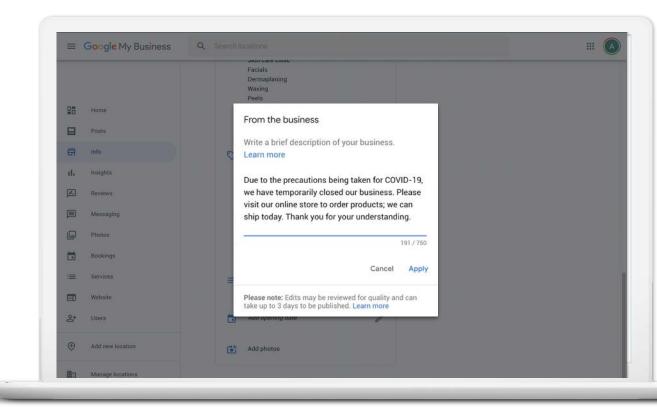


#### **Quick Tip:**

Create a new business profile if you don't already have one. google.com/business

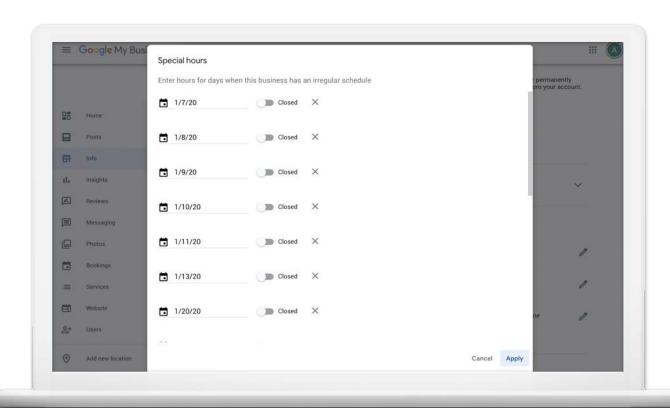
#### **EDIT BUSINESS DESCRIPTION**

Update business description to reflect important changes.

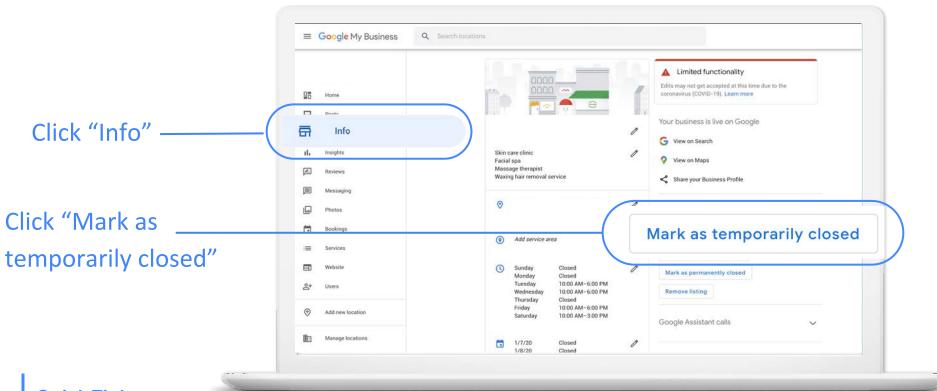


#### **UPDATE SPECIAL BUSINESS HOURS**

Update special hours, if applicable.



#### MARK YOUR BUSINESS TEMPORARILY CLOSED

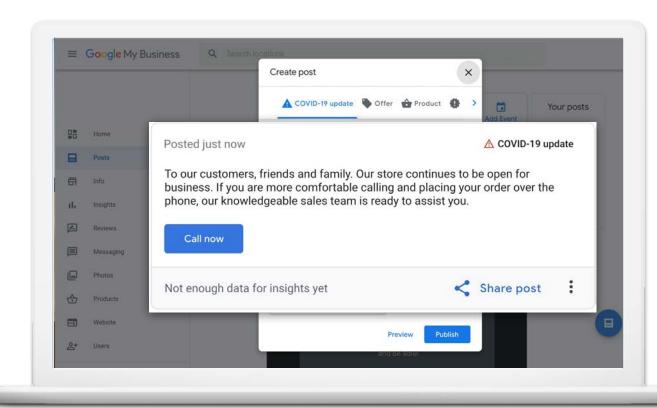


#### Quick Tip!

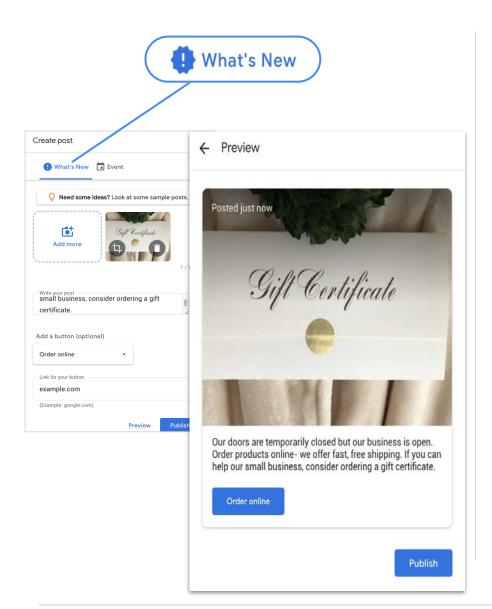
Mark a location temporarily closed q.co/markbusinessclosed

