

**Overview:**

The Hayes Initiative created this document to be a resource during the height of the coronavirus pandemic. Our team created this document as a depository of resources as we become aware of them. This is not in any way meant to be comprehensive.

As we move through the summer months and New York City as well as the tri-state area continues to slowly and carefully re-open, we are providing the latest updates as of today (July 9th) before we pause regular updates for the time being. Depending on how the situation in our area evolves in the coming months, we may revive this document accordingly.

We would strongly encourage you to follow some of the more regularly updated resource guides from community based organizations and volunteers across the city. For instance:

- Hunter College NYC Food Policy Center's [Coronavirus NYC Neighborhood Food Resource Guides](#) for each NYC neighborhood.
- [COVID-19 Resource Library](#)
- [Mutual Aid NYC Groups](#)
- [City of New York Resource Guide](#) for support with food, employment, health insurance, housing and more.

There is a helpful table of contents below. Please feel free to add or comment. This is not meant to be definitive or 100% accurate, simply an aggregate of options.

Please include comments and we will update in the document. Please include key links, dates and details of any resources you provide in comments.

Rules for THI team updating:

- Please include date and name next to resource (as of [date], by [insert name]).

**Updated: July 9 at 10:48 AM ET by MC**

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## REOPENING

A guide to the state's "NY Forward Reopening" Plan is available [here](#). The Governor also launched the state's regional monitoring dashboard, which is available [here](#).

On July 6th, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that New York City enters Phase III of reopening, without indoor dining and subject to comprehensive state guidance. Governor Cuomo also announced that casinos and movie theaters will currently remain closed as the state government continues to review the science and facts on their safe reopening.

Phased re-opening of businesses:

- **Phase 1:** construction; manufacturing and wholesale supply chain; select retail (curbside pickup)
  - Residential/Commercial Construction:
    - All workers must have masks and wear them when within six feet of another worker
    - Employers must provide masks to all employees
    - No congregate meetings
  - Retail Business Owners - Curbside Pickup
    - Employee and purchaser in vehicle must wear a mask, gloves preferred
    - Hand sanitizer must be made available
  - Retail Business Owners - In-Store Pickup
    - Requires ordering ahead - pre-arranged orders
    - Social distancing required in store
    - No more than 50 percent of maximum occupancy
    - Patrons must wear masks
    - Store employees must wear masks, gloves preferred
    - Hand sanitizer must be made available
- **Phase 2:** professional services; finance and insurance; retail; administrative support; real estate/rental leasing

- **Phase 3:** restaurants/food services WITH NO INDOOR DINING; hotels, accommodations.
- **Phase 4:** arts/entertainment/recreation; education

## **TESTING**

There are over 760 locations in the state that offer testing — find one [here](#). If you go to a testing site run by New York State, all testing is free of charge. If you are getting a test at a site operated by local governments, private companies including pharmacies and medical practices or not-for-profit organizations, you are advised to check with the testing site and your own health plan in advance of being tested to confirm you will not be responsible for any fee.

## **TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced on July 7th that three additional states meet the metrics to qualify for the travel advisory requiring individuals who have traveled to New York from those states, all of which have significant community spread, to quarantine for 14 days. The newly-added states are Delaware, Kansas and Oklahoma. The quarantine applies to any person arriving from a state with a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents over a 7-day rolling average or a state with a 10 percent or higher positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average.

The full, updated list of states on the travel advisory is below:

Alabama  
Arkansas  
Arizona  
California  
Delaware  
Florida  
Georgia  
Iowa  
Idaho  
Kansas  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
North Carolina  
Nevada  
Oklahoma  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Utah

## **NEW YORK CITY & STATE SERVICES AND RESOURCES**

### **Air Filtration**

The Governor announced on July 6th that New York State will make industry recommendations on the use of air filtration technology to potentially eliminate the spread of COVID-19 through air conditioning systems. As evidence emerges that COVID-19 spread is linked more to airborne transmission than to surface area transmission, New York State is studying filters, their compatibility with existing air systems, the expense of modifications to air conditioning systems and other factors.

### **Business Relief - Sales Tax Collection**

Governor Cuomo launched a \$100 million [New York Forward Loan Fund](#) to provide flexible and affordable loans to help small businesses, focusing on minority and women owned small businesses that did not receive federal COVID-19 assistance. The state will take a smart, targeted approach for distributing these loans, focusing on businesses with 20 or fewer employees and less than \$3 million in gross revenues.

### **Child Victims Act**

Governor Cuomo announced the state will extend the window for victims to file otherwise time-barred cases under the Child Victims Act for an additional five months until January 14, 2021 from August 14, 2020.

### **Debt Collection**

Governor Cuomo [temporarily suspended collection](#) of medical and student debt owed to the State of New York and referred it to the Office of the Attorney General for collection, through at least July 16.

### **Domestic Violence Resources**

All shelters are operating and hotlines are available 24/7

- NYS Domestic Violence Hotline: Call 1-800-942-6906.
- NYS domestic violence text program - text 844-997-2121 or visit [www.opdv.ny.gov](http://www.opdv.ny.gov)
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: call 1-800-799-7233 (TTY: 1-800-799-7233), log onto <http://thehotline.org>, or text LOVEIS to 22522

### **Eviction Moratorium:**

New York State's moratorium on COVID-related residential or commercial evictions is in effect until August 20th. The state has banned late payments or fees for missed rent payments during the eviction moratorium, and allowing renters facing financial hardship due to COVID-19 to use their security deposit as payment and repay their security deposit over time.

