

COVID-19 Resource Guide

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KING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

General Information

COVID-19 is a new virus strain spreading from person-to-person. Health experts are concerned because this new virus has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people — especially people over age 60 or who have weakened immune systems.

[FAQs](#) | [DOH](#) | [Infographics](#)

Health experts are still learning more about the spread and severity of illness COVID-19 causes. Currently it is thought to spread:

- through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks
- between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
- by touching a surface or object with the virus and then touching the mouth, nose, or eyes

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with the following symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

PSA videos: Public Health – Seattle and King County videos are now available in [21 languages](#).

American Sign Language: [Educational Videos](#) about COVID-19 in American Sign Language.

Translations: [Amharic](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Burmese](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Dari](#) | [Fijian](#) | [Filipino/Tagalog](#) | [French](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Japanese](#) | [Khmer](#) | [Korean](#) | [Lao](#) | [Marshallese](#) | [Oromo](#) | [Pashto](#) | [Persian](#) | [Polish](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Punjabi](#) | [Romanian](#) | [Russian](#) | [Samoan](#) | [Somali](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Swahili](#) | [Thai](#) | [Tigrinya](#) | [Ukrainian](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

King County COVID-19 Data Dashboards



Daily
Outbreak
Summary



Long Term
Care Facility



Race/
Ethnicity



Syndromic
Surveillance



Economic,
Social &
Overall Health
Impacts



Key
indicators
of COVID-
19 activity



Homelessness

Testing for COVID-19

Public Health – Seattle & King County urges anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms or close contact with someone who has COVID-19 be tested right away. For anyone facing any barriers to getting tested, Public Health – Seattle & King County is working with local partners to open additional free COVID-19 testing sites in King County. Contact a healthcare provider to discuss the need for testing.

Don't wait to test if you have symptoms: Early in the crisis, COVID-19 testing was limited. COVID-19 testing is now widely available in King County, and Public Health's testing guidance has changed accordingly in alignment with Washington state Department of Health.

[Public Health FAQs](#) | [DOH FAQs](#)

Free COVID-19 Testing

The following locations provide free COVID-19 testing – regardless of immigration or insurance status. They are open to anyone who cannot access a COVID-19 test through their regular healthcare provider. Most sites are non-profit Community Health Centers. For more information please call the King County COVID-19 Call Center (open 7 days a week, 8 AM – 7 PM), at 206-477-3977.

King County Testing Sites

[English](#) | [Amharic](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Filipino](#) | [Khmer](#) | [Korean](#) | [Russian](#) | [Samoan](#) | [Spanish](#)
[Tongan](#) | [Ukrainian](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

Sea Mar Community Health Centers

Free COVID-19 testing is offered weekly at Sea Mar Community Health Centers. The health clinics are hosting free scheduled drive-thru and walk-up appointments that will be scheduled after an evaluation is done with a Sea Mar provider over the phone. Testing is free for all family members and health insurance is not required.

Federal Way

31405 18th Ave S, Federal Way 98003
253-681-6600 | Tuesdays 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Thursdays 9:00 AM – 1:00PM

Kent

233 2nd Ave S, Kent 98032
206-436-6380 | Mondays 9:00 AM – 1:00PM

UW Mobile Clinic

Highline College

2400 S 240th St, Des Moines, 98198
206-744-0400 | Wednesdays 7:00 AM – 1:00PM

Kent Showare Center

625 W James St, Kent 98032
206-744-0400 | Thursdays 7:00AM – 1:00PM

Auburn City Adventist Church

402 29th St. SE, Auburn
206-477-0400 | Tuesdays 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM

HealthPoint

Auburn

126 Auburn Ave, Auburn 98002
866-893-5717 (Call for appointment)

Seattle Testing Sites

Public Health – Seattle & King County is supporting the City of Seattle and the University of Washington to launch two free drive-through COVID-19 testing sites. The facilities are located in north and south Seattle and will operate Monday through Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and accommodate drive-through clients who [book ahead through the website](#). Tests will be administered by the Seattle Fire Department.

SCAN: New Testing Program to Better Understand COVID-19 Outbreak

Public Health – Seattle and King County has partnered with the Seattle Flu Study to launch a home testing program called Seattle Coronavirus Assessment Network (SCAN). On June 10th, SCAN resumed testing of home-based, self-collected samples for COVID-19 and return of results. Learn more about it [here](#).

Viral PCR Test

A viral PCT test is a diagnostic tool and is administered when someone is suspected of having COVID-19. A positive result means it's confirmed that the patient has or has recently had COVID-19.

Antibody Test

A new type of test called [serology \(antibody\) tests](#), measures antibodies to the SARS-CoV2 virus (which causes COVID-19). It is a blood test that can be done on anyone with or without symptoms, and it is not a diagnostic tool. The antibody tests show if someone was exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It is becoming available, but there are important limitations.

An antibody test might not show if you have a current infection because it can take 1–3 weeks after infection for your body to make antibodies. Having antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19 might provide protection from getting infected with the virus again. If it does, we do not know how much protection the antibodies might provide or how long this protection might last.

