

COVID-19 Weekly "What You Need to Know"

As of May 7, 2020, 2:10 PM

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.
- New Yorkers without health insurance can apply through NY State of Health through June 15, 2020; must apply within 60 days of losing coverage.
- New York State's moratorium on COVID-related evictions will be extended until August 20th with fees for missed or late rent payments banned during the moratorium.
- Nourish New York Initiative has helped nearly 50 food banks, more than 2,100 New York farms and more than 20,000 households across the state.
- Antibody testing results of health care workers show infection rate among health care workers is about the same or lower than the general public.
- Governor Cuomo [extended an executive order](#) allowing out-of-state health care professionals to continue practicing in New York State.
- The [results](#) of the state's completed antibody testing study show 12.3 percent of the population have COVID-19 antibodies.
- 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](#).
- Governor Cuomo [outlined the results](#) of new hospitalization data that was collected in a targeted effort to further reduce the number of new hospitalizations per day.
- 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.
- New York State-regulated health insurers will be required to waive cost-sharing, including deductibles, copayments and coinsurance, for in-network mental health services for frontline essential workers during COVID-19.
- 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.