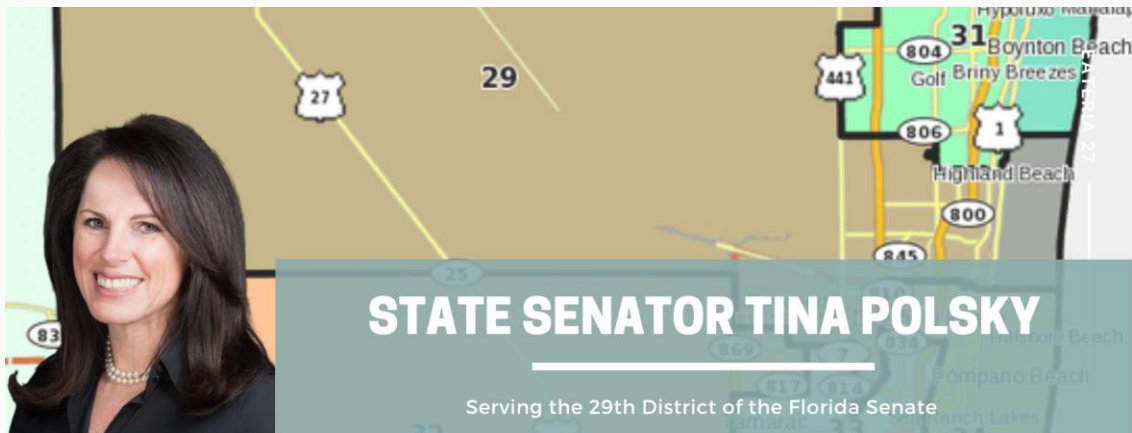


[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear

Friends,

My staff and I are doing our best to keep you informed about all matters related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including where you can receive your COVID-19 vaccine.

For the most up-to-date COVID-19 vaccine information including walk-up sites in District 29, please follow me on Facebook @ [State Senator Tina Polsky](#), or on Twitter [@TinaPolsky](#).

Although we are working remotely, my staff and I are here to help. Please reach out to us via email at Polsky.Tina@flsenate.gov or call (561) 443-8170 as we are checking voicemails regularly.

Stay Safe!

Senator Tina Polsky

COVID-19 Vaccination Announcements

- Executive Order 21-79 has expanded who is eligible to receive the COVID-19 Vaccination.
- **The following are the updated eligibility guidelines:**
 - Florida Surgeon General Dr. Scott Rivkees has issued a Public Health Advisory expanding vaccine eligibility to include non-Florida residents providing goods & services in Florida.
 - **All Florida residents age 18+ are eligible to receive any COVID-19 vaccine.**
 - **The Pfizer vaccine is authorized for persons age 16 and up.**
 - ***NEW*** The FDA has expanded the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer vaccine for adolescents aged 12-15.
 - Florida vaccine sites are still **waiting on CDC and State approval** to begin administering the vaccine to adolescents aged 12-15. This announcement should be coming this week.
 - All individuals under the age of 18 receiving a vaccine must be accompanied by a guardian and complete the COVID-19 vaccine screening and consent form. To download a copy of the form, [click here](#).
 - **The Moderna and Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) vaccines are authorized for persons age 18 and up.**
- ***NEW*** The Biden administration has reached agreements with ride-sharing companies Uber and Lyft to offer free rides to coronavirus vaccination sites through July 4, the White House announced Tuesday.
 - The free rides, starting in the next two weeks, are part of the Biden administration's push to administer at least one vaccine dose to 70% of U.S. adults by Independence Day.
 - A new feature will allow app users to "simply select a vaccination site near them, follow simple directions to redeem their ride, and

then get a ride to take them to and from a nearby vaccination site free of charge," according to the White House.

- [Interactive vaccination locator map](#)
- ***NEW*** [Vaccines.gov](#) is a federally supported website that can connect you with vaccine sites in your local area.
 - [Vaccines.gov](#) helps you find locations that carry COVID-19 vaccines and their contact information. Because every location handles appointments differently, you will need to schedule your appointment directly with the location you choose.
 - COVID-19 vaccines are free and available to anyone who wants one. We work with partners such as clinics, pharmacies and health departments to provide accurate and up-to-date information about vaccination services in your area.
 - This page is brought to you by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and VaccineFinder from Boston Children's Hospital.
- **No Appointments required at DOH-Broward Sites**
 - In an effort to eliminate any potential barriers to residents getting vaccinated, DOH-Broward no longer requires appointments for vaccination at any DOH-Broward operated site. Health Department staff is also looking into expanding operating hours at vaccination sites to better accommodate resident work schedules.
- **Reverend Samuel Delevoe Park Now Giving Vaccines; No Appointment Required**
 - Broward County's Reverend Samuel Delevoe Park at 2520 NW 6th Street in Fort Lauderdale is now open as a public vaccination site. No appointment is required. For a full list of vaccination sites, visit [GetVaccinated.Broward.org](#).
- **Tune in at Markham Park**
 - The DOH-Broward vaccination sites that are located in Broward County parks are introducing a new way of keeping residents that are in line waiting for their turn to be vaccinated informed about current conditions at the site. So far, the service has been

