

COVID-19 Weekly "What You Need to Know"

As of May 14, 2020, 9:45 AM

The information in this compilation is current only as of the above date and time.

Purpose: The purpose of this posting is to provide residents of New York State with a consolidated update of guidance released by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. This will show only current guidance for any given topic and will be updated to reflect new guidance.

- Nonessential businesses will stay closed through May 15th.
- All K-12 schools and college facilities statewide will remain closed and continue to provide distance learning, meal delivery and childcare services for the remainder of the school year.
- Governor Cuomo issued executive orders [202.17](#) and [202.18](#) requiring all people in New York to wear masks or [face coverings in public](#), including when taking public or private transportation or riding in for-hire vehicles.
- North County, Finger Lakes, Southern Tier and Mohawk Valley Regions have met all seven metrics required to begin phase one of the [state's regional phased reopening plan](#) when NYS on PAUSE orders expire on May 15th.
- Governor Cuomo released a [guide](#) to the state's "NY Forward Reopening" Plan, along with the state's [regional monitoring dashboard](#).
- Antibody testing shows out of nearly 2,800 NYS Police tested show 3.1% and 3,000 NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision tested show 7.5% have COVID-19 Antibodies.
- Governor Cuomo announces the state Department of Health will host a statewide webinar on May 14 for healthcare providers to discuss [inflammatory disease in children related to COVID-19](#).
- Certain low-risk business and recreational activities will be ready to reopen statewide on May 15th, including landscaping and gardening businesses; and recreational activities such as tennis and drive-in movie theaters.
- Members of New York's Congressional Delegation will propose the '[Americans First Law](#)' to help prevent corporate bailouts following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Governor Cuomo issues Executive Order mandating all nursing home staff be tested for COVID-19 twice per week.
- Governor Cuomo [issued a joint statement](#) with NGA Chair, Maryland Governor Hogan, renewing the bipartisan call from the National Governors Association for unrestricted fiscal support for states in the next federal COVID-19 relief bill.
- New Yorkers without health insurance can apply through NY State of Health through June 15, 2020; must apply within 60 days of losing coverage.
- A new contest asks New Yorkers to create and share a video explaining why wearing a mask in public is important. Interested applicants can go to [wearamask.ny.gov](#).
- Health care workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access 24/7 emotional support services.
- New Yorkers can call the COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline at 1-844-863-9314 for mental health counseling.
- Testing is free for all eligible New Yorkers as ordered by a health care provider.
- Your [local health department](#) is your community contact for COVID-19 concerns.