SENATOR
TROY SINGLETON
Representing New Jersey's 7th Legislative District

COVID-19 RESOURCE LIST

(Updated April 8)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19

The NJ Poison Control Center and 2-1-1 have partnered to provide information to the public on COVID-19. The hotline number is **1-800-962-1253**. Or, you can **call 2-1-1** with questions or concerns, or to access NJ's statewide comprehensive information and referral service. Or text **NJCOVID to 898-211** to receive text information and stay informed. Additionally, NJ launched a COVID-19 Information Hub, covid19.nj.gov, where residents can get up-to-date information.

COVID-19 DASHBOARD AND HEALTH RELATED INFO:
The New Jersey Department of Health website www.nj.gov/health has updated information daily related to the public health emergency. Or visit www.cdc.gov

IF YOU'RE SICK:
Call your doctor if you're sick or if you think you've been exposed to COVID-19. Your doctor can give you medical advice if you develop a fever or other symptoms.

TESTING SITES:
Because of limited supplies, testing is being reserved for those individuals who are exhibiting symptoms. Testing sites are open throughout the state, including two FEMA locations in Bergen and Monmouth Counties. Burlington County opened a drive thru testing location for Burlington County residents in Westampton by appointment only. More information on each location can be found here: https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/where-and-how-do-i-get-tested-for-covid-19-in-new-jersey-who-should-get-testing

MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS:
New Jersey is seeking qualified health, mental health, and related professionals to supplement our health care capacity on a temporary basis. Apply here: https://covid19.nj.gov/volunteer

DONATE PPE:
For anyone who has PPE they wish to donate like N95 respirators, face shields, protective goggles, surgical masks, or other protective equipment, visit covid19.nj.gov/ppedonations.

CLOSURES, CROWDS, AND CURFEWS

All social gatherings and assemblies, such as parties, celebrations, or other social events, are cancelled including conferences, large meetings, parties, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies. Please note that law enforcement may charge folks who disregard these rules.

The Governor ordered the following businesses to close: non-essential retail; casinos and racetracks; gyms and fitness centers; entertainment such as movie theaters, performing arts centers, concert venues, golf courses, and nightclubs; shopping malls; places of public amusement; and personal care businesses such as barbershops, hair salons, spas, nail and eyelash studios, tanning salons, and tattoo and massage parlors. Bars and restaurants must be closed for on-premise dining but may provide take-out and delivery service only; breweries can deliver. Most recently the Governor also closed state and county parks and is shutting down non-essential construction as of 8:00 p.m. Friday, April 10.

Certain essential businesses and facilities are considered exempt from these closures includes grocery and pet stores, food banks, medical industries, pharmacies and medical supply stores, gas stations, banks, gun shops, and restaurants for take-out/ delivery. A complete list can be found here: https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/businesses-and-organizations/how-do-executive-orders-no.-107-and-108-on-closures-and-social-distancing-affect-my-business

Additionally, Governor Murphy signed an Executive Order that will mitigate overcrowding at stores by requiring them to limit customers to no more than 50% capacity. For the protection of workers and customers it would require face coverings to be worn and physical barriers to be erected at check-out. Additionally, it calls for special shopping hours for high-risk individuals.

INFORMATION FOR BUSINESSES:

The State has created a new webpage for businesses with questions related to COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus. There is a portal to submit a question or use the chat tool. http://cv.business.nj.gov/

SBA RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES:
The US Small Business Administration approved NJ for disaster relief. https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources or by calling the SBA disaster assistance customer service center at 1-800-659-2955 or e-mail disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Small businesses and non-profits can also get up to $10,000 advance on an Economic Injury Disaster Loan even if your previous application was declined or still pending. http://sba.gov/disaster.

SBA also has a Paycheck Protection Program which will provide much needed relief to help keep workers employed. The new program will help small businesses with their payroll and other business operating expenses. Learn more about the Paycheck Protection Program and how to apply: https://sba.gov/coronavirus

NJEDA RELIEF FOR BUSINESSES:
Last week, the NJ Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) announced several new programs that are designed to support businesses facing economic hardship. These programs are listed below and include grants, zero-interest loans, funding for entrepreneurs, among others. More info can be found here: https://cv.business.nj.gov.

Specifically, NJEDA is offering a **Small Business Emergency Assistance Grant Program** – A $5 million program that will provide grants up to $5,000 to small businesses to stabilize their operations and reduce the need for layoffs or furloughs. The **application opened on Friday April 3 at 9am – apply at cv.business.nj.gov.**

BURLINGTON COUNTY RELIEF FOR BUSINESSES
The Burlington County Bridge Commission is offering small business loans to eligible Burlington County businesses. More information about the loan program and loan applications is available online at: https://bcbridges.org/financial-resources-programs/.

