

MONTANA CORONAVIRUS RELIEF GRANTS

Governor Steve Bullock announced yesterday that families, small businesses, non-profits, health services centers and individuals across Montana hardest-hit by impacts of COVID-19 will be eligible to apply for grants through nine new programs created in response to the emergency. [SEE THE ANNOUNCEMENT](#)

Beginning Thursday, May 7, Montanans out of work, families with limited resources, small businesses, non-profits and others can apply for financial relief for things like rental and mortgage assistance, business and non-profit grants, grants to serve seniors and those living with a disability, food banks and local food producers.

MOGA has researched these Grant opportunities and we have lined up personalized service should you need it. We have outlined the program and boiled it down to only the information you need. Look at the [MONTANA CORONAVIRUS RELIEF GRANTS](#) outline we have made up for you. Here is the [GRANT APPLICATION](#).

As a business and individual **you need to move quickly** on these grant applications and to assist you in doing that we have retained a subject matter expert as a service to you regardless of your membership affiliation.

FOR ASSISTANCE CONTACT

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INDUSTRY WARNING !!!!
Be Aware of Sub-Standard Waiver and

Release Documents

Outfitters using sub-standard waiver and release documents offered by FOAM are doing so at grave risk to themselves and the industry at large. The current one-page FOAM promoted ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK & ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY FORM being advocated is technically flawed, and lacks the required disclosures mandated by law upon the passing of the Montana Protection Provider Protection Act. The law specifically required language, which is missing from this template. The lack of compliance with existing law will result in the court dismissing it as an exculpatory, pre-activity agreement and excluding it from evidence in protection of the service provider. Simply put, **using this incomplete document leaves the Outfitter completely unprotected and when challenged in court will undermine the value of carefully crafted legal instruments that do afford the protections you seek.**

The Montana Recreation Providers Protection Act (MTRPPA) was passed by the Montana Legislature and signed by the Governor because of the significant time and money invested by MOGA. It solved a serious issue in Montana in that, prior to the passing of the law, Montana was only one of three states not allowing the use of a pre-activity release and waiver style document. The consequences were ever increasing insurance premiums for the industry and significant liability for the recreation service provider. Passage of MTRPPA resolved all previous flaws in provider protection laws and has created a sound basis for business protections. The use of sub-standard forms is done at the Outfitters own peril and undermines earlier efforts.

If you want assistance in crafting a legal Assumption of Risk and Liability Waiver, one that meets the requirements of the law and industry standards, please feel free to contact the MOGA office.

COVID-19 business impact survey

***** Please respond within 48 hours *****

Many of you responded to our two previous surveys about the impacts Coronavirus (COVID-19) was having on your business. For the first survey, 397 of you responded, then 909 for the next survey. We thank you for your help and now ask of your time once more. The more respondents we get, the better our data will be for you and other decision makers.

Please note, this survey is only open for 48 hours.

Follow this link to the Survey:

[Take the Survey](#)

Whether you answered either of the two previous surveys or not, please take a few minutes to complete this survey which goes into more depth about how you have been impacted and responded to COVID-19 in Montana. A high response rate this time can provide greater detail to specific tourism business types in the analysis. The more we understand your impacts and resulting actions, the more solutions and help can be provided based on this data.

This is a very short survey! It might take you 5 minutes to complete.

Your answers to this survey are confidential, and all results will be presented in the aggregate. As with the first two surveys, the results will be provided to Governor Bullock's Coronavirus Task Force, Montana's US Senators, and sent to you and others via a link to our publications on the ITRR website at www.itrr.umt.edu. Thank you for your time. If you have any questions concerning this project, please call my office at 406-243-2328.

Norma Nickerson, Director

Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research, University of Montana