activated at Markham Park, and is expected to activate at other large park locations in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, if you are in your car at Markham Park waiting to get vaccinated, just tune in to 1120AM on your radio dial, and you'll get the latest information to help you through your vaccination experience.

- **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- For DOH-Broward, **visit** [FloridaHealth.gov](https://www.floridahealth.gov); **call** 866-779-6121 or **email** COVID-19@flhealth.gov
- For Broward County, **visit** [GetVaccinated.Broward.org](https://www.getvaccinated.broward.org); or **call COVID-19 Hotline** at 954-357-9500
- For Broward County Vaccine Site information click [here](#).
- **The City of West Palm Beach has opened a COVID-19 vaccination site.** To register, you must visit the ProtectWPB website at www.ProtectWPB.com or call (561) 200-3687 (TTY: 800-955-8771).
 - To read more, please visit: <https://bit.ly/3u7bBQb>
- COVID-19 vaccinations will help protect you from getting COVID-19. You may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. These side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects. See the [CDC website](#) for more information.
- **The State of Florida has launched a way for homebound seniors to sign up to have the vaccine come directly to them.** Please email HomeboundVaccine@em.myflorida.com to put in your request. In addition to the email, individuals who cannot leave their homes can call 866-779-6121 to schedule an appointment.
- **The City of Coconut Creek** is offering free transportation to vaccination sites for select Coconut Creek residents. The free bus service provides transportation to and from the vaccination site at Broward College and will allow you to enter the facility on a priority basis. Details and registration here: <https://covidregistration.coconutcreek.net/>
- **Broward College North Campus**, 1000 Coconut Creek Blvd, Coconut Creek, FL 33066, state vaccination site. This is a walk-up site and no appointments are required.

- The site opens at 8:30 am and closes once they have run out of their allotted vaccines.
- **Health Care District's Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments**

The Health Care District of Palm Beach County encourages individuals 16 years and older to self-schedule their first-dose appointments for the Pfizer vaccine online at <http://vaccine.hcdpbc.org>. Appointment dates are available through Thursday, May 6, 2021. Individuals 16 years and older are eligible to self-schedule appointments for the Pfizer vaccine brand.

 - For individuals who do not have internet access, please call (561) 804-4115 for assistance in scheduling a COVID-19 vaccine appointment. At this number, you can also reschedule or cancel previously scheduled appointments and receive assistance on any other issues related to the scheduling process.
- The **Florida Department of Health in Broward County (DOH-Broward)** is scheduling appointments via the State COVID-19 vaccine appointment scheduling system. You can call (866) 201-6313 to request an appointment. For those requiring TTY access, the phone number is (833) 476-1526.
- The **West Palm Beach VA Medical Center** is now offering COVID-19 Vaccine for ALL Veterans who receive care at the VA. The vaccine is offered by appointment and on a walk-in basis at Building 14 on the main campus in West Palm Beach, Monday-Friday from 10 am to 3 pm. The VA is offering the vaccine by appointment only at select CBOC's. Veterans must already receive care at VA to get the COVID-19 Vaccine and be able to return to the same site for their second dose.
- **Below you can find a list of stores/pharmacies offering COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments in Florida:**
 - [Walgreens](#)
 - [CVS](#)
 - CVS is now accepting walk-ins for COVID-19 Vaccines.
 - [Walmart and Sam's Club](#)
 - Immunizations are now available to customers and associates in all of their more than 5,100 pharmacy

locations nationwide, across 49 states, Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C. Vaccines are being administered via both walk-up and pre-scheduled appointments.

- Please note that you do not have to be a Sam's Club member to receive a COVID Vaccine at Sam's Club locations.

- **Publix Pharmacies**

- Publix is now accepting walk-ins for COVID-19 Vaccines.
- You can still make an appointment online, as well as check which vaccine is available at your local store.

