

Palm Beach County Commission District 4



From the desk of
Vice Mayor Robert S. Weinroth

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Message from Vice Mayor Weinroth

The county's emergency managers have announced plans for a phased restart of recreational activities.

Effective Wednesday, April 29, 2020, golf courses (public/municipal/private), parks, natural areas, community pools and tennis courts and boating/on-water activities will be permitted.

These openings are restrictive with very specific guidelines that **MUST** be followed. We are requesting you read the guidelines at <http://discover.pbcgov.org/coronavirus/Pages/Orders.aspx> (see *Ex. Order No. 5*) prior to any participation.

In order to insure the safety of our citizens, this phased-in restrictive approach is based on state and federal guidelines and recommendations by medical and healthcare professionals including the CDC.

Additionally, these guidelines were carefully crafted by county emergency officials in conjunction with various working groups consisting of stakeholders from numerous industries, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commissioner, South Florida Water Management District, law enforcement agencies, county and municipal employees.

Now more than ever - social distancing remains a priority. Please wash your hands, use sanitizers and wear masks!

Other critical updates from county emergency officials include:

- Creating working groups with representatives from various industries to develop plans to restart non-essential businesses
- Working with Palm Beach County Food Bank and other food pantries that are part of our feeding infrastructure with a goal to supplement their food supply by an additional 100,000 pounds of food per week.
- Partnering with our local farmers to distribute 3,600 produce boxes per week for a four-week period to supplement meals being

distributed through the School District food program.

- Expanding our DOSS senior meals program and are distributing approximately 800 hot meals per day in in CCRT neighborhoods.
- Our Youth Services Department summer food service program will begin today at multiple locations.
- County staff has identified and signed service agreements and purchased rooms with hotels to provide roughly 250 units of COVID-19 non-congregate housing for local eligible individuals that are required to self- isolate, if they have no other alternative housing option.

Eligible individuals that may participate in the program are PBC Emergency Workers (including First Responders), Municipal and County Workers, Indigent/Homeless, Healthcare/Public Health Workers, other at-risk residents and displaced travelers. This information is being shared with the appropriate partners.

- Testing opportunities continue to expand within Palm Beach County. In addition to the drive thru sites at FITTEAM Ball Park, South County Civic Center and the Belle Glade site, we are working with the Health Care District to open three additional walk-up testing sites this week.

The walk-up sites will be located at C.L. Brumback Clinic, 1150 45th Street in West Palm Beach, C.L. Brumback Health Clinic at 411 West Indiantown Road in Jupiter and also in Riviera Beach (location to be determined).

In addition, staff is finalizing plans to begin reaching out to residents in our special needs database and home bound persons that require testing. We will provide pop-up testing for our hard to

reach communities as well. These services are anticipated to start by early next week.

Our office remains open and staff is available to assist you. Please contact us at 561-355-2204 or 561-276-1220. Also, please email me at RWeinroth@pbcgov.org with questions or if you need any assistance.

Covid-19 Resource Guide

Below is a comprehensive resource guide to local, state and federal relief programs and general information in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. *We will continue to send this information to you with updates on a regular basis.*

FL DOH Dashboard

Statewide: 32,138 positive cases and 1,088 deaths

Palm Beach County: 2,763 positive cases and 156 deaths

Palm Beach County Emergency Information Hotline

***Open 7 days a week from 8am - 6pm
561-712-6400***

Municipal Call Centers

Boca Raton 561-982-4900

Delray Beach 561-243-7777

or contact your municipality

Who do I contact if I'm experiencing symptoms?

Contact your primary doctor first. If they are unable to provide you with a COVID-19 test, ask them for instruction on how to self-isolate at home.

