



ABILENE CHAMBER

DAILY BUSINESS BRIEF

Skimming the daily updates for your business so you don't have to.

SENATE COVID PACKAGE STALLS

The \$650 billion Senate Republican targeted Coronavirus relief package that included additional funds for agricultural producers failed Thursday to reach the necessary 60-vote threshold for passage. Senate Republican leadership proposed a smaller package in an effort to unify Republican members.

The bill included \$300 in weekly federal unemployment insurance through Dec. 27; established Coronavirus liability protections for businesses, schools, universities, hospitals, local governments, etc.; provided \$29 billion for health care; and \$105 billion for schools and universities.

USDA would have received an additional \$20 billion for farm assistance. It continued the approach used under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act which gives USDA the authority to determine how the funds would be used to provide assistance to producers.

[Read more.](#)

UNIVERSITIES REPORT BETTER THAN EXPECTED FALL ENROLLMENT

Abilene Christian University reports a total of 5,293 students enrolled for the Fall 2020 school year, the most they've had for the third straight year. President Phil Schubert said in a statement that predictions suggested 15% to 20% of college-bound students might not enroll this fall because of the ongoing pandemic, and Schubert said administrators were especially pleased to see enrollment climb.

Other local schools are seeing varied results this school year. Hardin Simmons saw increased enrollment in certain new programs offered this Fall, but a nine percent decrease overall. McMurry University reports a seven percent decrease in student enrollment compared to last year, saying they had prepared for as much as a 15% drop. All three universities expressed gratitude to have students back on campus, and optimism for this school year. Source: KACU

WINTER LIGHT FEST

The United Way Winter Light Fest will be 16 nights of winter wonder. This family friendly event is a ¾ mile trail lined with incredible displays and light features, including a Christmas village with refreshments, activities, and local choirs. The dates will be November 27-29, December 4-6, 11-13, 18-23, and the 26th.

HERE IS WHO HIRING RIGHT NOW

Hiring is still happening despite the ongoing economic downturn. Here are some of the [companies hiring right now](#).

**ELEVATE YOUR
BRAND AWARENESS
ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE.**

[Reserve this space here.](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

City of Abilene Announces Finalists for APD chief.

In a news release issued Monday afternoon, the city announced the three finalists for APD chief.

[Read more.](#)

5 Effective and Affordable Ways to Reward Remote Workers

Rewards can keep your team motivated and engaged with their work, which is critical when everyone is working remotely.

[Read more.](#)

***You don't want to miss these upcoming event for
your business.***

SEPT 15: PRWEEK CONVENE: TALKING SHOP – THE FUTURE OF RETAIL

This PRWeek virtual event explores what retail brands must do to renew confidence among consumers and ensure the long-term prosperity of a \$3.8 trillion sector that supports one in four American jobs and remains the backbone of the economy. This event will be on September 15th from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm ET. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 16: IRS HEARING ALL VOICES WEBINAR

Hear directly from the IRS on topics to help your business succeed. Join us in a conversation on how the IRS can better serve small business. This webinar is 11 AM-1 PM CDT. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 16: TOGETHER IN THE SANDBOX - BOARD AND STAFF RELATIONSHIPS

For a nonprofit organization to be successful, it is essential for the staff and board members to have good working relationships. In this webinar, presenters Anjali Zutshi and Angela Reed will discuss strategies for cultivating fruitful relationships in three different scenarios: a traditional nonprofit with staff, a public agency, and an all-volunteer board. The webinar will start at 10 AM central. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 16: INCREASING COMPETITIVENESS: TEAMING JOINT VENTURES, AND THE MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM - PRESENTED BY MATT SCHOONOVER, KOPRINCE LAW

Want to learn how to take your small business to the next level within the realm of government contracting? Join the Northwest Texas PTAC and Koprince Law Firm as Managing Partner, Matt Schoonover of Koprince Law presents this informative webinar about Teaming Arrangements, Joint Ventures and the SBA's Mentor Protégé Program. He'll discuss how each works and how they all fit in together. [Register here.](#)

SEPT. 17 TEXAS CONFERENCE FOR EMPLOYERS LUNCHTIME LIVE

90 minute session on employment law. Free virtual employment law session hosted by the Office of Commissioner Representing Employers. [Learn more.](#)

SEPT 23: VETERAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (VOSB) & SDVOSB TOO

Join Northwest Texas PTAC, Program Manager Rich Lyles as he provides you with a general understanding of how the VOSB & the Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business SDVOSB Program works. You'll learn about the benefits of being certified and the eligibility criteria required for certification. They'll discuss the formal certification through the VA as well as the self-certification option. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 29: FAST FORWARD SUMMIT 2020

On September 29 and 30, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation will host a two-day, future-looking summit to highlight the people, ideas, and innovations that are shaping our lives and businesses. [Register here.](#)

SEPT 30: CYBERSECURITY BASICS FOR FEDERAL CONTRACTORS

Join Northwest Texas PTAC, Senior Field Advisor Mark Snyder as he provides you with a general understanding of the basic cybersecurity requirements that the Department of Defense has for all contractors and sub-contractors. You'll learn about the benefits of being prepared and the process for putting a cybersecurity plan in place. [Register here.](#)

OCT 8: GOVERNMENT, NON-PROFIT & SOCIAL SERVICES VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

This Government, NonProfit & Social Services VIRTUAL Career Fair is brought to you by the West Central Texas Career Consortium. Participating in this event is an excellent way for your organization to gain visibility and maximize recruiting potential! Employers interested in participating in this event are encouraged to register online as early as possible. [Register here.](#)

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