- **Winn Dixie** is offering COVID Vaccine at [select pharmacy locations](#).

- **Memorial Health System:**

- To schedule an appointment create or sign in to your [MyChart](#), from your computer choose "Visits" and then "Schedule an Appointment." Then select an appointment that works for your schedule.

- **Jackson Health System** is providing COVID-19 Vaccines.

- Visit their [COVID Vaccine Appointment Site](#) for more information and to see available appointments.




- **Hard Rock Stadium** (Miami Gardens)

- For more information about vaccines, you can visit the Florida Department of Health's [Vaccine Information Page](#) and [FAQ](#) page.

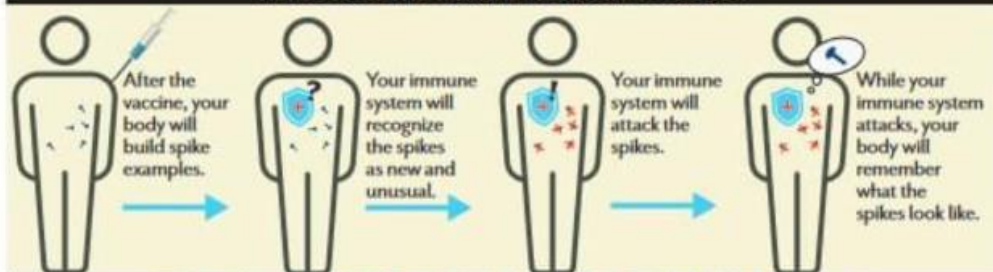
- You can also reach the Florida COVID-19 24-hour Hotline at (866) 779-6121 or text FLCOVID19 to 888777 from your mobile device.
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Moderna & Pfizer vaccines—how do they work?



It's important to know that scientists had a head start making these COVID-19 vaccines.



 <p>Scientists at the National Institutes of Health and the University of Pennsylvania started working on these vaccines after previous coronavirus outbreaks.</p>	<p>They isolated one part of the virus—the spike. This would help them make the vaccines.</p> 	 <p>These COVID-19 vaccines are mRNA vaccines. Basically, they're instructions for bodies to make examples of COVID-19 spikes.</p>
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HERE'S HOW THE VACCINE WORKS IN YOUR BODY



THE SECOND SHOT HELPS THE VACCINE BECOME EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE.

 <p>Without vaccine, your immune system won't be fast enough to recognize that the COVID-19 virus is bad. While your immune system desperately works to protect your body, the virus has plenty of time to spread and make you sick.</p>	 <p>With vaccine, your body already knows to be on the lookout for the spike. If the virus enters your body, your immune system quickly gets to work destroying the virus.</p>
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	<p>You won't get sick when your body builds spike examples because the spikes aren't virus. The vaccine does NOT involve injecting you with the COVID-19 virus and it does NOT change your DNA or your genetic code.</p> <p>After vaccine, you might have some side effects—they will go away in a few days. Side effects are normal signs your body is building protection. Side effects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain and swelling on the arm with the shot.• Fever, chills, tiredness and headache. 
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Visit MyVaccine.FL.gov for more information or to pre-register for vaccine at state-supported sites in your area.

**Florida
HEALTH**

South Florida Vaccine Sites That Don't Require Appointments

- **Broward College North Campus**, 1000 Coconut Creek Boulevard, Coconut Creek, FL 33066. Open 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. seven days a week. Moderna
- **Hard Rock Stadium**, 347 Don Shula Dr, Miami Gardens, FL 33056. Open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week. Pfizer.
- **Vizcaya Park**, 14200 SW 55th St, Miramar, FL 33027. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. Pfizer.
- **Bucky Dent Park**, 2250 W 60th St, Hialeah, FL 33016. Open 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. seven days a week. Pfizer, first shots only.
- **Babcock Park**, 651 E Fourth Ave., Hialeah, FL 33010. Opens at 9 a.m. every day. Pfizer, first shots only.
- **Milander Center**, 4800 Palm Ave, Hialeah, FL 33012, from April 13-17. Open at 9 a.m. Pfizer, first shots only.
- **Helen Miller Center**, 2331 NW 143rd St., Opa-locka, FL 33054. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. Pfizer.
- **Overtown**, 1551 NW First Ave., Miami 33136. Open 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. seven days a week. Moderna.
- **Oak Grove Park Community Center**, 690 NE 159th St, Miami, FL 33162. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. Moderna.
- **Pahokee High School**, 900 Larrimore Rd, Pahokee, FL 33476. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Pfizer.



