GENERAL SITUATION

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that families who lost loved ones to COVID-19 can now get help with funeral expenses from FEMA. The agency launched on Monday a hotline -- 844-684-6333 -- to apply for up to $9,000 in assistance per burial.

Tri-State Area officials suspended Johnson & Johnson Covid vaccination following new federal guidance. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a joint statement earlier in the morning saying they are investigating six cases of potentially dangerous blood clots. In New York City, officials were working to reschedule 4,000 appointments for people who were set to get the vaccine. The J&J vaccine will be replaced by the Pfizer and Moderna versions, both of which require people to get two doses.

Moderna has released the results of its vaccine trial after six months allowing it to seek full FDA approval. The new trial data shows the vaccine is 90% effective in preventing symptomatic COVID. It’s also 95% effective against severe cases of the virus. Moderna says there’s been no evidence of blood clots linked to the vaccine's use. The company is currently testing variant-specific boosters and collecting data on the vaccine's use in adolescents.

Update: New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced in-person graduations are back on for the Class of 2021 in New York State that will resume starting May 1. Click here for more guidance about graduations.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio introduced the Summer Rising program, which will combine summer school and summer camp into one experience. The Department of Education will work with the city’s Department of Youth and Community Development to provide programming for kids who have been assigned to summer school and those looking for fun activities. The city expects as many as 200,000 children to enroll in the initiative, which will replace its traditional summer school and camp programs.

Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced that restrictions on outdoor dining are relaxing. He said that the legislation allows restaurants to operate under the relaxed rules through March 31, 2022 and for cities and towns to expedite changes to their zoning rules to expand the availability of outdoor dining and retail activity if they wish.

Washington, D.C., cancelled Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccinations after the CDC and FDA recommended a pause in the use of the shot after six women reported rare blood clots.
NEW YORK STATE

How to renew your driver’s license in New York State. Click here.

Virtual Community Calendar - Virtual events, community info and more.

The Mayor of New York has set up the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, with donations going to support healthcare workers and essential staff, local small businesses, displaced hourly workers, families, youth and vulnerable New Yorkers.

For a full list of NYC City Agency service updates see: https://www1.nyc.gov/nyc-resources/city-agency-service-updates.page

HEALTHCARE

How Do I Find a vaccination site in or near my NYC neighbourhood? You can find a COVID-19 vaccine site using the Vaccine Finder tool. The finder is designed to make the process easier for New Yorkers to find provider locations closest to their home and to schedule an appointment.


How to get vaccinated in New York State:
In New York State you can use the "Am I Eligible" app or https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/ to check your eligibility and schedule an appointment. NY State also has a hotline to schedule a vaccine: 1-833-NYS-4VAX (1-833-697-4829).

How to get vaccinated in New York City:
In New York City you can visit www.nyc.gov/vaccinefinder to make an appointment for a vaccine online. The phone number to schedule a vaccine is 877-VAX-4NYC (1-833-697-4829).

Find a test site near you: click here

COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing, NYU Langone Health (results available within 1-2 days)

To refer your friends and family to this service please visit https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/notifynyc/Home/ReferAFriend.

The state is partnering with the Kate Spade New York Foundation and Crisis Text Line to provide a 24/7 emotional support service for frontline health care workers: workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access these emotional support services.
**MASS TRANSIT**

The Subway has resumed regular service, though there is no service between 2 and 4 a.m.

Busses are running at regular service. Fare payment is now required on all busses and boarding will be through the front door.

LIRR to [restore previous timetable by March 29](#).

While ridership remains lower than normal levels, the MTA is encouraging riders to avoid the rush-hour commute if they can. See COVID-19 updates [here](#).

Access-A-Ride: [https://new.mta.info/accessibility/paratransit](https://new.mta.info/accessibility/paratransit)
NYC Ferry: [https://www.ferry.nyc/](https://www.ferry.nyc/)

NY Department of Motor Vehicles (transactions and services impacted by COVID-19): [https://dmv.ny.gov/offices](https://dmv.ny.gov/offices)

NY Department of Motor Vehicles (online transactions): [https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/all-online-transactions](https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/all-online-transactions)
NEW JERSEY

For updated information on the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission’s Licensing Centers and Vehicle Centers please click here. Most renewals, replacements, changes of address, and other transactions can be processed online.

See N.J. reopening guides here.

HEALTHCARE


How to get vaccinated in New Jersey:
You can reserve your spot to get a vaccine now by pre-registering at https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/. The site asks questions to determine when you are eligible to receive a vaccination.

This is the New Jersey COVID-19 information hub.