If you don't have a doctor, contact any urgent care center, or the county primary care clinics at:

WPB Main Office: 561-840-4500

WPB: 561-314-5300

Delray Beach: 561-274-3100

Jupiter: 561-746-6751

Lantana: 561-547-6800

Greenacres: 561-357-6000

Riviera Beach: 561-803-7300

Belle Glade: 561-983-9220

chd50feedback@flhealth.gov

Click [here](#) to view all local and state executive orders

Palm Beach County

LATEST OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Emergency Order on Facial Covers

Effective 4/13/20, [Emergency Order 20-004](#) states all persons working in, patronizing, or otherwise physically present in grocery stores, restaurants, pharmacies, construction sites, public transit vehicles,

vehicles for hire, and **locations where social distancing measures are not possible should wear facial coverings** as defined by the CDC. *All other persons physically present in any public place in Palm Beach County are strongly urged to wear facial coverings as defined by the CDC.*

A facial covering includes any covering which snugly covers the lower face, nose, and mouth, whether store bought or homemade mask, or clothing covering, including but not limited to, a scarf, bandana, handkerchief or other similar cloth covering and which is secured in place.

Examples of compliant homemade facial coverings may be found on the CDC website: [CDC Face Coverings](#). Persons wearing facial coverings should review the CDC and Florida Department of Health guidelines regarding safely applying, removing, and cleaning facial coverings.

Persons utilizing facial coverings should not procure surgical masks or N95 rated masks, as those are critical supplies for health care workers, law enforcement, fire-rescue, emergency management, or other persons engaged in life and safety activities.

***Updated* Food Assistance**

The Palm Beach County Food Bank (PBCFB) supports close to 200 partner agencies that provide food to our neighbors in need. To view the list of PBCFB's partner agencies, click [here](#).

Feeding South Florida

Locate their calendar of countywide reoccurring distributions [here](#). These sites provide groceries in a drive-thru style. The list is updated daily - dates, times and locations may change.

Meals on Wheels: All seniors can access Meals on Wheels by calling the elderly helpline at 866-684-5885.

United Way Food Assistance: click [here](#).

***Reminder* SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM TO OPEN EARLY TO FEED CHILDREN IMPACTED BY COVID-19**

As of today, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Summer Food Service Program, in partnership with the Palm Beach County

Library System, began pre-summer feeding at six sites throughout Palm Beach County. Sites will distribute seven days' worth of meals to each eligible child.

Meal distribution will be available on Mondays at the sites listed below from 10 am to 1 pm, or until all meal kits are distributed. Currently, pre-summer feeding sites will be distributing food once a week through Wednesday, May 27.

Parents picking up kits without their child present must bring identification for the child. Acceptable forms of identification include student ID, child's passport or other government-issued ID, birth certificate, adoption decree, immunization records, and school demographics. Meal kits will not be provided to parents who do not bring their child or do not provide proper identification.

Families without transportation may walk up to collect meal kits. Proper COVID-19 safety measures must be practiced by all families, including but not limited to social distancing and wearing facial coverings.

Monday Distribution:

Highridge Family Center, 4200 N. Australian Ave., West Palm Beach

Main Library, 3650 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach

Greenacres Branch Library, 3750 Jog Road, Greenacres

Local Farmers: The farms listed at this [link](#) are selling fresh, local produce directly to the public.

Senior Assistance: 211 and the Area Agency on Aging Join Forces

For assistance with food, food stamps, COVID 19 information such as testing sites, and questions on Medicare or Medicaid call ADRC at 1-866-684-5885 Monday - Friday from 8am - 5pm.

Senior who are in immediate crisis or need someone to talk to after hours, or are in a food crisis are encouraged to call 211.

***New* AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC HELPLINE)**

Seniors 60+ are encouraged to call the ADRC Helpline 1(866) 684-5885 the gateway to services for seniors in need of Meals, Electric Bill Assistance, Respite for the Caregiver, Adult Day Care, In-home Services, Personal Care, Food Stamps (SNAP), Extra Help for prescription drugs, COVID 19 information and questions on Medicare or Medicaid. Specially trained counselors are available to help in English, Spanish or Creole Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Seniors registered through the Agency Helpline and served by the Volen Center and Palm Beach County Division of Senior Services are able to receive food on a scheduled basis in a "drop and go" fashion without leaving their cars.