Source and updates: [Miami on the Cheap](#)
[Fort Lauderdale on the Cheap](#)
[Palm Beach on the Cheap](#)



State COVID-19 Announcements

- **Governor Ron DeSantis has signed an executive order invalidating local emergency orders and COVID-19 restrictions.**
 - This executive order supersedes a previous order that extended the state of emergency through June 2021.
 - ***NEW*** Helping Floridians Get Back on Their Feet
 - OUR (Opportunities for Utilities and Rental Assistance) Florida Program is Florida's federally-funded emergency rental assistance relief program to support residents and businesses as they continue to recover and rebuild.
 - Please click [here](#) for more information.
 - The Small Business Administration will be launching the Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide food and beverage businesses with funding to cover pandemic-related revenue loss of up to \$10 million. Recipients of funds will not be required to repay the loans as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023.
 - For more information visit <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/restaurant-revitalization-fund>
 - The Florida Department of Children and Families has launched www.turnto211.com, a new website that provides access to crisis counseling health services. This site contains useful links, helplines, and tips for coping with traumatic events. COVID-19 has affected everyone. 211 is here to help when you do not know where to turn or you just need a friendly, listening ear. Through a network of compassionate and highly trained experts, 211 connects you with local or state resources and services to match your unique needs.
 - Are you a licensed health care professional in Florida? Then you can volunteer to administer the COVID-19 Vaccine in your community! To register to volunteer please sign up [here](#)!
-

Unemployment Assistance

- Due to COVID-19, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity is currently experiencing higher than average wait times when contacting the Reemployment Assistance Program.
- Attention PUA Claimants! Due to recent federal requirements, it is now required to upload employment documentation to CONNECT in order to continue receiving PUA benefits. For more information, visit <https://t.co/Dzq1tAA6PC?amp=1>.

Palm Beach County COVID-19 Announcements

County Updates

- In response to the Governor's [order 21-102](#) issued May 2, 2021, to suspend all local government mandates in place due to COVID-19 and in a continued effort to protect employees and the public, **facial coverings or masks will continue to be required by employees and the public while conducting business in county buildings.** The county will continue to follow all CDC guidelines and executive orders.
- Until further notice, it is the County's policy that **individuals must wear a facial covering or mask and social distance from other individuals while indoors on County Property. County Property includes all County-owned and County-leased buildings where Palm Beach County's offices, divisions, departments or Constitutional Offices conduct business.**
 - Further, in accordance with federal regulations facial coverings or masks are required on all county operated transit. **Law Enforcement is authorized to issue a trespass warning and remove any individuals not in compliance with this policy.**
- **Mask requirements on Palm Beach County public school campuses and district property remain in place for both students and staff**

members, as the policies do not fall under the jurisdiction of Monday's executive order from the governor.

- **Emergency Rental Assistance and Utility Assistance:** The portal is now open to accept applications for Rental, Relocation and Utility Assistance. Before you submit an application, please view this [video](#) to see if you qualify.
 - **UPDATE: The application portal for Emergency Rental Assistance closes on Saturday, May 15 at midnight.**
 - The application portal will re-open from June 7-15. Please note that the system will allow applicants to resubmit any documents requested by Case Managers.
 - The new Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds will require more documentation than previous COVID funding. Please register for the "[Lunch-n-Learn](#)" webinar and read the [ERA FAQ](#), to ensure you submit all of the documentation required to process your application successfully.
 - For more information, click [here](#).
- **Emergency Assistance to Homeowners in Palm Beach County:**
 - The Palm Beach County Department of Housing and Economic Sustainability announces the availability of the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Mortgage Assistance funds. This program will provide emergency financial assistance to <80% (or less) AMI homeowners who suffered adverse financial impact from COVID-19, and are delinquent in their first mortgage and escrow payments (PITI). Additionally, providing the homeowner is delinquent, funding may assist with second mortgages, late fees, condominium and homeowners' association payments, special assessments, and other mortgage associated costs related to COVID-19.
 - **Up to 6 months of assistance (*not to exceed \$10,000*) will be provided to income eligible households who are at least one-month delinquent (after February 29, 2020) in their home**

mortgage, escrow payments (PITI) and/or condominium and homeowners' association payments. Assistance cannot be used to cover payments already made; and will be provided as a grant or a forgivable loan.