"It's important to understand that there is no reliable way at this time to know if someone is protected based on results of an antibody test, and any product that provides an 'immunity certificate' or other statement indicating protection based on the test result is unlawful and should be reported to the [FDA](#) and the [Washington State Office of the Attorney General](#)."

Isolation & Quarantine

The purpose of this set of actions is to provide safe Isolation/Quarantine locations for County residents who cannot safely isolate or quarantine in their home, either because they do not have one or because they share their home with a vulnerable person.

[CDC Guidelines](#) | [Public Health Guidelines](#) | [FAQs](#)

Local Health Officer Quarantine Directive and Isolation Order

Effective March 28, 2020, individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 and have a test result pending may place other vulnerable members of the public at risk. To protect the health of our community and prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Local Health Officer issued the following:

Quarantine Directive

Everyone with COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, and/or difficulty breathing) who has a **test result pending shall stay in a quarantine location** (your home if you have one or in a government directed or publicly provided location if one is available) in accordance with CDC and Public Health guidance.

Isolation Order

- All individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 shall enter and remain in isolation. Do not leave your home or recovery facility, except to receive medical care.
- For individuals with symptoms, **discontinue isolation only** under the following conditions:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **AND**
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- For individuals who tested positive but have not had any symptoms, discontinue isolation when at least 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, and there has been no subsequent illness.

Compliance

All individuals are strongly urged to voluntarily comply with this directive and order without delay. **Individuals who fail to comply may be subject to involuntary detention** pursuant to public health authority under [RCW 70.05.070 \(2\)-\(3\)](#) and WAC [246-100-036 \(3\)](#).

Isolation/Quarantine Sites

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCvmqmnQh5Q>

- **Kent Motel** (former Econo Lodge) | 15 rooms initially; total capacity 79
1233 Central Avenue North, Kent | <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mleu9H6b-Ds>
- **North Seattle/Aurora** | Six modular units; total capacity 23
1132 N. 128th Street, Seattle | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmTr_syU_rg
- **Issaquah Hotel** (leased former Holiday Inn) | total capacity 99
1801 12th Avenue NW, Issaquah

Assessment Center/Recovery Center (AC/RC)

A large, congregate care facility designed to provide Public Health-supervised care to symptomatic or COVID positive adults who are not able to follow public health guidance for isolation, quarantine, or recovery in their own home, or because they do not have a home. AC/RC facilities can serve as flex space for hospitals, making it possible to discharge non-serious COVID cases to the AC/RC, freeing hospital beds for the most acute cases.

The purpose of this set of actions is to provide “surge” capacity for hospital diversion during the projected peak of an outbreak. This emergency strategy will provide congregate settings for larger groups of people to be assessed for COVID-19 and to receive nurse-level Public Health supervision for people who do not need—or who no longer need—hospital-level care.

King County has identified the following sites for AC/RC assistance (others may be added):

- Shoreline: 19030 – 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline (150)
- Eastgate: 13620 Eastgate Way, Bellevue (150)
- Interbay: 601 Elliott Avenue West, Seattle (72)
- SoDo: 1039 Sixth Ave. S., Seattle (250)

This [video](#) highlights an example of how local companies are stepping up to support County residents who will recover at AC/RC sites.

Shelters

King County Reduces Shelter Concentrations

April 2, 2020

King County continues to reduce shelter concentrations by moving nearly 400 people to hotels. This is another in a series of actions King County is taking to “de-intensify” the concentration of people in shelters. This action also will allow locations to stay open 24/7, and meals will be provided. Onsite services and oversight will be provided by the shelter operators. These are not isolation and quarantine facilities. The people who are moving are presumed to be well.

The purpose of this set of actions is to support existing institutions to implement Public Health guidance to prevent transmission of COVID-19. This strategy focuses on preventing people from contracting COVID-19 in the first place.

- **The Sophia Way** is moving 100 people from a shelter site in Bellevue to a hotel in Bellevue, at 625 116th Avenue NE.
- **Catholic Community Services** is moving 90 people from shelter sites in Kent, Federal Way and Renton to a SeaTac hotel, at 2900 S. 192nd Street. It is also moving approximately 40 people from the King County Airport shelter to the Inn at Queen Anne.
- **Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC)** is moving 200 people from its Seattle shelters to a hotel in Renton, at 1 South Grady Way.
- **The Salvation Army** is moving about 60 people from the King County Administration Building and the King County 4th and Jefferson Building Shelter to the Civic Hotel.

Shelter “De-intensification”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4i5tMlCF-rU>

Seattle and King County created space for shelter “de-intensification” that allows shelters to maintain the minimum six-foot distance between residents that Public Health recommends.