Testing Sites

South County Civic Center-Cleveland Clinic Florida at 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach

Call 561-804-0250. You must call to be screened and confirm an appointment time. Over the age of 16, by appointment only and need to be symptomatic.

***New* FITTeam Ballpark Site West Palm Beach**

Call 561-642-1000. Any age, by appointment only and need not be symptomatic.

Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard

Find the latest information about your specific zip code and cases of COVID-19. [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) .

***Reminder* Discover the Palm Beaches Launches Help Desk for Essential Lodgers, Medical Personnel**

and First Responders

Discover The Palm Beaches (DTPB) has opened a virtual help desk for essential lodgers to ask questions as they navigate hotel resources and special offers. Essential lodgers range from healthcare professionals and first responders to displaced residents and visitors.

The help desk can be reached by email at sales@thepalmbeaches.com, or contacts and times are as follows:

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. EDT

Y0vonne Williams, 561-233-3057

Joseph Garcia, 561-233-3039

2 p.m. to 8 p.m. EDT

Caroline Meadows, 561-233-3034

Ashley Medeiros, 561-233-3056

For group reservations or venues, contact Mike Jackson at 561-233-3050 or mjackson@thepalmbeaches.com

***Reminder* Help for Businesses**

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, in partnership with Palm Beach County, local chambers of commerce and municipalities, has launched www.BizHelpPBC.com to help companies struggling from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This website will provide weekly news updates, resources, and will feature a 2 PM Town Hall call every Friday. Their website will also have registration information for the call, updated weekly.

***Reminder* Free Telehealth Mental Health Services to Residents of Palm Beach County**

• Mental health services provided by the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Residential Treatment and Family Counseling

(RTFC) Division are now available to the public via Telemental Health.

- Education & Training Center – Family therapy, individual therapy, and parent training services through Zoom Video Telemental Health. Bilingual therapists (Spanish & Creole) are available. To schedule an appointment, call 561-233-4460.
- Highridge Family Center – currently accepting applications for future residents. Intake appointments and weekly family counseling sessions, in addition to virtual individual therapy and parental support, are ongoing via Telemental Health. To schedule an appointment, call 561-625-2540.
- Family Violence Intervention (FVIP) – court diversion program is accepting cases referred from the State Attorney’s Office. FVIP team of master and bachelor-level staff provide case management, case planning, referral advocacy and mediation telehealth services via Zoom Video.
- Youth and Family Counseling (YFC) – currently providing assessments, family and individual therapy, parent education and school-based behavioral health services via Zoom Video. Telemental Health services are offered in English, Spanish, French and Creole. To schedule an appointment, please call (561) 242-5714.
- For more information about Telemental Health and other services provided by Palm Beach County Youth Services, please visit our [website](#).

For more information and to apply for the ELC scholarship, simply go to the link below: [ELC First Responder Child Care Application](#)
[\[trustedpartner.azureedge.net\]](#)

Community Services Department Rental & Utility Assistance

Individuals and families experiencing economic hardship because of loss of employment, or sickness can apply for assistance through the

Community Services Department. Residents who are eligible can access emergency rental and utility assistance online by visiting the website or by calling the following phone numbers:

- Online application for all services including rent and utilities: www.pbcgov.com/OSCARSS
- Phone number for rent: 561-904-7900
- Phone number for utilities: 561-355-4792
- Phone number for seniors EHEAP: 561-355-4746

Courts have temporarily suspended hearings on evictions, and a moratorium has been placed on utility shutoffs. Visit the website for more information about how to prepare and budget: www.pbcgov.com/communityservices

Housing & Economic Sustainability

Palm Beach County Housing and business assistance programs can be found [here](#).

Libraries

You can use the Palm Beach County Library system 24/7 from your computer, laptop or mobile device by visiting our website.

Librarians are available to assist with unemployment applications and branches will continue to have the unemployment applications available in English, Spanish and Creole.

<http://www.pbclibrary.org/unemployment>

Librarians are available to assist you with your research, and help using our online resources. Visit our website at www.pbclibrary.org and click on the Ask-A-Librarian icon or call 561-233-2600.

