GENERAL SITUATION

President Joe Biden is directing states to prioritize vaccinating all teachers during the month of March, and announced that the federal government will help in the effort through its partnership with retail pharmacies. Biden said his goal is for every pre-kindergarten through 12th grade educator, school staff member and childcare worker to receive at least one shot by the end of March.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced rules for arenas with less than 10,000 people, places like Radio City Music Hall, Lincoln Center and comedy clubs across the city. Beginning April 2, so-called “events, arts and entertainment venues” can reopen at 33% capacity, with up to 100 people indoors and 200 outdoors.

Gov. Cuomo announced that movie theatres can reopen in New York City. The much-anticipated reopening comes with conditions: a 25% capacity limit, and no more than 50 people in any given theatre.

New York City: COVID vaccines are now being administered overnight at Yankee Stadium. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is being given to eligible residents of the Bronx. The new pilot program allows the mass vaccination site to be open 24 hours a day. The state is doing the same at the Javits Center and the New York Fairgrounds in Syracuse.

New Jersey Gov. Murphy said he is looking forward to a "much more normal summer on the shore" if the vaccine supply flows into the Garden State as expected this spring.

Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont said that CT is easing some of its coronavirus-related restrictions as infections and hospitalizations are declining and vaccinations continue. Restaurants will be allowed to operate at full capacity on March 19, with social distancing and mask requirements still in place. The 11 p.m. curfew for on-site dining will remain, and tables will be limited to a maximum of eight patrons. Sports can fully resume, including tournament play, with masks and social distancing required. Bars will remain closed. Please click here for more details regarding what other restrictions are being eased.

CVS added more than 100 more New Jersey locations where residents can sign up for a COVID vaccine appointment today. To sign up for an appointment you can go to cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine or you can use the CVS Pharmacy app. The company also has a customer service line at (800) 746-7287 for those without internet access.
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.

Buses are running at regular service. Fare payment is now required on all buses 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


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/

Metro-North: http://www.mta.info/mnr
PENNSYLVANIA

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):
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.