Facial Coverings Mandatory Statewide

Gov. Jay Inslee has announced a statewide mandate requiring facial coverings when in public effective June 26th. The statewide order includes exemptions for children under 5 and those who are deaf or hard of hearing. Additionally, beginning July 7th, businesses must require all employees and customers to wear face coverings. Under this [proclamation](#), businesses may not serve any customer, services or goods, if they do not comply with the state-wide face covering order. The decision comes as counties across the state, including King County, have seen COVID-19 infections on the rise in the last month as more people interact with each other. On July 23rd, the state also expanded its face covering mandate to include common areas, such as elevators, hallways, lobbies and similar areas effective July 25th.

King County Face Covering Directive

Face coverings are required in all public indoor spaces, and outdoors when you cannot remain 6 feet apart. The Washington State Department of Health has issued a statewide order requiring individuals to wear a face covering in indoor public spaces such as stores, offices and restaurants. The order also requires face coverings outdoors when you can't stay 6 feet apart from others. A face covering is not needed when you are outside walking, exercising, or otherwise outdoors if you are able to regularly stay 6 feet away from other people who do not live with you.

[WA DOH Full Guidance](#) | [COVID-19 Page](#)

Wear fabric face coverings, such as cloth face masks, scarves, and bandanas. The face covering must fit over your nose and mouth. It is important to save medical-grade surgical masks and N95 respirators for healthcare workers and people who have special health needs.

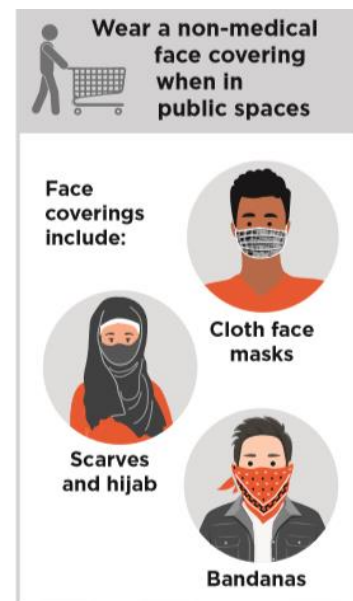
[Instructions on making cloth masks.](#)

To protect yourself, wear face coverings properly.

- Your mask should cover your nose and mouth at all times.
- Always wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before you put on a face covering and after removing it.
- Change your face covering when it gets moist.
- Wash your face covering after each use.

Some people do not need to follow this directive, including:

- Children ages 2 years and younger. Babies and toddlers under age two should never wear cloth face coverings.
- Children ages 3-5 are encouraged to wear a face covering when possible.
- Anyone with a disability that makes it hard for them to wear or remove a face covering.
- Anyone who is deaf and moves their face and mouth to communicate.
- Anyone who has been advised by a medical professional to not wear a face covering because of personal health issues.
- Anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, or unable to remove the face covering without help.



REMEMBER: Staying home is still the safest way to prevent spreading COVID-19. When out, wear your face covering, stay 6 feet apart from others, wash your hands frequently, and stay local. Businesses are required to post signage advising individuals to wear face coverings on the premises. Businesses can download a sign that can be used for this purpose at www.kingcounty.gov/masks.

Translations: Amharic | Chinese | English | Khmer | Korean | Russian | Somali | Spanish | Vietnamese | For Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Blind Community Members

King County Mask Distribution Program

King County purchased 25 million cloth and disposable masks in an effort to provide these critical supplies to our communities as we enter new phases of re-opening in the wake of COVID-19. We are working with Chambers of Commerce, King County Cities, County Councilmembers, Community Organizations, Churches and Faith-Based Organizations, Transit Agencies, Food Banks, Senior Centers, and other key stakeholders to get supplies out to King County residents. Please visit this [website](#) for more information on how to access these supplies.

King County Donation Website

The [King County Regional Donations Connector](#) is now available online to link up individuals, businesses, non-profits, and others who have resources with those who need them during the COVID-19 pandemic.

King County Project CARE

On April 14th, King County launched the [Project C.A.R.E. website](#) (C.A.R.E stands for COVID-19 ACTION and RESPONSE ENLISTMENT). It is a comprehensive website that centralizes donations and volunteer opportunities to encourage people to give back to their community, and help connect would-be volunteers with the organizations where their help is most needed.

King County 2020 Broadband Access Study

King County has completed its 2020 broadband access study which highlights that sustaining vibrant communities must include removing barriers that prevent low-income and rural residents in our community from full and equitable digital engagement. Read more about it [here](#). For results specific to District 7, click [here](#).

Office of Equity and Social Justice

Resource Guide

The King County Office of Equity and Social Justice has expanded their [resource guide](#), highlighting financial resources for individuals, families, and small businesses.

Translations: Amharic | Arabic | Chinese | Korean | Oromo | Russian | Somali | Spanish | Tigrinya | Vietnamese

Equity Impact Awareness Tool

There are 3 primary factors that can identify communities whose health is especially vulnerable to an economic crisis during COVID 19 response. This [tool](#) can be used as a reference for understanding these factors as they present in the data.

Anti-Stigma Resources

Misinformation about coronavirus can create fear and hostility that hurts people and makes it harder to keep everyone healthy. We're stronger as a community when we stand together against discrimination. Take advantage of these [resources](#) to prevent, interrupt, and respond to stigma.

GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY ACTIONS

Federal Emergency Actions and Guidance

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 page](#) is an excellent source of information and guidance about federal actions and guidance for travelers, employers, schools and community and faith-based organizations.

State Emergency Actions

Gov. Jay Inslee has announced a series of emergency actions to stop the spread of coronavirus. Learn more about [state emergency actions](#) or [view recent and upcoming press conferences](#).

Local Emergency Actions

Local jurisdictions may choose to impose additional actions or guidance to their communities. Visit [Public Health — Seattle & King County's website](#) and see King County's response to COVID-19.

Enforcement

On March 30th, Gov. Jay Inslee, outlined three tiers of response to complaints of suspected violation of the order.

- The first tier is to educate the suspected violator about how to comply with the order.
- For those who don't comply at that point, the state could issue citations or suspend permits, including revocation of business licenses.
- At the third tier, for continued violators, cases could be referred to the Attorney General for either civil or criminal charges.

People who suspect a business is violating the order can visit the state's coronavirus site to [report online](#) or can contact local law enforcement through non-emergency numbers. Inslee and other officials stressed that people should not call 911 to report such violations.

In King County, violating a Local Health Order is a misdemeanor. Violators of the Governor's Proclamations may be subject to criminal penalties. King County will not be actively searching for violations, our focus is on helping people understand the importance social distancing, rather than citations. If you have specific questions or reports related to this Guidance, please email coronavirus@kingcounty.gov.

FDA Warns the Public About Methanol-based Hand Sanitizers

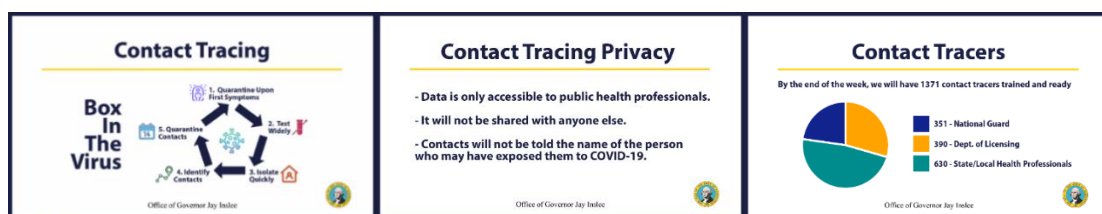
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued a warning about methanol-based hand sanitizers. The FDA is advising consumers not to use [certain hand sanitizers](#) due to the potential presence of methanol, a toxic alcohol that can cause blindness or death when absorbed through the skin or when swallowed. Read the Department of Labor and Industries' [press release](#).

Guidelines for Opening up America Again

Developed by the top medical experts from across the Government and based on verifiable metrics regarding the situation on the ground, the guidelines outline a phased return to reopening including specific steps for State, Local, and Tribal officials to follow in tailoring their response. The plan, exclamation points and all, can be found here: [Guidelines for Opening up America Again!](#) This marks all levels of government starting to coalesce around a stepwise re-emergence strategy centered on sound public health guidance.

Contact Tracing

On May 12th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced the launch of a statewide [contact tracing plan](#) that will allow more businesses to open and more people to be active in public while helping to slow and prevent the spread of COVID-19.



COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard

The State has put together a [COVID-19 Risk Assessment Dashboard](#) that provides a high-level overview of the main data points discussed among state leaders and the level of risk experts perceive around the current numbers and situation. The dashboard gives more details on the metrics discussed by Gov. Inslee that will be used to determine readiness to proceed safely through a phased reopening.

Governor Ends "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" Order

Updated on May 29, 2020

On March 23rd, Gov. Inslee issued the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order, which requires everyone in the state to stay home. The "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order ended on May 31st as the Governor issued a new proclamation that shifts the state to Safe Start – Washington's Phased Reopening, a county-by-county approach that provides more flexibility for counties that don't meet the criteria to fully move to the next phase.

To clarify status, or to petition to be added to the list of essential businesses, please email: business@mil.wa.gov

Governor Extends Pause on Phased Reopening

Gov. Jay Inslee extended the [pause on phased reopening](#) indefinitely as statewide cases continued to rise. The pause means no counties can be approved for moving to the next phase of reopening until that date if the order is not extended further.

Safe Start Approach

On May 31st, Gov. Jay Inslee issued his [Safe Start Washington: A Phased Approach to Recovery](#) proclamation, and gave details on the county-by-county approach allowing for flexibility and local control to address COVID-19 activity geographically. Effective June 1st, counties may apply to John Wiesman, Secretary of Washington State Department of Health, to advance phases. Applications will be evaluated by a county's ability to meet target metrics and will be considered holistically in their readiness and ability to respond.

Smaller counties can [apply for a variance](#) from the order which would allow them to open even more businesses than allowed statewide. Counties are now eligible to apply if they have less than 10 new cases per 100,000 residents over a 14-day span.

Phased reopening application is currently on pause.