Unemployment Online Application Assistance

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has a mobile-friendly

site to apply for Reemployment Assistance for new claimants. Learn more [here](#).

[Link](#) to the **downloadable unemployment form** to apply

FedEx store locations are also providing free printing and mailing of reemployment assistance applications. [Click here](#) for a list of locations.

Office of Equal Business Opportunity

See [this](#) flyer for information on available funding for local small businesses in response to COVID-19.

Car Payment Deferral Programs

For Floridians having trouble making car payments and who are worried about having their car repossessed, some payment deferral programs have been created by car manufacturers.

For debtors struggling to make car payments during the COVID-19 pandemic, many automakers have created Corona Virus Car Payment Relief Programs which allow the borrowers to defer payments for a period of time.

Click [here](#) for links to a list of programs that are available:

Palm Beach County Victims Services

The Palm Beach County Victim Services & Certified Rape Crisis Center helpline is available for information, options and support: 561-833-7273. Services are free, confidential and private.

Department of Housing and Economic Sustainability Foreclosure Prevention

Funding may be provided to assist with delinquent mortgage payments, property taxes and homeowner insurance to prevent foreclosure. Applicants can apply for up to \$20,000.

Animal Care and Control

Donations Needed for Local Pet Food Banks

Several pet food banks in Palm Beach County are running desperately low on resources and donations. Items most needed:

- Dry cat food (no open bags)
- Dry dog food (no open bags)
- Canned adult cat food and canned kitten food
- Canned adult dog food
- Cat litter

Items can be ordered online and shipped directly to the food bank of your choice, or dropped off at their location. To donate or to receive help, reach out to one of the pet food

banks: http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/animalcare/Pages/Pet_Food.aspx

PBC Animal Care & Control is asking to help empty the rest of the shelter after making history by clearing an entire kennel. Adoptable pets are still available in the other two kennels:

View adoptable pets online: <https://secure.co.palm-beach.fl.us/snap/home>

For more information about fostering, [click here.](#)

Pet Food: Click on Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League [website](#) or email peggyspantry@peggyadams.org

Job Seekers and Employers

CareerSource Palm Beach County for job seekers and employers, they offer assistance such as career counselors, business coaches, training and more. Call 561-340-1060, follow the directions, leave a message and someone will get back to you ASAP.

CareerSource is providing paper unemployment applications you

can mail in at their locations in West Palm Beach, Delray Beach and Belle Glade. Click link above for details.

Solid Waste Authority

Please refrain from tree trimming in April. While garbage, recycling and bulk waste remain on schedule, **residents are asked to delay major yard trimming until May.**

Garbage bags should be tied securely for disposal so waste workers do not come in contact with any potentially virus-contaminated waste.

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Childcare for Emergency Response Personnel and Essential-Business Workers

The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County is open and connecting parents who are emergency response personnel and essential-business workers to open child care facilities and early learning centers. For more information, call 561-514-3300.

School District Feeding Sites

The School District campuses will remain closed for 2019-2020 school year. Distance learning will continue through the last day of the school year in Palm Beach County Friday, May 29.

New Beginning next week, District feeding sites will serve meals on Tuesday and Thursdays, rather than Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The number of meals distributed each week, however, will not decrease.

On Tuesday, April 28, 'Grab and Go' meals will be distributed at 35 sites from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Two days worth of 'Grab and Go' meals will be distributed on Tuesday, April 28.

Beginning Thursday, April 30, the number of food distribution locations will increase to 51 schools across Palm Beach County. Meals will be distributed on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Parents or guardians who pick up meals on Thursday will be picking up a kit with two meals for six days totaling 12 meals for each child.

Starting on Thursday, May 7, meals will be distributed on Thursdays only from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 51 locations. Again, parents or guardians who pick up meals on Thursdays will be picking up a kit with two meals for six days for a total of 12 meals for each child. The Thursday-only distribution schedule will continue until further notice

Meals are FREE to anyone 18 years of age and under (22 years of age and younger for ESE students), regardless of financial need. Two days' worth of 'Grab and Go' meals will be provided each day. A parent or guardian must be present when picking up food for their child.