- All requests for assistance will be reviewed based on approved criteria. **To qualify, all homeowners must demonstrate that the costs are directly tied to COVID-19. Additional criteria include but is not limited to: income eligibility, residence must be owner occupied, not under contract or listed for sale within the past 60 days, property must be in Palm Beach County, and the assessed value cannot exceed \$331,888.**
- All applications must be submitted online and will be processed on a first come, first eligible basis.
 - **The online application will open on Friday, May 7, 2021 at 8:00 a.m., and close Monday, June 7, 2021 at 11:59pm.**
- Applications can be accessed at the County's Department of Housing and Economic Sustainability's website <http://pbcgov.com/hes>
- The Palm Beach County COVID-19 Education Compliance team is comprised of representatives from state and local agencies including the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Palm Beach County Code Enforcement, Fire Rescue, the Florida Department of Health-Palm Beach County, and municipal police departments. Team members will proactively conduct spot inspections of local businesses and public venues, noting where masks are not being worn and/or social distancing is not being consistently practiced.
 - For more information or to contact the COVID Education Compliance Team or to notify the team about any violations please call **561-24COVID** (561-242-6843) or [email covidcompliance@pbcgov.org](mailto:covidcompliance@pbcgov.org)
- The Palm Beach County Victim Services and Certified Rape Crisis Center staffs a 24-hour helpline, 561-833-7273, that is available every

day. Advocates are available to provide immediate support to victims of crime.

- Because of COVID-19, some individuals are fearful or reluctant to call the helpline, but residents should know that precautions are utilized to ensure the safety of victims and staff while services are provided.

School District Announcements

- The School District has opened the Going the Distance Together information Hotline, (561) 969-5840. The Hotline is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The information is available in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole.
- The School District has launched an online dashboard to keep parents and staff informed of confirmed Covid-19 cases identified among individuals who were recently on District property. Click here: PalmBeachSchools.org/Covid Dashboard [palmbeachschools.org]
 - The dashboard is updated nightly with confirmed cases by date, school, and the number of students and employees affected. You will also find a link to the Covid-19 dashboard on the District's main webpage.
 - The District has worked closely with the Florida Department of Health and the Health Care District of Palm Beach County to supply principals with a COVID-19 toolkit and provide support with protocols, contact tracing, and communication.
 - Parents will be notified directly by the Health Department if their children have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 on District property. Employees will be notified by Risk and Benefits Management if they have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case.
 - Very soon after that notification, a building-wide message will be sent to all parents and staff informing them of the case, and that if they didn't receive a letter from the Health

Department or Risk Management it is very unlikely that they came in contact with the individual with the confirmed case.

- For answers to frequently asked questions about the health and safety protocols in place in schools, including preventive steps and the communications protocols during COVID, [click here \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.r20.rs6.net).

Food Assistance Announcements

- United Way has launched an [Interactive Food Finder map](#) to assist in locating food and hot meals across Palm Beach County.
- Feeding South Florida food distribution sites provide a drive-thru food distribution for anyone. You can find their calendar of Food Distributions at www.feedingsouthflorida.org/covid19 please note the list is updated daily, as dates, times, and locations may change.

Testing Site Updates

- **FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches:** Absolutely **anyone** is able to visit the testing site at the **Ballpark of the Palm Beaches**; you don't need to be symptomatic to be tested, but you need to state that you have been in contact with someone with COVID-19. **Appointments are no longer necessary, tests will be administered on a first-come, first-served basis, and hours of operation have been expanded to 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.**
 - Antigen (rapid) Testing is available at the FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches testing site. An appointment is not necessary. Tests are available for all ages with symptoms. The site will be open Tuesday – Saturday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - **To preregister with your information for antigen testing go to: <https://www.patientportalfl.com/s/>**
- **Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade:** This site offers walk-up testing. You do not need to be symptomatic but an appointment is **required**. Please call **561-642-1000** to schedule an appointment.