King County Moves to Phase 2

On June 19th, King County entered Phase 2 of the Safe Start plan. Effective immediately, salons and barbershops can increase capacity, and retail stores, restaurants & bars can reopen with limited capacity. For inquiries, please contact the Business & Community Compliance line at 206-296-1608. **A full list of permitted activities and limitations** can be found at [Safe Start King County | Spanish](#).

Advisory Groups

On May 5th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced three new advisory groups that will focus on certain areas as the state moves to reopen in phases from the closures brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. More information is available [here](#).

- Public Health and Health Care Systems (DOH)
- Safe Work and Economic Recovery (DOC)
- Social Supports (DSHS)

Essential Business Guidance

Many parts of the economy are already allowed to operate safely as essential businesses. For a list of essential businesses click [here](#).

- [Agriculture](#)
- [Additional Agricultural Guidance](#)
- [Automotive, Energy, Food and Agriculture, Healthcare/Public Health, In-Home Care, Maintenance, Recreation, Real Estate, and Retail Guidance](#)
- [Construction Guidance](#)
- [Commercial driver license guidelines](#)
- [Elective Surgeries Guidance](#)
- [Funeral Guidance](#)
- [Higher Education and Campus Reopening Guide](#)
- [Home Care Workers Guidance](#)

- [Long-Term Care Facility Guidance](#)
[Adult family homes, assisted living facilities and enhanced services facilities](#)
[Certified community residential services and support](#)
[Nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities](#)
- [Outdoor Guidance](#)
- [Real Estate and Mortgage Guidance](#)
- [List of approved essential workforce education programs](#)

Phase 1

On May 5th, [Phase 1](#) begins and builds upon reopening some construction activity and outdoor activities such as fishing, hunting, playing golf, and some park access. Click on the items below to see Gov. Inslee's guidelines on each of the following:

- [Additional Guidance on Voluntary Contact Information](#)
- [Car Washes](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Additional Construction Guidance](#)
- [Curbside Retail](#)
- [Higher Education](#) and [Campus Reopening Guide](#)
- [Landscape Services and Outdoor Maintenance Industry](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation Additional Guidance](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation- Golf](#)
- [Pet Walking Industry](#)
- [Recreational Activities](#)
- [Religious and Faith-based Organization](#)
- [Spiritual Drive-in Services](#)
- [Vehicle and Vessel Sales](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Washington Talking Book and Braille Library](#)
- [Weddings, Funeral and Memorial Services](#)

Phase 2

For counties with a population of less than 75,000 that have not had a new case of COVID-19 in the past three weeks can apply for a variance to move to Phase 2 of "Safe Start" before other parts of the state. County variance applications will be approved or denied by the secretary of the Department of Health.

- [Additional Guidance on Voluntary Contact Information](#)
- [Agricultural Events](#)
- [Card Rooms](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Curbside Library Services](#)
- [Dine-in restaurants and taverns](#)
- [Drive-in Theater Guidance](#)
- [Domestic Services](#)
- [Fitness](#) | [FAQs](#)
- [Higher Education](#) and [Campus Reopening Guide](#)
- [In-store Retail Operations](#)
- [Manufacturing operations](#)

- [Motion Picture Industry](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation Additional Guidance](#)
- [Outdoor Recreation- Golf](#)
- [Overnight Group Summer Camps](#)
- [Personal Services](#)
- [Pet Grooming](#)
- [Professional Photography](#)
- [Professional Services](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Religious and Faith Organizations](#)
- [Sporting Activities](#)
- [Weddings, Funeral and Memorial Services](#)

Phase 3

On June 5th, Gov. Jay Inslee released a [template for businesses](#) in Phase 3 of the Washington Safe Start plan. Each business or entity operating in Phase 3 must develop a written safety plan outlining how its workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. A business may fill out this template to fulfill the requirement or may develop its own safety plan.

- [Dine-in restaurants and taverns](#)
- [Fitness | FAQs](#)
- [Overnight Group Summer Camps](#)
- [Religious and Faith Organizations](#)
- [Sporting Activities](#)
- [Weddings, Funeral and Memorial Services](#)

New Limits on Social Gatherings

As COVID-19 cases surge across the state, Gov. Inslee and Secretary of Health John Wiesman announced a new limit on social gatherings and a ban on live entertainment across the state effective July 20th.

Under the new Safe Start phase limits, the number of individuals allowed in social gatherings during Phase 3 will be reduced from 50 people to 10 people. Counties in Phase 2, including King County, may continue to have social gatherings of up to five people. All live entertainment, indoor or outdoor, are prohibited statewide. This includes drive-in concerts, comedy clubs and music in restaurants. You can read more about it [here](#).

New Restrictions for Bars, Restaurants, Fitness Centers and more

On July 23rd, Gov. Inslee announced new restrictions for restaurants, bars, fitness centers and weddings and funerals as COVID-19 continues to surge in Washington and beyond.

