GENERAL SITUATION

The Biden administration is "actively looking" at requiring COVID-19 tests before domestic flights. This would be an expansion of the administration's mandatory testing requirement for U.S.-bound international travelers already in effect. All travelers flying into the U.S. must now provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test, taken no more than three days before their flight, or they will be denied boarding.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that schools should reopen as soon as possible if social distancing and mask-wearing can be maintained to keep in-person learning safe. A recent study published online in the journal JAMA provides a framework for how to open schools safely while limiting the spread of Covid-19. Research supports "a path forward to maintain or return primarily or fully to in-person instructional delivery," according to the study.

Jeffrey Zients, White House Covid-19 response coordinator said that the federal government is amending rules to help broaden the list of people who can administer coronavirus vaccines. States have been exploring ways to temporarily license more people to give out vaccine and Zients said that the US Health and Human Services Department would act to make that easier.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced today that he will lift restrictions in nearly all the state’s existing orange and yellow micro-cluster zones, citing the decline in the percent positivity and hospitalization rates statewide, following the winter holiday Covid-19 surge. Cuomo said restrictions will be lifted for all zones except for four yellow zones in New York City: The Bronx, Washington Heights, Queens, and Newburgh. The governor added that he will be meeting with city health officials in New York City and aims to release a reopening plan for the city’s restaurants “by the end of this week.”

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said that the 24/7 mega vaccination sites at Citi Field, Yankee Stadium, and Empire Outlets are on hold until the city gets more supply of the COVID vaccine. New York State officials are hopeful they will get more COVID vaccine later this week. They have already administered 88 percent of the doses they have received.

Mayor de Blasio said that the federal government has promised New York City 30% more of the Moderna vaccine. That increases the city’s weekly supply of COVID vaccines by 17,000 doses. New York City has administered 673,405 vaccines so far.
New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy said the state’s biggest challenge is “supply-demand imbalance” with vaccinations. Gov. Murphy called the Biden administration's plans to increase states' Covid-19 vaccine allocations a "step in the right direction". He said that there are more than two million New Jerseyans pre-registered for vaccines, and the state is set to receive about 130,000 vaccine doses per week right now.

Washington, D.C. Schools will expand in-person learning to all grades starting on Monday, 1 February. We're told each school will offer options, including classrooms with teachers, "CARE" classrooms, where students are in school but the teacher is virtual, and tutoring services with staff facilitators. Families can also choose to keep their children learning at home.
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 and 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, operational 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, will go 24 hour soon.

Find a test site near you: click here

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

Parents: know the signs of Paediatric Multi-Symptom Inflammatory Syndrome to protect your child. Learn more: https://on.nyc.gov/2T8Lybn


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 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

COVID-19 vaccine: Latest list of more than 200 N.J. vaccination sites. (1/22/21)


**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.
***Find the Closest COVID-19 Vaccination Site


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


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

Coronavirus Testing: Where to find testing centers in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut

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/](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/](https://www.visitconnecticut.com/state/train-information/)

Metro-North: [http://www.mta.info/mnr](http://www.mta.info/mnr)
PENNSYLVANIA

COVID-19 cases are at an all-time high in Pennsylvania. For updated information 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.

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.