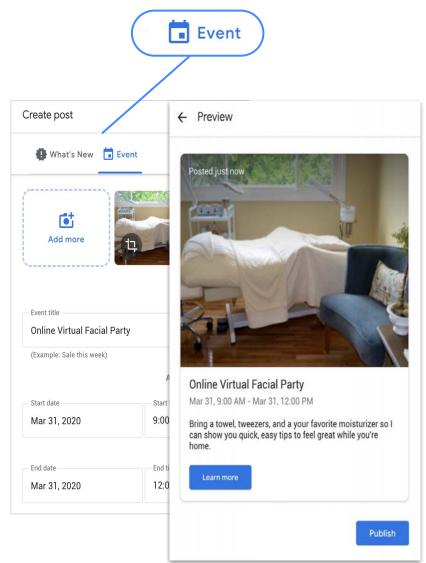
#### **PUBLISH POSTS**

Use posts to highlight business updates.



#### **POST EXAMPLES**



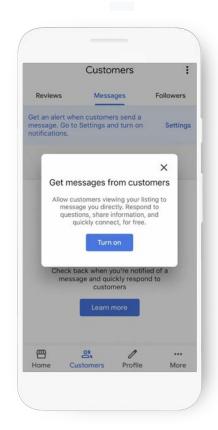


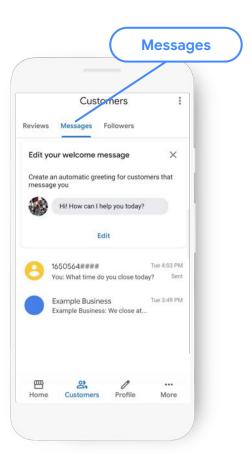
#### **USE MESSAGING TO COMMUNICATE**

Set up messaging in the Google My Business app to message with customers.



Download **Google My Business** App for Android or iOS



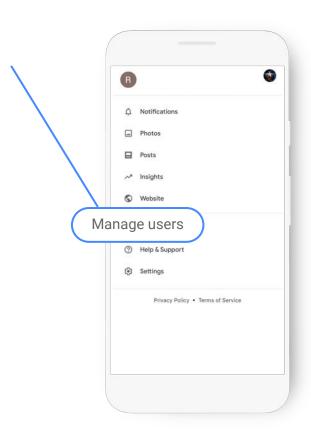


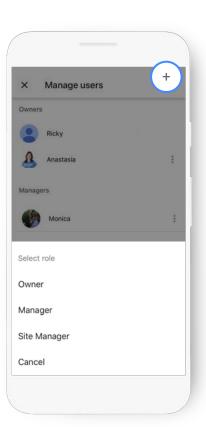
#### **ADD MANAGERS TO HELP**

First, click "Manage Users."

Next, click the "+" icon in the top right of the app.

Enter their email address and select their role.





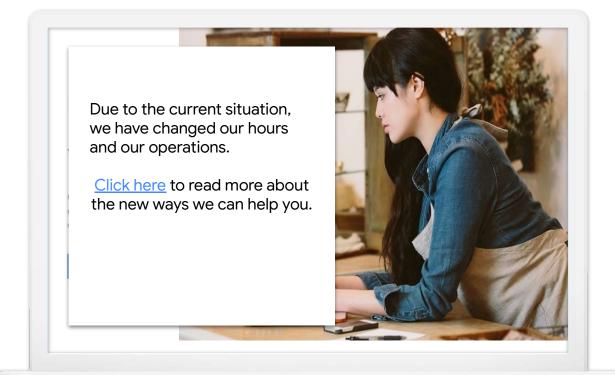


## Website



#### UPDATE YOUR WEBSITE WITH CRITICAL INFORMATION

- Share announcements
- Add news & resources
- List any changes in operations
- Provide contact information
- Assure customers

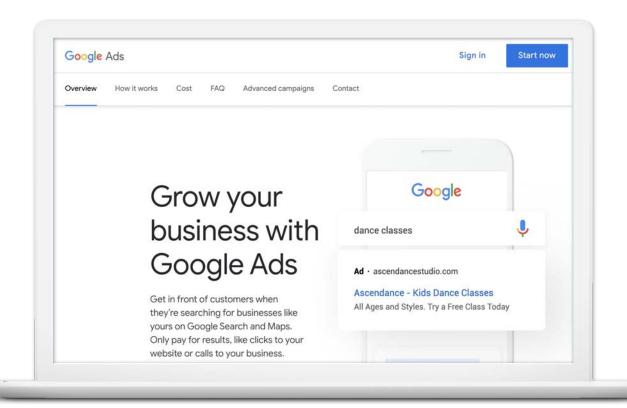


## Google Ads



#### **UPDATE YOUR GOOGLE ADS**

Modify or pause advertising, if necessary.