Bars, Restaurants, Fitness Centers

Effective July 30th, the new restrictions for bars, restaurants and fitness centers will further limit the possibility of interaction between members of different households to limit potential exposure to infected individuals. The restrictions include:

- Indoor dining at restaurants is limited to members of the same household. Members of different households can sit together outside.
- Restaurants must close gaming areas, such as pool tables, darts, video games, until Phase 4. Table size in Phase 3 will be reduced to 5 and occupancy limited to 50%.
- Restaurant alcohol service must end at 10 p.m.
- Bars will be closed for indoor service. This includes taverns, breweries, wineries and distilleries, regardless of whether they provide food.
- Fitness centers in Phase 2 can only allow 5 people for indoor fitness services at a time. This includes gyms, studios, indoor pools, ice rinks, volleyball courts and tennis facilities. Occupancy in Phase 3 will be reduced to 25%, with group classes limited to no more than 10, not including the instructor.

Weddings and Funerals

Effective August 6th, wedding and funeral ceremonies are limited to 20% indoor occupancy or 30 people, whichever is less. Wedding and funeral receptions are prohibited. Weddings and funerals will be given a two-week grace period for those already planned.

Business owners with questions about how the new restrictions might apply to them can fill out an [inquiry form](#) and contact the state to get more information.

Guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities

On August 6th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced guidance that allows long-term care facilities to offer visitation and other activities. The announcement does not constitute an immediate reopening of all long-term care facilities. Modeled after the Safe Start plan, the restart plan includes a number of public health metrics that must be met in order for facilities to move through the process. The plan goes into effect August 12th, and even after it becomes effective, individual facilities must meet additional parameters before re-opening. Read more about it [here](#).

Guidance on Funerals

On March 28th, in partnership with the governor's office, the Washington State Department of Licensing [sent additional guidance](#) to funeral homes and cemeteries. Licensed funeral homes and cemeteries may conduct funeral services in a funeral home or graveside under the following conditions:

- Funerals are only attended by immediate family members of the deceased.
- The family members in attendance must maintain proper social distancing, defined by the Centers for Disease Control as staying six feet apart.
- The governor's proclamation does not prohibit embalming.

If you have any questions, please contact Rick Storvick, Regulatory Boards Administrator, at 360-664-1387 or email at rstorvick@dol.wa.gov.

Agricultural Worker Testing

On August 19th, Governor Inslee issued an update to [Proclamation 20-57](#), "Concerning the Health of Agricultural Workers." The proclamation now requires agricultural employers to test their workforce broadly when health officials identify an outbreak that passes certain thresholds. Read more about it [here](#).

Guidance for the Agricultural Industry

On June 2nd, Gov. Jay Inslee issued [guidance](#) further clarifying requirements for the agricultural industry. This comes after the governor issued [Proclamation 20-57](#) last week concerning the health of agricultural workers. It also builds on the [Agricultural Safety Plan](#) and [previous guidance](#) from the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

Relief Funds for Immigrants and Agricultural Workers

On August 10th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced the creation of two funds to help workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Immigrant Relief Fund will provide \$40 million to assist Washington residents who are unable to access federal stimulus programs due to their immigration status, and the Food Production Paid Leave Program will provide \$3 million of financial resources to certain food production workers who remain home when ill.

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services has issued a request for proposals to select a nonprofit that will administer the [Immigrant Relief Fund](#).

Governor Announces Funding for Rent Assistance, Small Businesses, Non-profits, Tribal Recovery Efforts

On July 1st, Gov. Jay Inslee announced the state distributed \$365 million in federal funds to help with continuing COVID-19 relief efforts in the state of Washington. This sum includes \$351 million from the CARES Act fund and \$13.5 million from FEMA. To date, the state had distributed more than \$950 million in federal COVID-19 relief and federal response funds. \$163 million of this week's distribution went to the state Department of Commerce to help populations hit hardest by the pandemic. Funds allocated included:

- \$100 million for low-income renters at risk of becoming homeless, including rental assistance through an existing framework that sends payments directly to landlords;
- \$20 million to provide grants to small businesses, support for local economic development organizations that give assistance to businesses and support for data-driven recovery plans by region and industry;
- \$20 million to provide operating grants for non-profit organizations that are working to address disparities and inequities exacerbated by increased need and funding shortfalls due to COVID-19. Many of these include community and youth development programs;
- \$20 million to help tribes with pandemic recovery efforts.

You can read more about it [here](#).

Driver Licenses Temporary Extension

Gov. Inslee has taken action to allow the Department of Licensing (DOL) to [temporarily extend the expiration dates of driver licenses](#) that expire on or after March 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020. Some licensing offices have reopened and are accepting limited in-person driver licensing appointments. Visit [DOL's website](#) for more information.

New Protections for High-Risk Workers

On April 13th, Gov. Jay Inslee issued a proclamation giving high-risk workers the right to protect themselves from COVID-19 without jeopardizing their employment status or loss of income. The [proclamation](#) provides older workers and those with underlying health conditions a series of rights and protections, including:

- The choice of an alternative work assignment, including telework, alternative or remote work locations if feasible, and social distancing measures.
- The ability to use any accrued leave or unemployment benefits if an alternative work assignment is not feasible and the employee is unable to safely work. Employers must maintain health insurance benefits while high risk employees are off the job.
- Employers are prohibited from permanently replacing high-risk employees.

