GENERAL SITUATION

The European Commission has unveiled its proposal for a "Digital Green Certificate", or vaccine passport, to allow for safe and free movement within the EU during the pandemic. The certificate will confirm that a person has been vaccinated against Covid-19, has received a negative test result or has recovered from Covid-19. The certificate can also be used in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway as well as Switzerland and will “be open to initiatives being developed globally”.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says nearly 71 million Americans, or just over a quarter of the adult population, have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, while nearly one in 10 of all adults is fully vaccinated. As those efforts ramp up, nearly half the country is rolling back pandemic restrictions.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) plans to delay this year's tax filing deadline by roughly a month, to mid-May. An IRS official said that the decision was made in order to allow filers more time to navigate tax situations complicated by the coronavirus pandemic.

New York State Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced that starting today more New Yorkers are eligible for the COVID vaccine. The latest phase includes public-facing government and public employees, not-for-profit workers who provide public-facing services, and essential in-person public-facing building services workers.

Gov. Cuomo announced today a flurry of COVID restrictions that will be lifted in New York. The governor said effective March 22, the final five yellow zone restrictions will be lifted and all clusters will be lifted. Those remaining clusters included East Bronx, West Bronx, Manhattan, Newburgh, New Windsor and Queens, Kew Gardens/Forest Hills. In addition, the governor announced that indoor fitness classes, primarily in New York City, will reopen on March 22 – with restrictions. They will be subject to the same safety protocols that have been in place all across the state, including 33% capacity limits, masks, social distancing and equipment cleaning. Also, on April 5, 11 p.m. curfews in place for casinos, movie theaters, bowling alleys, billiard halls, gyms and fitness centers will all be lifted.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy visited a vaccination site for newly eligible workers from Newark Liberty International Airport, one day after the state expanded who can get the COVID-19 shot. As of Monday, 15 March transportation workers, members of tribal communities, the homeless, migrant farm workers and childcare workers were eligible. Murphy had also set
Monday, 15 March as the eligibility date for teachers and other school staff, but they got bumped up to earlier in March because of guidance from the Biden administration.

Gov. Murphy said that New Jersey expects to have all schools open for full-time in person learning by the start of the 2021-2022 academic year. The state has now distributed more than 3 million COVID-19 vaccines, with 1.1 million people fully vaccinated, and Murphy said the focus on vaccinating teachers will only increase safety at schools, which are already showing low transmission rates.

Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont is accelerating the timeframe for people to sign up for coronavirus vaccines in Connecticut and said he tentatively plans for the vaccine to expand to anyone 16 years old and up by April 5.

Following is the new timeframe:
- **March 19**: Scheduling opens to all individuals between 45 to 54.
- **April 5 (tentative)**: Scheduling opens to all individuals age 16 to 44.

The state will work with providers and the Department of Developmental Services to accelerate access for the most medically high-risk individuals under 45 during the month of April. The governor said all eligible individuals in Connecticut who would like to receive the vaccine must make an appointment in advance.

Gov. Lamont's roll back on restrictions includes lifting the state's travel advisory mandate. It will turn what was a requirement into a recommendation, meaning passengers will no longer be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test or quarantine for 10 days after travel. As a result, by the end of the week, Connecticut will take a major step toward getting back to normal as many business restrictions and travel mandates will be lifted.
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.

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

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/


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](https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx)

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**MASS TRANSIT**


Bus service from/to Philadelphia to NYC and from NYC to Philadelphia: [https://us.megabus.com/route-guides/philadelphia-to-new-york-bus](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
- Special hours for seniors and at-risk populations: 6 am - 7 am daily
- 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.