



BusinessScene

August 2020
Volume X, Number 4

CA Competes Tax Credits - New Application Period

For most businesses the economic downturn created by COVID-19 has meant difficult adjustments to their daily operations, without much uplifting news. There is, however, a new application period underway for business tax credits through the **CA Competes** program. During this round of funding, there is \$80 million available in credits. The application for CA Competes is free, and the deadline to submit is August 17. To date, eight Camarillo companies have been awarded tax credits totaling over \$4 million.



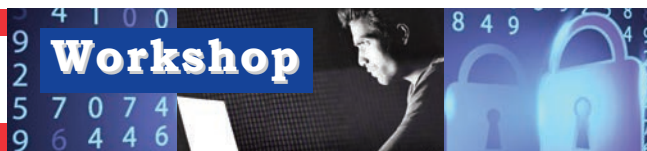
California businesses that are expanding are encouraged to apply to CA Competes. The information requested in the application will include the numbers of full and part-time employees, how the tax credit can help the company create new jobs, wages for employees that will be hired or retained, and the accounting period for the business (and a number of other items). Details about CA Competes are at: <https://business.ca.gov/california-competes-tax-credit>.



Assistance with the application for CA Competes is available, at no charge, through our Economic Development Collaborative (EDC) and Small Business Development Center (SBDC), based in Camarillo: <https://edcollaborative.com>. Please contact Alondra Gaytan, at Alondra.gaytan@edcsbdc.org or 409-9159, to schedule an appointment.



CYBERSECURITY



While COVID-19 continues to present challenges in the business world, cybersecurity should still to be a paramount concern. In a single month there can be 1.75 billion data breaches worldwide, and an average of 25,575 records is compromised in a single breach. The targets of cyber crimes, some 58% of the time, are small businesses. On September 2, the state is offering a free Cybersecurity Industry Convening virtual meeting:

www.eventbrite.com/e/california-cybersecurity-industry-convening-virtual-meeting-registration-104803570300



The interactive workshop is tailored for IT/cybersecurity professionals, and will focus on getting California businesses better prepared for cyber attacks. The Governor's Cybersecurity Task Force (GCTF) is presenting the workshop to address the industry's capability-skill gap.

The workshop will also provide companies with techniques for interviewing candidates in cybersecurity positions, and to be confident about hiring the right applicant. The GCTF is a division of the California Office of Emergency Services, or Cal OES (<https://caloes.ca.gov>).