### **Facemasks**

Governor Cuomo signed an Executive Order that permits store owners to deny entry to people who refuse to wear masks. Many stores have already implemented policies to this effect, and this order clarifies that they are within their rights to do so. In other situations, all people in New York State are required to wear a mask or a face covering when out in public and in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained, such as on public transportation. You can read the [Governor's Executive Order here](#)

### **Food**

To ensure every New York City resident can access nutritious meals, the city has set up a number of programs available at [nyc.gov/GetFood](https://nyc.gov/GetFood) or by calling 311 and saying “Get Food”

### **Health Insurance**

The State Department of Financial Services is requiring State-regulated health insurers to waive cost-sharing, including deductibles, copayments and coinsurance, for in-network mental health services for New York's frontline essential workers. DFS will also issue an emergency regulation to prohibit insurers from imposing cost-sharing for telehealth and in-person mental health services rendered by in-network providers on an outpatient basis to frontline essential workers eligible to be tested at one of the State's drive through or walk-in COVID-19 testing sites.

### **Hospital Visitors**

Hospitals and group homes will be allowed to accept visitors at their discretion. Any facility that chooses to allow visitors must follow state guidelines, including time-limited visits and requiring visitors to wear PPE and be subject to symptom and temperature checks. Details [here](#).

### **Legal Services**

- The State established a [partnership with the New York State Court System](#) to create a pro bono network of volunteer lawyers to provide New Yorkers in need with free legal assistance.
- NYLAG launched the NY COVID-19 Legal Resource Hotline to help New York City residents impacted by COVID-19 get answers to their legal questions on issues including unemployment benefits, employee rights, housing, public benefits, consumer debt, advance planning, stimulus payments, and special education issues. Call 929-356-9582 Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM to leave a message with your name and contact information or visit [nylag.org/hotline](https://nylag.org/hotline) for more information.

### **Mental Health Resources**

- Thousands of therapists have signed up to offer free emotional support to New Yorkers who are struggling with the mental health impact of this pandemic. Call the state's hotline at 1-844-863-9314 to get free emotional support, consultations and referrals.
- New York 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. Those workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access these emotional support services

### **Mortgage Payments**

All NY state regulated mortgage lenders are being urged -- but not required -- to defer mortgage payments for 90 days, meaning those payments will be added to the end of your mortgage term. You should check with your lender to confirm specific bank policies. ([Source](#))

### **Nursing Homes**

Governor Cuomo has an executive order mandating that all nursing home staff be tested for COVID-19 two times per week. Nursing homes must implement plans to do so and report any positive test results to the State Department of Health by the next day. Hospitals cannot discharge a patient to a nursing home unless that patient tests negative for Coronavirus. Any

nursing home or adult care facility found to be in violation of health protocols may have its operating license suspended or revoked or be subject to penalty.

### **Open Streets**

The Mayor revealed 22 locations for the expansion of outdoor dining options. Selected corridors were operational on weekends starting July 3. Another 10-20 corridors will be approved beginning July 17. BIDs and community-based organizations can apply [here](#). The City will quickly review applications and consult with elected officials and Community Boards. Find location on DOT's [Open Restaurants Portal](#). The hours of operation for this new expanded seating option for restaurants will be from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday nights, and noon to 11 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Expanded seating will last until Labor Day.

### **Parking**

For latest updates, visit [@NYCASP](#)

### **Public Transportation**

- You MUST wear a mask when riding public transportation systems.
- The MTA deployed PPE vending machines stocked with masks and hand sanitizer as a pilot program at 10 stations.
- Subway services will stop nightly from 1:00 AM to 5:00 AM. The MTA will provide free alternative transportation options to essential workers including buses, "dollar vans" and for-hire vehicles.
- MTA is available 24/7 on Twitter at [@NYCTSubway](#), and [@NYCTBus](#), and via phone at 511. Check [new.mta.info/coronavirus](http://new.mta.info/coronavirus)

### **Pharmacies**

Pharmacies in New York State have agreed to offer free home delivery to help reduce long lines for prescriptions at their facilities.

### **Price Gouging**

If you see price gouging, report it to the Consumer Protection Division Hotline at 800.697.1220 or fill out the complaint form on the State Attorney General's [website](#)

### **Schools**

New York State directed all school districts to develop and submit their specific plan for holding classes to the state for review by July 31. A decision on reopening the schools will be made in the first week of August, according to the Governor.

### **Sports**

Low-risk youth sports for regions in Phase 3 of reopening began on July 6th. Sports to resume include baseball, softball, gymnastics, field hockey, cross country and crew with up to two spectators allowed per child.

### **Student Loans**

On April 8, Governor Cuomo announced an agreement with the largest student loan servicers in New York to obtain relief for student loan borrowers experiencing financial hardship due to

COVID-19 who contact their private student loan servicer. Available relief includes 90 days of deferred monthly payments, waived late fees, no negative reporting to credit agencies, and enrolling eligible borrowers in available long-term assistance program. New York student loan borrowers should visit [DFS' website](#) for more information about available student loan relief.

### **Taxes & Stimulus Payments**

The IRS and New York State moved income tax filing deadlines to July 15th. The IRS has opened [a new, online portal](#) for economic impact payment tracking. This portal allows taxpayers to find out the status of their payment. If a payment hasn't yet been issued, individuals can provide their banking information for direct deposit. Individuals who were not required to file 2018 or 2019 taxes can [enter their information here](#) so that they will receive economic impact payments.

### **Unemployment Insurance**

The State Department of Labor created this [chart](#) to guide individuals seeking unemployment benefits. The [Unemployment Benefits and Health Insurance FAQ](#) also provides guidance for those unemployed due to COVID-19. To file a claim, please visit the [State Department of Labor](#) or call 1-888-209-8124 during normal business hours. Unemployment certification can be completed online and is a way to reduce burden on phone lines.

### **Utilities Support**

NY State Department of Public Service is suspending utilities from cutting off service as a result of the coronavirus