- The site is open by appointment only Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.
 - **South County Civic Center Site**, now closed for testing.
 - **FAU site:** The testing site is located at the FAU Tech Runway on the north end of the FAU campus at 901 NW 35th Street, Boca Raton, 33431. Appointments are required for testing. To make an appointment, call 561-642-1000 Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Testing is available to anyone over the age of 12, with or without COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Drive-up rapid testing is available at Florida Atlantic University.
 - An appointment is not necessary for rapid testing. Tests are available for all ages with symptoms. The site will be open Tuesday – Saturday from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Test results will be text to your phone within 30 minutes.
 - **Town Center Mall in Boca Raton:** Walk-up testing located at the Town Center at Boca Raton Mall, 6000 Glades Rd., Boca Raton, 33431, at the Sears parking lot. Testing every day, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., free to any age, with or without symptoms. No appointment is necessary.
 - CVS has expanded its testing sites and now includes the following locations near District 29:
 - CVS Pharmacy, 520 S Federal Highway, Boca Raton, 33432
 - CVS Pharmacy, 8954 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth, 33467
 - CVS Pharmacy, 1690 S Federal Highway, Delray Beach, 33483
 - **Homebound Resident Testing:** Residents eligible include homebound elderly or individuals with disabilities who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and cannot leave their homes to access one of the drive-up or walk-up test collection sites. Residents who believe they are eligible for the in-home testing option should call 561-712-6400 for a pre-qualifying assessment. The testing line is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
 - The **Health Care District's C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics'** site at the Delray Beach clinic is located at 225 South Congress Avenue.
-

Testing at this walk-up site is available by appointment Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:00 pm.

- Residents are encouraged to call the Health Care District's Testing Hotline, 561-642-1000, to schedule appointments at all of its testing sites. Testing is open to individuals of any age who do not need to be symptomatic
 - **Palm Beach International Airport:** testing will be available in Helix Virtual Medicine's clinic located on the second level of the terminal near Concourse C. The clinic will provide passengers with results needed to comply with new pandemic-related travel requirements.
 - Testing is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and on Sunday. Passengers must schedule an appointment for testing. Test results will be available to passengers within 24 to 48 hours for the standard PCR test. Patients will receive rapid test results in 30 minutes or less.
 - Passengers with proof of travel can take a PCR test for \$125. Travelers can be tested at the airport in the days leading up to their travel or after they disembark from a plane, and can bill their insurance for reimbursement.
 - On-site COVID-19 testing is meant for passengers traveling to and from PBI. Travelers should plan ahead to make sure they obtain the right kind of test for their needs, and allow adequate time for processing – usually three days before travel to destinations where a negative PCR test result is necessary.
 - Appointments for COVID-19 tests can be made at helixvm.com.
 - AnyLabTest Now, located at 5175 West Atlantic Ave, Suite D, Delray Beach, is now conducting COVID anti-body test for \$70.00. You will receive your test results before you leave! Contact (561) 638-5227 for more information.
 - NR Mobile will come to your home or office, anywhere in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties to conduct either a COVID Swab or COVID Anti-Body test for \$150.00. For more information contact (954) 823-8501.
-

- Walmart has announced a partnership with Quest Diagnostics and the Department of Health and Human Services to bring new testing sites to South Florida. These drive-thru sites will be available at the pharmacy drive-thru windows at several Walmart Neighborhood Market Stores.
 - Appointments are required and can be made at www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com. Any adult who meets CDC and state and local guidelines on who should be tested, including first responders, health care providers, and others with symptoms of COVID-19.
 - The closest site to District 29 will be located at the Walmart Neighborhood Market at 12700 S. Military Trail, Boynton Beach, FL 33436.
- MD Now is currently offering COVID-19 testing at certain Palm Beach County locations M-F from 8 am-4 pm. Please note appointments are REQUIRED and MD Now accepts most major insurances - you can visit MDNow.com for more information. The following locations are offering testing for people with MILD symptoms and first responders and/or healthcare workers without symptoms.

Municipal Announcements

- The City of Boca Raton has a Small Business Recovery Relief Grant program. The grant program is intended to provide eligible businesses who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with one-time grants of up to \$5,000. For more information, or to apply, [click here](#)
 - The Village of Wellington is now accepting applications for Wellington's COVID-19 Temporary Rental and Utility Assistance Program. This temporary program funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and CDBG's Cares Act provides a one-time rental and utility assistance to low and moderate-income Wellington residents who have experienced a loss of income, reduction in hours, or unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Assistance is on a "first-eligible, first-served" basis.
-

- The program provides a maximum of \$5,000 per household for rental assistance and/or \$500 for Utility Assistance.
- You can apply for the program here, <https://bit.ly/3ljDoKj>,

Broward County COVID-19 Announcements

Broward County Emergency Rent Assistance

- Broward County has funds available to help residents financially impacted by COVID-19 with rental and other assistance. The new COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance application portal is now OPEN and applying has never been easier. This program will pay 100% of rental and utility assistance for up to 12 months for qualifying households. Payments will be made directly to landlords and utilities. Call 888-692-7203 for more information.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - **Funds Availability:** April 1, 2020 thru March 31, 2023 or until funding is exhausted.
 - **Purpose:** Rent, Electric & Gas Utility Assistance
 - **Eligibility Requirements:**
 - Rent, electric and gas utility assistance may be provided for up to six consecutive months.
 - Applicant must provide proof of loss or reduction of income due to COVID-19.
 - Applicant must provide proof of current household income.
 - Applicant must provide late notices from landlord showing rents past due or provide a signed and dated general ledger from the landlord.
 - Section 8 customers are not eligible.
 - Applicant must provide most recent six months of bank statements.