For more information on COVID-19 in NJ: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml

The following link lists most of the healthcare providers in the United States and their actions in relation to COVID-19: https://www.ahip.org/health-insurance-providers-respond-to-coronavirus-covid-19/

MASS TRANSIT

New Jersey Transit has resumed normal service, with increased vehicle frequency where possible to reduce occupancy. Please view more details here.

Please visit the NJ Transit website for specific schedule information.
CONNECTICUT


For more information on COVID-19 in CT: https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus

For information on the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles click here. Most Driver’s Licences, ID cards and vehicle registrations have been extended through December 2020.

HEALTHCARE UPDATES

CVS Pharmacy is beginning vaccinations this week at two Connecticut locations, according to the company. CVS locations in Putnam and Waterford are now accepting appointments for eligible Phase 1b residents, including people ages 75 and over and long-term care residents and staff, its website states.


All COVID-19 testing sites in Connecticut: https://www.211ct.org/search/67201508

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If you are displaying symptoms consistent with those of COVID-19, and are unable to get into contact with your primary care physician, please reach out to one of the following hotlines:
Hartford Healthcare Hotline: (860) 972-8100
Yale New Haven Health: (833) 484-1200
Bristol Hospital Coronavirus Info Line: (860) 261-6855
Stamford Health: (203) 276-4111

MASS TRANSIT

Amtrak and commuter trains through eastern Connecticut: https://www.visitconnecticut.com/state/train-information/

Bus services Hartford, CT/NYC/Hartford, CT:
Metro-North: http://www.mta.info/mnr
For updated information on COVID-19 from the State government, click here.

PA residents are encouraged to download the COVID Alert PA app.

HEALTHCARE UPDATES


Testing sites in Pennsylvania can be found here.

For more information on COVID-19 in PA: https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx

The following link lists most of the healthcare providers in the United States and their actions in relation to COVID-19: https://www.ahip.org/health-insurance-providers-respond-to-coronavirus-covid-19/

MASS TRANSIT

Amtrak to Philadelphia: https://amtrakguide.com/directions/amtrak-to-philadelphia/

Bus service from/to Philadelphia to NYC and from NYC to Philadelphia: https://us.megabus.com/route-guides/philadelphia-to-new-york-bus
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (Washington, D.C.)

The District of Columbia is currently in Phase 2 of the ReOpen DC plan.

Indoor dining is now allowed in Washington, D.C. up to 25% capacity.

Department of Motor Vehicles: make an appointment at dmv.dc.gov.

HEALTHCARE UPDATES

COVID-19 Vaccine: District Health Department website vaccinate.dc.gov.

How to Book a COVID-19 Vaccine appointment in DC, Maryland and Virginia.

All testing sites in Washington, D.C.: https://coronavirus.dc.gov/testing

FOOD RESOURCES

Residents that are homebound because of COVID-19 can request support from the District for food and other essential items. Call 1-888-349-8323 or click here

- Aldi
  - Special hours for seniors and immunocompromised: Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:30 - 8:30 am
- Dollar General
  - Special hours for seniors: 8 am - 9 am daily
- Family Dollar
  - Special hours dedicated to at-risk customers, including senior citizens, individuals with pre-existing health conditions, and pregnant women: 8 am - 9 am daily
- Giant
  - Special hours for individuals with compromised immune systems (regardless of age), senior citizens, as well as caregivers: 6 am. - 7 am daily
- Harris Teeter
  - Special hours dedicated to seniors: Mondays and Thursdays 6 - 8 am
  - ExpressLane Online Shopping for Seniors 9 am – 2 pm for seniors on Thursdays, free pickup (SD60) for Seniors, $5 delivery for Seniors (SDDEL), in addition to regular 5% Senior club discount every Thursday.
- Safeway
  - Special hours for seniors, expecting mothers, and immune-compromised individuals: 7 am - 9 am Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Target
  - Special hours for seniors, pregnant women, and those defined by the CDC as vulnerable or at-risk: first hour, each Tuesday and Wednesday
Trader Joe’s
• Special hours for those 60+ and customers needing extra assistance: 8 am - 9 am

Walmart
• Special hours for seniors and at-risk populations: 6 am - 7 am daily

Whole Foods
• Special hours for those 60+: 7 am - 8 am daily

**TRAVEL**

Amtrak (updates during COVID-19):

Travel Advisories: The U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories:
[https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/)

Country Specific Information from the U.S. Dep. of State:

Flight / hotel / cruise reservations change and cancellation policies: (scroll down)

Most airlines in the US have stopped blocking the middle seat to provide distancing between passengers, and some have reverted to booking planes to capacity. See more details here.