High-risk individuals are defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and specifically include people 65 years of age or older and people of all ages with underlying medical conditions.

Telemedicine Expanded for Medicaid Clients, Public Employees and School Workers

The state has taken several steps to support expanded use of telehealth for Medicaid clients as well as public employees and school workers. This includes: providing services through telephone interaction; online digital interaction through a patient portal; and video-based evaluation and management health services. Learn much more on [their website](#).

Reducing COVID-19 Transmission Risk in Correctional Facilities

On April 13th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced steps to protect the health of [incarcerated individuals](#) by focusing on the early release of vulnerable populations, including nonviolent individuals who are due to be released within the coming weeks and months. The plan will focus on individuals incarcerated for nonviolent and drug- or alcohol-related offenses, as well as people held on lower-level supervision violations.

Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention

The [Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention](#) is taking emergency action to ensure the health and safety of people in custody, visitors, and staff at all correctional facilities during the COVID-19 outbreak. King County Executive Dow Constantine also signed an order on March 24th suspending the work release program as [part of several steps](#) to reduce the number of people in custody and ensure the health of everyone in correctional facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

King County Council Approves Third Round of Emergency Funding

On June 23rd, the King County Council has approved a third round of emergency funding in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. \$86.2 million in funding has been provided for a variety of programs, headlined by a \$27.2 million appropriation for food security, rental assistance, & homeless services. You can find out more [here](#).

King County Property Taxes Payment Plan

The King County Council has unanimously approved a new form of property tax relief, which includes implementing a payment plan for 2020 property taxes. You can learn more about the program at this [link](#).

Taxpayers with questions about their property tax bill or payment options can contact King County Treasury at propertytax.customerservice@kingcounty.gov or 206-263-2890.

RESIDENTS | CONSUMERS

Food Assistance

USDA Meals for Kids

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) launched the [“Meals for Kids” Site Finder](#) to help families find meals for children while schools are closed during the coronavirus pandemic.

Pandemic EBT

P-EBT is a new emergency program for ALL children in grades K-12, who receive free or reduced-price school meals. P-EBT is not subject to public charge and will not affect your immigration status. P-EBT provides families with funds to pay the cost of meals while schools are closed due to COVID-19. If your family receives Basic Food through DSHS and your children receive free or reduced-price school meals, you do not need to apply for P-EBT. You will automatically receive these one-time benefits on your EBT card. Check with your school district to find out if you need to apply for free or reduced-price school meals so your family can receive P-EBT funds.

You will need to [apply for P-EBT](#) if your children are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals but do not receive Basic Food benefits.

Summer Food Service Program

The Summer Food Service Program provides children with nutritious meals during the summer. To find a summer meals site near you, text “food” or “comida” to 877-877. For more information contact the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction’s Child Nutrition Services Department at (360) 725-6200.

Map of Free Food Resources

Public Health – Seattle & King County and the City of Seattle released [a map of free food resources](#), which will be updated weekly. This new tool includes information about resources across King County in order to provide emergency food during COVID-19.

Emergency Food Access Resources

Public Health – Seattle and King County has assembled an array of resources for people who need help staying fed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The page, which will be continuously updated as new resources become available, includes information on food delivery, pick-up, and access in general with specific information for older adults, children, pregnant people and new moms, people without shelter, and more. You can access [the site here](#).

Multi-Service Center Provides Free Summer Meals

MSC offers free snacks and meals for children 18 years of age or under through the United Way of King County's Summer Meals Program. Summer Meals will be available at these [locations](#) during 2020.

Women, Infants, Children

WIC is the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children. The program gives families access to nutritious foods, nutrition education and breastfeeding support, health assessments and referrals. People seeking WIC services do not need to visit a WIC clinic. WIC services are available by phone or video chat even when physical buildings are closed. To find WIC services in your area: Call the Help Me Grow WA Hotline at 1-800-322-2588 | Text "WIC" to 96859 [Visit ParentHelp123's ResourceFinder](#) | Download the WIC Shopper [app for more information](#).

Financial Assistance

Department of Financial Institutions Resources

The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions has [developed a list of financial resources](#) for Washington consumers impacted by the Coronavirus. We will add to this list as more resources become available.

KCLS Financial Assistance Navigation Services

The King County Library System Financial Assistance Navigation Service helps point King County residents to the financial assistance programs they need, such as business loans, unemployment claims and rent assistance. Residents looking for guidance may visit [KCLS Financial Assistance website](#) to complete an online form detailing their small business and/or personal financial needs, and they will receive personalized financial information and referrals from KCLS staff. Those without computer or Internet access may call (800) 462-9600 to schedule a phone appointment.

Disaster Cash Assistance Program

Washington State has made an emergency change to how [Disaster Cash Assistance Program](#) (DCAP) funds can be used in order to further assist people in need during the COVID-19 crisis. It is normally used to help low-income families following natural disasters, but the State has made an emergency change to the WAC to allow funds to be used during the pandemic.

