GENERAL SITUATION

The White House expressed concern today regarding ongoing issues faced by many Americans who are now eligible for Covid-19 vaccines but are still struggling to set up appointments, suggesting the federal government may step in to provide support to states.

Johnson & Johnson’s single-dose coronavirus vaccine has become the third Covid-19 shot approved for use in the US. Previously, Pfizer and Moderna's two-dose vaccines had been approved.

Three more states have started allowing all or some teachers and school staff to receive the Covid-19 vaccine starting today, bringing the total to 31 states (including New York and Pennsylvania) plus Washington, DC. The additional states are Louisiana, Mississippi and Connecticut. Though some states have announced they are prioritizing teachers, vaccine availability remains a concern across the country. Several other states have announced they will open up vaccination appointments to educators later this month (i.e. New Jersey).

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said New York City set a record on Friday, vaccinating 76,000 people. He said that number is only going to increase now that delayed COVID vaccine supplies have arrived. He further noted that the city’s goal is to fully vaccinate 5 million New Yorkers by June.

Movie theatres across New York City will soon reopen for the first time since they were shut down amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting March 5, theatres in New York City will be allowed to reopen at 25% capacity, which is in conjunction with the rest of New York state. COVID precautions such as assigned seating will be in place and theatres cannot exceed 50 people per screen.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy announced that New Jersey is expanding its vaccine eligibility this month.

Starting March 15, the following groups will be eligible to get vaccinated:
1. Pre-K - 12 educators and support staff, child care workers in registered settings,
2. Public and local transportation workers, including bus, taxi, rideshare, airport employees, NJ Transit workers and Motor Vehicle Commissioner staff,
3. All public safety personnel who are not sworn law enforcement or fire professionals,
4. Migrant farm workers,
5. Members of tribal communities,
6. Individuals experiencing homelessness and those living in shelter, including domestic violence shelters.

**Starting March 29, the following workers will be eligible to get vaccinated:**
1. Food production, agriculture and food distribution,
2. Eldercare and support,
3. Warehousing and logistics,
4. Social services support staff,
5. Elections personnel,
6. Hospitality,
7. Medical supply chain,
8. Postal and shipping services,
9. Clergy,
10. Judicial system

Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced that CT is making a major change to Connecticut's vaccination rollout schedule. He announced plans today to move to a mostly age-based system in an effort to make the rollout less complicated. **Beginning March 1, anyone aged 55 to 64 will be allowed to get a COVID-19 vaccine.** They'll be followed by other groups of residents by age. However, school staff, including teachers, will be allowed to get vaccinated in March.

**Update:** How to get the coronavirus vaccine in New York City, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. [Click here](#) for COVID-19 vaccination information and resources.
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](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/](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](http://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](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 1 and 5 a.m.

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

Off-peak fares remain in effect on LIRR and MetroNorth.

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.


NYC Ferry: https://www.ferry.nyc/

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

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

Coronavirus in N.J.: What’s reopened, what concerts, festivals and shows are rescheduled, canceled.

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.

Summit Medical Group said that they are not accepting any more COVID-19 vaccine appointments for now. The group is asking people not to call about appointments. They will be reaching out to patients when more vaccines can be scheduled.

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

Governor Ned Lamont Frequently asked questions in relation to COVID-19 in 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

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/

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
**PENNSYLVANIA**

For updated information on COVID-19 from the State government, [click here](https://www.pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/).

PA residents are encouraged to download the [COVID Alert PA app](https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx).

**HEALTHCARE UPDATES**


Testing sites in Pennsylvania can be found [here](https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx).

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

**MASS TRANSIT**

Amtrak to Philadelphia:

Bus service from/to Philadelphia to NYC and from NYC to Philadelphia:
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):
https://www.amtrak.com/coronavirus?intcmp=wsp_hp-hero_link_service-updates_frame1

Travel Advisories: The U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories:
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.