For the list of School District and Community Feeding Sites visit: PalmBeachSchools.org/FeedingSites

Community Coordinated Sites

- [Click here for FLIPANY-Eastern](#) locations distributing food from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and three locations that are distributing food from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
- [Click here for FLIPANY-The Glades](#) locations distributing food from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- [Click here for information about Boys and Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County](#) locations distributing Grab 'n Go bags and other food.
- [Click here for a summary of food sites](#) – when you click this link, please scroll down for links to information about Food Sites/Pantry Information/Food Distribution information.

To find the location nearest you, visit <https://summerbreakspot.freshfromflorida.com/>.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has provided a waiver to

allow parents/guardians to pick up meals without the child being present. The parent needs to provide confirmation of the number of children for which they are picking up meals, by one of the following methods: student ID, student passport, student library card, student birth certificate, or a photo of the adult picking up the meals with the students for whom they are picking up meals.

The parent will show the identification to staff providing the meals, and meals will be provided for the number of children identified. The District follows food distribution rules as outlined by the USDA.

To limit person-to-person contact, please remember to adhere to social distancing. Those driving to one of the feeding sites are asked to open the trunk of their car or leave a seat open where staff can place the food. People walking up to a site should remember to maintain a distance of at least six feet. These measures are taken very seriously and are intended to keep everyone safe.

***New* DELRAY BEACH TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE REOPENED, TODAY APRIL 27 FOR DRIVER LICENSE APPOINTMENTS ONLY**

The Tax Collector's Office at 501 South Congress Avenue in Delray Beach will reopen Monday, April 27 for Palm Beach County residents only who have a driver license appointment. All other office locations will remain closed to the public until further notice. [Click here to read the latest update](#) from

Tax Collector Anne Gannon.

- Only Palm Beach County residents who cannot renew their driver license online will be served in-person.

- Clients must schedule an appointment.
- Clients **MUST** wear a face mask or cloth face covering to be admitted into the office.

Alcoholics Anonymous

To find an A.A. meeting near you contact the A.A. resources below for a meeting list in that location and surrounding areas. For information about

online meetings/online groups: www.aainpalmbeach.org Phone: (561) 276-4581

Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.

COVID19 Resource Guide to help answer questions regarding education, rent, mortgage, credit cards,

Call 211 for mental health and community services such as food assistance, medical clinics, foreclosure prevention, parenting info on developmental concerns (Help Me Grow), special needs and senior services or click [here](#).

For more information, visit the county's COVID-19 [website](#)

Landscape & Lawn Watering Restrictions Issued

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) issued an order on water conservation measures with strict guidelines to property owners to follow irrigation schedules that conserve water amid drier than average conditions.

The District has lawn watering restrictions all year. Amid recent dry conditions, property owners should take additional measures to conserve water including:

- Water lawns only two days per week between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- Apply no more than 3/4-inch to 1 inch of water per week on their lawns and landscapes and only as needed to supplement rainfall.

State Programs

***NEW* UNEMPLOYMENT WILL BE RETROACTIVE**

Department of Management Services Jonathan Satter announced

Floridians making unemployment claims will receive them retroactively to the day of their job loss, if that date was later than March 9. A total of 505,000 Floridians filed for unemployment last week, with 1.16 million having successfully registered since the beginning of the coronavirus crisis. Florida has a workforce of an estimated 10.335 million people.

As a reminder, free, printed paper applications in 3 languages are available at certain Palm Beach County Library System locations. FedEx Office Centers also have the applications. Please do not return completed paper applications to library locations. They can be dropped off at these **FedEx Office Centers** in Palm Beach County. FedEx will send applications to Tallahassee at no charge.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

Unemployment Support

Reemployment Assistance benefits, formerly known as unemployment compensation, can be filed by accessing CONNECT online via <http://www.floridajobsorg/> in the Reemployment Assistance Service Center or call 1-800-681-8102.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) **Reemployment Assistance FAQs.**

[Link to the downloadable form to apply for RE-Employment \(unemployment\)](#)

Temporary Layoff Program: This is part of the Reemployment Assistance program. Individuals on a “temporary layoff,” which means a job separation due to lack of work which does not exceed 8 consecutive weeks and which has a fixed or approximate return-to-work date, may be eligible if they were temporarily laid off due to the virus and remain available to work. Click **here** for more information.