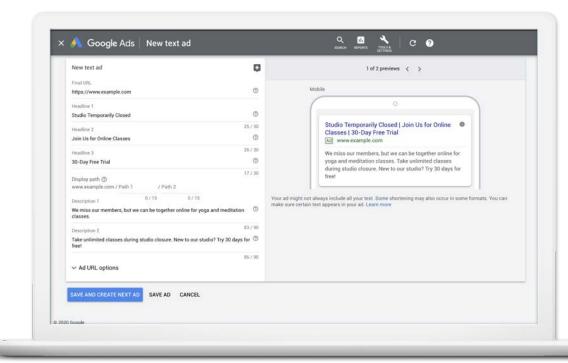


#### Quick Tip!

Google Ads Credits Info <a href="mailto:q.co/covid19/adcredits">q.co/covid19/adcredits</a>

#### AS YOU EVALUATE AD CAMPAIGNS

- Review assets thoroughly
- Proactively communicate business changes
- Create a helpful message
- Consider context and tone

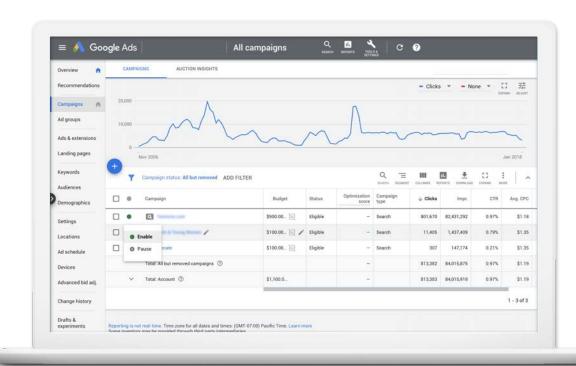


#### **Quick Tip:**

Updating your ad campaign <a href="mailto:q.co/covid19/smb-ads">q.co/covid19/smb-ads</a>

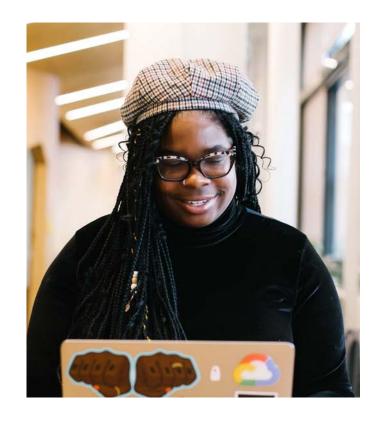
#### **HOW TO PAUSE GOOGLE ADS**

- Pausing a campaign stops ads from showing
- Choose which campaigns to pause
- Click pause
- Re-enable or edit paused ads at anytime



#### YOUR NEXT STEPS

- Update Google My Business information
- Mark your business temporarily closed if applicable
- ☐ Update your Website
- ☐ Modify or pause ads



## **Initial Response**

#### Have a plan!

- Assign out tasks
- Focus your efforts

#### Communicate

- Talk to employees
- Reach out to the community
- Talk to your bank

Be Flexible! Plans will change!





### Recover

As the situation normalizes, so should your business

- Leverage new partnerships and lessons learned
- Capitalize on the expansion of your employee's skills



## Additional Help is Available

#### **Looking for additional COVID-19 Resources?**

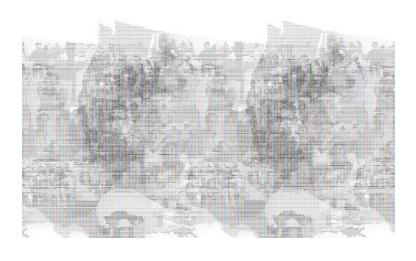


- -CARES Act Information (Including SBA: EIDL, PPP Loans, etc.)
- -SBDC Free Webinars
- -SBDC Free Resources (Fact-sheets, worksheets, calculators, etc.)
- -COVID-19/Small Biz Study Results
- -National Events & Resources

AmericasSBDC.org/coronavirus-information



## Contact your SBDC today!



There are <u>nearly 1,000 local centers</u> available to provide no-cost, one-on-one business consulting and low-cost training to new and existing businesses. Small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs can contact their local SBDCs for business consulting and training on a variety of topics.

Learn more about how SBDCs are helping local businesses start, grow and thrive.

http://iowawesternsbdc.com

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