- Applicant must be a resident of Broward County Unincorporated, Coconut Creek, Cooper City, Dania Beach, Hallandale
 - Beach, Hillsboro Beach, Lauderdale Lakes, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Lazy Lake, Lighthouse Point, Margate, North Lauderdale, Oakland Park, Parkland, Pembroke Park, Southwest Ranches, West Park, Weston, or Wilton Manors.
 - Applicant must meet income guidelines based on household size and current income. Current household income going forward cannot exceed 80% of the Average Median Income (See chart online).
 - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
 - **Funds Availability:** April 1, 2020 thru April 30, 2022 or until funding is exhausted.
 - **Purpose:** Rental Assistance
 - **Eligibility Requirements:**
 - Rent assistance may be provided for up to six consecutive months.
 - Assistance can be provided for a maximum of six consecutive months, back rent and current rent.
 - Applicant must provide proof of loss or reduction of income due to COVID-19.
 - Applicant must provide proof of household income prior to the loss, and current income.
 - Household must demonstrate sufficient income moving forward to meet basic expenses after rent assistance is provided.
 - Section 8 customers are not eligible.
 - Applicant cannot be a resident of Hollywood, Fort Lauderdale, or Pompano Beach.
 - Applicant must meet income guidelines based on household size and cannot exceed 50 percent of Average Median Income (See chart online).
-

- **Application portal is now open!**

- This Rental Assistance Program is made possible by the Broward County Commission, with approximately \$53 million in funding from the federal Emergency Rental Assistance program. It enables local governments to allocate emergency funding to residents who are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To learn more about the program, eligibility requirements, household income, and to apply, visit [Broward.org/RentAssistance](https://www.broward.org/RentAssistance) call 888-692-7203.

Broward County Public Schools Announcements

- Broward County Public Schools has a dedicated [COVID-19 site](#). The site includes important resources regarding coronavirus and information regarding keeping children healthy. Please note information is always changing and BCPS will provide the latest updates as soon as possible.
- The Broward County Public Schools [Coronavirus dashboard](#) provides information on all reported cases for students and staff.
- BCPS is committed to the health and safety of our students, our staff, and our community. All students, parents/caregivers, and employees should answer the [Self-Assessment at Home Self Screening](#) at home each morning prior to coming to school.

Food Assistance Announcements

- Feeding South Florida food distribution sites provide a drive-thru food distribution for anyone. You can find their calendar of Food Distributions at www.feedingsouthflorida.org/covid19 please note the list is updated daily, as dates, times, and locations may change.

Broward County Testing Site Updates

- **Quiet Waters Park:** The drive-thru testing site is testing asymptomatic adults and children. The site is operated in collaboration with FDOH and
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the Broward Sheriff's Office and is located at 401 Powerline Road, Deerfield Beach. The site is open from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM, Sunday through Thursday, and has a priority lane for testing of Broward County Public School children and staff. Testing is available to all ages, symptomatic and asymptomatic and pre-registration is not required.

- **Mullins Park:** The walk-up site is testing asymptomatic adults and children. This site is operated by the Florida Department of Health in Broward County and is located at 10000 Ben Geiger Drive, Coral Springs. The site open from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, and has a priority lane for testing of Broward County Public School children and staff. Please be sure to wear a facial covering when arriving for testing.
- **Florida Panthers Ice Den:** The walk-up testing site is open every day from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The site is located at 3299 Sportplex Dr, Coral Springs, which offers rapid testing ONLY. Results are provided via text or email.
- **Mobile Testing:** Broward County, the Florida Department of Health in Broward (FDOH-Broward), American Medical Response (AMR), and Century Ambulance Services (CAS) is operating a mobile/in-home testing program. Residents eligible for the new testing option include homebound elderly or individuals with disabilities who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and cannot leave their homes to access one of the drive-up or walk-up test collection sites. Hours of operation are from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. For general information and homebound testing appointments, call 954-412-7300.
- **Fort Lauderdale International Airport:** The test collection site at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) is located in Terminal 3, pre-security, on the lower level near baggage claim. Follow directional signage. The site is open to consumers that can provide proof of travel plans to or from FLL on [any airline](#) – e.g. valid airline ticket, boarding pass or confirmed (paid) flight itinerary.