WORKERS/ EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WORKER PROTECTION PROGRAMS:
Visit NJ Department of Labor's website to determine if you are eligible for unemployment, family leave, earned sick time or worker's compensation benefits during the coronavirus outbreak. The chart below is a useful tool. For more info:
https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earnedsick/covid.shtml

FILING FOR UNEMPLOYMENT:
Many residents have reached out to our office for help with unemployment benefits. The NJ Department of Labor is encouraging anyone seeking benefits to apply on their website:
https://myunemployment.nj.gov/

LOOKING FOR WORK:
If you're out of work because of the COVID-19 crisis, but want to find a new job, there are over 49,000 job postings by more than 600 companies in critical industries on the State's COVID19 website. Businesses across New Jersey need help now. You can view available positions and apply here: https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov/

SOCIAL SERVICES/ HOUSING/ UTILITIES/ TAXES

TAX FILING
IRS has extended tax deadlines from April 15 to July 15. It was also announced this week that the State has extended the state tax deadline until July 15 as well.

UTILITIES
Governor Murphy recently announced that NJ has 100% compliance from municipal water companies voluntarily halting service shut-offs during the health emergency. The NJ Board of Public Utilities announced that utilities have suspended all shut-off orders for electric and gas.
https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/bpu/newsroom/2020/approved/20200313.html

HOUSING
Recently, Governor Murphy announced mortgage relief including 90 day grace periods, no negative credit impacts, and relief from fees and charges.
https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/what-housing-and-rental-assistance-and-mortgage-relief-is-available-for-new-jerseyans-are-there-protections-for-eviction-or-foreclosure

In addition, Governor Murphy recently enacted a moratorium on removals due to evictions and foreclosures. However, we know that the next few weeks, maybe months, may be financially challenging for some. NJ Department of Community Affairs has various rental assistance programs that can help during times like these and is accepting applications. Learn more:
https://njdca-housing.dynamics365portals.us/en-US/

SOCIAL SERVICES/ CHILDCARE
For information on childcare, cash shelter and food assistance, NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, individuals with disabilities, mental health and substance abuse, and support for older residents please visit: https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/news/press/2020/approved/20200318b.html

NJ has established the Emergency Childcare Assistance Program for essential workers. For more information, visit: https://www.childcarenj.gov/

FOOD SECURITY
Many New Jerseyans who receive food assistance through the NJ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP) received an extra benefit payment at the end of March and their benefits will be higher in April to help address critical food needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/news/press/2020/approved/20200326.html

The NJ Department of Agriculture has a list of Food Banks that serve each New Jersey County: https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/fn/pdf/EFO%20%20Listing.pdf

REPORTING BAD ACTORS

PRICE GOUGING
Sadly, people will try to take advantage of others during times of crisis. Beware of scams and price gouging during this public health emergency. Report it at NJ Consumer Affairs: https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/

ENTITIES VIOLATING STAY AT HOME/ SOCIAL DISTANCING
If you believe an employer, organization, or entity is violating any part of Executive Order 107 (Stay at Home/ Social Distancing Order), please complete this form.
https://covid19.nj.gov/violation

TRANSPORTATION

MOTOR VEHICLES:
All New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission agencies will be **closed through April 12**. All driver licenses, non-driver IDs, vehicle registrations, and inspection stickers expiring before May 31 have been extended by two months. Most renewals, replacements, changes of address, and other transactions can be processed online at www.NJMVC.gov. **If your REAL ID Appointment was cancelled** due to Agency closure from March 16, 2020 through March 29, 2020, **keep your cancellation email**. When MVC re-opens, you can bring the email to your appointment agency anytime within 30 days and get a REAL ID without an appointment. Please also note that the federal government has postponed the REAL ID deadline.

NJTRANSIT:
The RiverLINE weekday service is operating on a SUNDAY/HOLIDAY Schedule. Due to the rapidly changing nature of the COVID-19 response, customers are strongly encouraged to sign up for My Transit alerts and activate push notifications on the mobile app to receive the latest status of the system. NJ Transit is recommending riders to wear cloth face masks and use transit for essential purposes only.

OTHER UPDATES:

MUNICIPAL COURTS
Chief Justice Rabner announced that municipal court sessions in New Jersey will be suspended for two weeks to minimize exposure to the coronavirus. More information about the closures may be found online at njcourts.gov.

STUDENT LOANS/ FINANCIAL AID:
Governor Murphy announced this week that FAFSA deadline will be extended from April 15 to June 1, 2020.

For loan deferment due to unemployment:
https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/Relief%20Options/Unemployment.pdf.
For loan deferment due to temporary total disability:
https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/NJCLASSTempDisabilityForm.pdf.
For loan deferment due to financial hardship:
https://www.hesaa.org/Documents/Relief%20Options/Financial%20hardship.pdf.

CENSUS 2020
We are in the midst of the 2020 Census. Our current public health emergency is a reminder of the importance of having an accurate Census count. Even if you received an invitation by mail, or even if you have not, you can still complete the Census online at www. my2020Census.gov. It's simple and only takes 10 minutes to complete.

ELECTIONS
In Executive Order No 105, Governor Murphy allowed for the electronic filing of petitions for election. Special elections in Old Bridge, West Amwell, and Atlantic City have been postponed until May 12, 2020. Elections scheduled for April 21, 2020 have been postponed until May 12, 2020, at which time they will be vote-by-mail only. NJ Primary Elections have been moved from Tuesday, June 2 to Tuesday, July 7.