



Updated as of 4-7-2020

# CORONAVIRUS Updates

## **COVID-19 Engagement Portal**

- New York City launched a COVID-19 Engagement Portal to empower residents to self-report their health condition and provide up-to-date information to local families. If you are experiencing symptoms, have come into contact with someone who is sick or are in quarantine, visit [cv19engagementportal.cityofnewyork.us/#/display/5e63c34ff75d7a02111fcb6c](https://cv19engagementportal.cityofnewyork.us/#/display/5e63c34ff75d7a02111fcb6c).

## **Education**

- All schools will remain closed until April 29.  
(<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-20213-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency>)
- All New Yorkers are being offered three free Grab-and-Go meals Monday through Friday at 400 locations across the city. Meals are available for children and families from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and for adults from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. No one will be turned away and registration or ID are not required. (<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/food/free-meals>)  
To find a free meal pickup location closest to you, visit [opt-osfns.org/schoolfoodny/meals/default.aspx](https://opt-osfns.org/schoolfoodny/meals/default.aspx) or text “NYCFOOD” or “COMIDA” to 877-877.
- Approximately 100 regional enrichment centers have opened across all five boroughs for children in grades 3K-12 who need somewhere to be while their parents work.  
([www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/159-20/transcript-mayor-de-blasio-holds-media-availability-covid-19](http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/159-20/transcript-mayor-de-blasio-holds-media-availability-covid-19))
- Elementary- and intermediate-level state assessments have been suspended for the remainder of this school year  
(<http://www.nysed.gov/news/2020/statement-board-regents-chancellor-betty-rosa-and-interim-state-education-commissioner-2>)
- All June Regents Exams are canceled. More info here:  
<http://www.nysed.gov/news/2020/state-education-department-issues-guidance-graduation-and-course-requirement-changes-due>
- All New York City playgrounds are closed until further notice. City parks remain open.  
(<https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus>)



## **Elections**

- New York's presidential primary has been moved from April 28 to June 23.  
(<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-20212-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency>)

## **Businesses**

- To increase social distancing, gyms, movie theaters, barber shops, hair salons, tattoo/piercing parlors, bars, restaurants and casinos are closed temporarily, but restaurants and bars can still provide takeout and delivery services.  
([www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-governor-murphy-governor-lamont-and-governor-wolf-direct](http://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-governor-murphy-governor-lamont-and-governor-wolf-direct))
- NY State is on PAUSE – which stands for Policies Assure Uniform Safety for Everyone – until at least April 29. It mandates that any businesses not deemed “essential” must keep 100 percent of their workforce home. (All schools will remain closed until April 29.)  
(<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-20213-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency>)
- The state is strongly encouraging essential services, such as gas stations, grocery stores, pharmacies and medical facilities, to stay open. (<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>)
- Major pharmacy chains in New York State have agreed to offer free home delivery.  
(<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-nys-pause-functions-extended-next-two>)
- New York has closed all offices of the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Any driver's license, non-driver identification, vehicle registration, yearly vehicle inspection or 45-day temporary registration issued by auto dealers due to expire March 1 or after will be extended until further notice. Driver's license and permit tests and road tests are also suspended.  
([dmv.ny.gov/press-release/press-release-03-21-20](http://dmv.ny.gov/press-release/press-release-03-21-20))
- Financial assistance is available for small businesses affected by COVID-19. To see eligibility requirements, learn more and apply, visit:  
<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/sbs/businesses/covid19-business-outreach.page>

## **Financial Relief**

- State debt collection on student debt and medical debt will have payments frozen through at least April 15.  
([www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-and-attorney-general-james-temporarily-suspend-state-debt-collection-response](http://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-and-attorney-general-james-temporarily-suspend-state-debt-collection-response))



- The federal government has also suspended federal student loan payments and is waiving interest. (<https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/blog/what-you-need-to-know-about-student-loans-and-coronavirus-pandemic/>)
- The Department of Financial Services (DFS) has issued a directive to lenders to provide a 90-day mortgage relief period, starting March 19, and suspend or postpone foreclosures for 90 days for those facing financial hardship because of COVID-19. ([www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-signs-executive-order-mandating-businesses-require-office-personnel-decrease](http://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-signs-executive-order-mandating-businesses-require-office-personnel-decrease))
- There is now a 90-day moratorium on commercial and residential evictions, which went into effect on March 19.
- New state law allows for sick leave and benefits to quarantined/isolated workers. ([nyassembly.gov/Press/files/20200318a.php](http://nyassembly.gov/Press/files/20200318a.php))
- It also eliminates the one-week waiting period for UI claims for workers directly affected by COVID-19. To file a claim, visit [labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm](http://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm) and follow the on-site instructions. ([labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm](http://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm))
- The deadline for filing your state and federal taxes has been moved from April 15 to July 15.
- NY State of Health is offering a special open enrollment through May 15. ([https://www.dfs.ny.gov/reports\\_and\\_publications/press\\_releases/pr202003161](https://www.dfs.ny.gov/reports_and_publications/press_releases/pr202003161))
- Alternate Side Parking Restrictions will be suspended through Friday, April 17. (<https://portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-01011>)
- New York State is aware of multiple scams related to the coronavirus. To file a complaint or learn more, visit [www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/coronavirus-scams-what-ftc-doing](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/coronavirus-scams-what-ftc-doing).

**Check with your local grocery store about limited hours and/or special hours for seniors to shop.**

For updates and more information, visit the New York State Department of Health website at [www.ny.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ny.gov/coronavirus) or call 888-364-3065.

Additional information can be found in multiple languages at [www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page](http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page).

Sign up for email updates from the CDC at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html)