- There is a fee for testing at this site: \$106 for a PCR test; \$74 for a rapid (antigen) test. Credit and debit cards are accepted with a touch-free transaction and email receipt. Next-day results are available for PCR tests done before 4:00 pm; tests after 4:00 pm will have results within 48 hours.
- Normal operating hours are 7:00 am-9:00 pm daily. This site is operated in partnership with [Nomi Health](#), [Spirit Airlines](#) , and Broward County Aviation Department. Appointments are required; for more information and to register, visit [Nomi Health's FLL weblink](#). However, walk-ups may be accepted if no appointments are waiting for service.

Municipal Announcements

- The City of Coconut Creek is operating a reduced/modified Community Shuttle Service.
- The City of Coral Springs is waiving fares for Coral Springs residents on their Community Shuttle Service

Other Important Announcements

- The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA will provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.
 - To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:
 - The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
 - The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.

- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
 - There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.
 - FEMA has begun [accepting applications](#). If you had COVID-19 funeral expenses, we encourage you to keep and gather documentation. Types of information should include:
 - An official death certificate that attributes the death directly or indirectly to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
 - Funeral expenses documents (receipts, funeral home contract, etc.) that includes the applicant's name, the deceased person's name, the amount of funeral expenses, and the dates the funeral expenses happened.
 - Proof of funds received from other sources specifically for use toward funeral costs. We are not able to duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, government agencies, or other sources.
 - How has the pandemic affected you and your household? Let us know through the United Way of Florida Covid-19 impact survey. Your input will help inform long-term recovery efforts in our community: <http://bit.ly/30MsVxy>
 - United Way of Broward is offering free tax preparation services to Broward County residents earning an annual household income of less than \$66,000
 - For more information about the program, please visit, <https://www.unitedwaybroward.org/financial-stability>
 - The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Treasury Department, announced the **Paycheck Protection Program** (PPP) has re-opened as of yesterday morning. New borrowers and certain existing
-

PPP borrowers will have access to capital from community financial institutions who were able to make [First Draw PPP Loans](#), which started earlier this week, and [Second Draw PPP Loans](#) on today, January 13th, and participating lenders thereafter. The current round of PPP authorizes \$284 billion toward job retention, certain other expenses, and allowing certain existing PPP borrowers to apply for a Second Draw PPP Loan through March 31, 2021.

- **Key PPP updates include:**

- PPP borrowers can set their covered period to be any length between 8 and 24 weeks to best meet their business needs;
 - PPP loans will cover additional expenses, including operations expenditures, property damage costs, supplier costs, and worker protection expenditures;
 - The Program's eligibility is expanded to include 501(c)(6)s, housing cooperatives, and direct marketing organizations;
 - The PPP provides greater flexibility for seasonal employees;
 - Certain existing PPP borrowers can request to modify their First Draw PPP Loan amount; and
 - Certain existing PPP borrowers are now eligible to apply for a Second Draw PPP Loan.
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FPL EXPANDS COVID-19 RI EFFORTS WITH BILL CRED

On Monday, January 4th, the Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) announced it is now accepting applications for its new Main Street Recovery Program, offering credits to qualifying small businesses that have been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Established in 2019, the program is available to small businesses in FPL's service area that are eligible to apply for the program.



New small businesses



Small businesses that were inactive for at least 12 consecutive months after March 2020



Existing small businesses operating in federally designated Opportunity Zones in FPL's service area

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
BROWARD.ORG/ECONDEV | 954-357-1234

Scam Alert

You can't pay to get early access
to the **vaccine**. That's a **SCAM!**



You are NOT alone

The COVID-19 crisis is a stressful and trying time for everyone. It is important to know these resources and share them with others.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-8255
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-422-4453
www.childhelp.org

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-7233
thehotline.org

Crisis Text Line

text HOME to 741741
www.crisistextline.org

Palm Beach County Services

Schedule a Telemedicine appointment by calling (561) 233-4460

211 Palm Beach and Coast Helpline

Dial 211 from your phone with a trained mental health professional
211palmbeach.org

*Office of State Senator
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