Health Care Support

Abuse Hotline (24/7). The Florida Abuse Hotline accepts reports of known or suspected child abuse, neglect, or abandonment and reports of known or suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult. Report [online](#) or by calling 1-800-962-2873 Call Center (24/7). COVID-19 hotline: 866-779-6121
email: COVID-19@flhealth.gov

Early Prescription Refills. The Governor and the Insurance Commissioner have required all health insurers and HMOs that are licensed in Florida **to authorize up to a 30 day supply of most prescription drugs and to waive time restrictions on prescription drug refills.** *Click here for more information.*

Suicide Prevention. If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, please call 800-273-8255 right away. More crisis support information is also available [online](#).

Businesses and Workers Support

Business Damage Assessment Survey. The Business Damage Assessment Survey is activated to assess the impact of COVID-19 on Florida's local business operations. The survey, managed by DEO, will evaluate businesses affected by COVID-19 and the impacts the virus has had on the local economy so actions to implement appropriate relief programs can begin. **The Business Damage Assessment Survey can be taken [online](#).**

Division of Corporations Annual Reports Filing Extension. The annual report filing deadline for Florida business entities has been suspended until June 30, 2020 per **Department of State Emergency Order 2020-01**. This includes any corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership or limited liability limited partnership entities required to file an annual report with the Florida Division of Corporations. For more information, please visit the Division of Corporations [website](#).

Short-Time Compensation Plans. Employers can work with DEO to enter into short-time compensation plans. **Under such plans, employers reduce hours for a group of employees (no more than**

40% reduction) instead of resorting to temporary layoffs. Partial benefits are paid to employees. [Click here for more information.](#)

Tax Support

State Tax-Related Support Florida Department of Revenue (DOR) established a dedicated team to address tax-related issues pertaining to COVID-19 and created an email address, **COVID19TAXHELP@floridarevenue.com**, where taxpayers can send questions and concerns. The Department encourages all taxpayers to use e-services applications to file and pay taxes or contact the call center at 850-488-6800.

State Property Taxes. Property tax is normally due by March 31 in the year following the year the taxes are assessed. **The Department waived the due date so that payments remitted by April 15, 2020, for the 2019 tax year will be considered timely paid.** Property taxpayers should contact their county [property appraisers](#) and [tax collectors](#) for information.

Veteran Support

Veteran Employment Assistance. Veterans Florida provides resume assistance and job placement for veterans and spouses seeking employment in Florida. Typically, the jobs are full-time and permanent; however, due to COVID-19, Veterans Florida is working with employers who are retooling and seeking temporary help at this time, as well. [Click here for more information.](#)

Veteran Legal Help Line. 1-866-486-6161

Veteran Support Line. 1-844-693-5838

Education Support

NEW Schools in the State of Florida are closed through the remainder of the school year and distance learning will continue. The School District of Palm Beach County will hold virtual graduations for its seniors.

The Florida Department of Education (DOE) established a resource website for educators, parents, and students to utilize free resources to help students with distance learning. **[Click here for more information.](#)** In addition, DOE has a **[webpage](#)** dedicated to information and resources related to COVID-19.

Virtual and Telephonic Mental Health Counseling Services. **[Click here for more information.](#)**

Child Support Program. The Florida Department of Revenue (DOR) provides online resources to assist families in handling their child support case without visiting a local Child Support Office. (850) 488-5437.

Attorney General

Price Gouging. The Attorney General's NO SCAM Price Gouging App can be downloaded free of charge through Apple and Android stores by searching NO SCAM. A price gouging hotline is available toll-free at: **1-866-9-NO-SCAM (866-966-7226)**. **[Click here](#)** for more information.

Scam Alert. Anyone who suspects a scam or believes a product is being falsely marketed as protection against the virus should contact the Attorney General's Office at 1-866-9-NO-SCAM (866-966-7226) or by visiting **MyFloridaLegal.com**

ACCESS, SNAP, temporary cash assistance (TANF), Medicaid. Contact DCF at 850-300-4323 or (TTY) 1-800-955-8771 or visit their **[website](#)**.

Federal Programs

UPDATED **Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Guarantee (Federal).** The original funding for the PPP was quickly exhausted. Phase 3.5 of emergency stimulus funding will allow for small business loans to restart the process as of today with \$320 billion in new funds. Read more **[here](#)**.

Employee Paid Leave Rights. Effective April 1, 2020, the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act requires private employers with 500 employees or less to provide employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. For more information on relief, please click [here](#).

Express Bridge Loan Pilot Program (Federal). This pilot program allows SBA Express Lenders authority to deliver expedited SBA guaranteed financing on an emergency basis for disaster-related purposes to eligible small businesses, while the small businesses apply for and await long-term financing. [Click here for more information.](#)

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible recipients may qualify for a loan up to \$10 million determined by 8 weeks of prior average payroll plus an additional 25% of that amount. Loan payments will be deferred for six months. If you maintain your workforce, SBA will forgive the portion of the loan proceeds that are used to cover the first 8 weeks of payroll and certain other expense following loan origination. Click [here](#) to learn more. The application and further information is also available at this [link](#).

Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loan or Loan Advance. The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small businesses with working capital loans of up to \$2 million that can provide vital economic support to small businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing. If you have questions about this or other federal SBA programs please contact the Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 or (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov. More information can be found at [**SBA Disaster Loan Assistance**](#).

Unemployment Insurance

More laid-off and furloughed workers will be eligible for Unemployment Insurance and will see an additional \$600 per week to match the average paycheck for up to 4 months of benefits. For a list of unemployment offices by state please click [here](#).

Additional Resources

Committee on Ways and Means fact sheet &FAQ on unemployment compensation, click [here](#).

Direct Payments to Individuals and Their Families

Individuals making up to \$75,000 (\$150,000 for married workers) will receive payments of \$1,200 with an additional \$500 payment per minor child. The payments decrease ratably and stop altogether for single workers making more than \$99,000 (\$198,000 for married workers and \$218,000 for a family of four).

These payments will be issued by the IRS via direct deposit and will be based on 2019 or 2018 tax return or 2019 Social Security statement.

If someone has not filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and does not receive Social Security benefits, the IRS recommends filing a 2018 return to receive payment. If the IRS does not have the taxpayer's bank account information, the taxpayer should look for a letter from the IRS detailing how to receive their payment.

If you receive Social Security, retirement or other social safety net benefits, you may still qualify for direct payments. For more information from the IRS click [here](#).

NEW If you have not received your coronavirus relief money via direct deposit from the federal government, they request you visit the IRS [website](#) to provide your current banking information.

Additionally, if you did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and/or don't receive social security or disability benefits, they have added a new tool on the IRS [website](#) to enter that information.

To check the status of your money, click [here](#).

Food Assistance

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), more commonly

known as food stamps, ensures that Americans receive the food they need, especially if they are newly unemployed. Congress has invested in SNAP in the last three bills to help Americans put food on the table during this crisis.

In order to apply for SNAP, contact your state SNAP office or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food & Nutrition Services regional offices near you.

SNAP State Directory of Resource

FNS Regional Offices, click [here](#).

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) provides access to nutritious foods to low-income pregnant women or mothers. To see if you are eligible for WIC benefits click [here](#).

To learn more about how to apply for WIC click [here](#).

Food Banks

Congress has now secured \$850 million in emergency funding for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) to help food banks face increased utilization and demand in countless communities across the country due to the coronavirus. Click [here](#) for your state contacts. To find a local food bank near you, click [here](#).

Homeowners and Renters Protection

Mortgage Forbearance: Homeowners with FHA, USDA, VA, or Section 184 or 184A mortgages (for members of federally-recognized tribes) and those with mortgages backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac have the right to request forbearance on their payments for up to 6 months, with a possible extension for another 6 months without fees, penalties, or extra interest. **Homeowners should contact their mortgage servicing company directly.**

Eviction Protections: Renters residing in public or assisted housing, or in a home or apartment whose owner has a federally-backed mortgage, and who are unable to pay their rent, are protected from eviction for 4 months. Property owners are also prohibited from issuing a 30-day notice to a tenant to vacate a property until after the 4-month moratorium ends. This protection covers properties that receive federal subsidies such as public housing, Section 8 assistance, USDA rural housing programs, and federally-issued or guaranteed mortgages. **Renters whose landlord is not abiding by the moratorium should contact the relevant federal agency that administers their housing program or their local Legal Aid office.**

Energy Assistance for Low Income Families

This legislative package includes \$900 million to help low income Americans and their families heat and cool their homes. To learn more about the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in your state, click [here](#).

Emergency Paid Leave

Many workers in America currently have no paid leave and are being forced to choose between their paycheck, their health, and the health of the people around them.

The emergency paid leave provisions passed by Congress and signed into law by the President are a critical step toward protecting families' financial security and mitigating the spread of the coronavirus. Below is information on eligibility for emergency paid sick leave and paid family leave.

Committee on Education and Labor Fact Sheet: Who is Eligible for Leave [link](#).

Small Businesses Forgivable Loans and Grants

Congress secured \$350 billion in forgivable loans and \$10 billion in grants to small businesses, tribal business concerns, and certain nonprofits.

Loans through a new SBA 7(a) Paycheck Protection Program can be forgiven when used for payroll costs (including paid leave, health care, and other costs) to retain workers, and other expenses such as rent, mortgage interest, and utilities. Independent contractors, sole-proprietors, and other self-employed persons are eligible for these loans.

Small businesses can also apply for up to \$10,000 in grants to retain workers and pay for debt obligations.

Small businesses, tribal business concerns, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, and 501(c)(19) veterans organizations in your district should contact their lender and the Small Business Administration office directly.

For a list of SBA offices by state with contact information please click [here](#).

Paid Sick and Family Leave Tax Credit

Employers who provide required leave to their employees and who employ less than 500 employees are eligible for a tax credit to offset the costs of such leave. This tax relief will be provided against quarterly payroll taxes (those paid in connection the Form 941). For additional guidance, please refer to the IRS's [website](#).

Medium-Sized Businesses

Included in the bill is a fund administered by Secretary Mnuchin designed to provide low-interest bank financing to medium-sized businesses and nonprofits with 500 to 10,000 employees. As of now, we do not have information about the protocols for the administration of this fund. As soon as we have this information we will provide it to you.

Student Loan Relief for Borrowers

If you have student loan debt, Congress secured several options outlined below for borrowers that help provide relief through September 30, 2020. During this period, a borrower will be able to:

- Pause payments for federal student loan borrowers who have Direct Loans and Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL), which means these borrowers will not be required to make any payments toward outstanding interest or principal balance.
- Suspend interest accrual for such loans so that these balances don't accrue.
- Avoid forced collections such as garnishment of wages, tax refunds, & Social Security benefits.
- Halt negative credit reporting
- Ensure a borrower continues to receive credit toward Public Service Loan Forgiveness, Income-Driven Repayment forgiveness, and loan rehabilitation.

For additional guidance on how to apply and learn about next steps as this critical relief becomes available, please refer to the U.S. Department of Education [website](#).

School Meals

As more schools close due to coronavirus, Congress has provided emergency funding for Child Nutrition Programs to ensure students can still receive their free or reduced-price school meals during this time. Click [here](#) to learn more about what your state is doing during this time.

Veterans

Congress provided robust emergency funding to ensure the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has the equipment, tests, and support services – including setting up temporary care sites, mobile treatment centers and

increasing telehealth visits to allow more veterans to get care at home – necessary to provide veterans with the additional care they need. For further guidance as this funding and initiatives are implemented, please refer to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs [website](#).

Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255