This policy change will provide assistance for one month to Washington families and people without children who are not eligible for other cash programs, and who meet the income and resource limits of the program. People can apply for assistance by calling the Customer Service Contact Center at 877-501-2233 or by applying online at [WashingtonConnection.org](#).

Federal Stimulus Check

Cash assistance from the federal government's stimulus package, of up to \$1,200 per person depending on income, were sent to eligible households in early April. The US Congress and Senate are working together to provide another round of cash assistance in the near future. For additional information, visit the [Economic Impact Payments Information Center](#).

Mental Health Support

This is a time of stress and anxiety for many Washingtonians. It's important that people stay home as much as possible and practice social distancing, but that can also feel isolating. The workers in our behavioral health community are ready to help. If you or a family member needs emotional or mental health support, or treatment resources for substance use, please consider calling the [Washington Recovery Help Line](https://www.wa.gov/health/behavioral-health/recovery-help-line) at 1-866-789-1511.

If you're feeling lonely, stressed or anxious, check out this State Department of Health [blog post](#) for three ways you can take control. King County also has [mental health resources](#) available to its residents.

For professional mental health services and support, call the King County 24-Hour Crisis Line at 1-866-427-4747.

Rental Assistance

King County Eviction Prevention and Rent Assistance Program

King County has created a new program to assist households economically impacted by the coronavirus due to illness, loss of income or unemployment who have been unable to meet rent obligations and are at risk for eviction. **King County is accepting interest forms** from [tenants](#), [small landlords](#), [large property landlords and managers](#), [manufactured home park owners and managers](#), and [local nonprofits](#) who wish to participate in a new Eviction Prevention and Rent Assistance Program. Over \$41 million is dedicated to helping local area residents.

To ensure timely availability of rent assistance while also seeking feedback to ensure a program that is as effective, equitable, and efficient as possible, King County is [seeking comments about the program](#) until August 25, 2020.

United Way King County

United Way has an expanded program of rental assistance since April 10th. One month of rental assistance is being offered to people in King County struggling to pay rent due to the coronavirus. Listed below are the requirements to qualify and a link to the application. Funds are available on a first come, first served basis.

If you're a King County resident who has been impacted financially by COVID-19 and are behind on your rent, you may qualify for assistance. If you meet the requirements, please fill out the online application at www.uwkc.org/renthelp or call 2-1-1. United Way is currently fundraising for additional support. Please provide your email and they will let you know if the program reopens. You may also send an email to RentHelp@uwkc.org.

You may apply for this assistance if you:

- Live in King County, WA
- Are behind in rent
- Are economically impacted by COVID-19
- Have a current monthly household income that is below these amounts (50% of Area Median Income):

1 Person: up to \$3,483 | 2 Persons: up to \$3,983 | 3 Persons: up to \$4,479

4 Persons: up to \$4,975 | 5 Persons: up to \$5,375 | 6 Persons: up to \$5,775

Statewide Moratorium on Evictions

On July 23rd, Gov. Jay Inslee [extended protections for renters](#) to October 15th as COVID-19 continues to impact the finances of Washingtonians statewide. The governor first proclaimed a moratorium on evictions in mid-March, then extended and expanded the moratorium in mid-April and June. *The King County Sheriff's Office has said it won't enforce evictions during the continuing outbreak.*

Unincorporated King County Tenant Protections

On June 23rd, King County Council passed a new legislation protecting tenants who are unable to pay their rent due to the financial impacts of COVID-19. The ordinance extends protections to residential tenants, including manufactured homeowners, and small commercial tenants in King County. Learn more about it [here](#).

Homeowners and Mortgage Assistance

Federal Housing Support (CARES Act)

For homeowners with federally-backed mortgages and properties that receive federal subsidies, the CARES Act provides:

- a 12 month forbearance on mortgage payments
- a 60-day moratorium on foreclosures
- a 120-day moratorium on evictions and late fees for renters

Emergency Solutions Grant

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program utilizes federal funds to support communities in providing street outreach, emergency shelter, rental assistance, and related services. This program provides resources for adults and families with children experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. More information about Washington state's Emergency Solutions Grants [available here](#).

Coronavirus Support and Assistance

- [List of COVID-19 Mortgage Assistance and Relief Programs](#)
List of federal government programs and mortgage lenders offering relief.
- [COVID-19 Guidance to Mortgage Servicers](#)
Guidance issued by DFI to Washington mortgage servicers.

Foreclosure Assistance and Information

- [Washington Foreclosure Mediation Program](#)
Information about the Washington foreclosure mediation program.
- [Washington Foreclosure Prevention Guide](#)
Resource for homeowners to learn about how to avoid foreclosure.
- [Resources for Washington Homeowners](#)
Mortgage and avoiding foreclosure resources for Washington homeowners.

Telephone Support and Assistance

If you don't have enough money to pay, contact your lender or landlord immediately.

- Washington Homeownership Hotline (877-894-4663)

- Department of Financial Institutions (877-746-4334)
- Housing and Urban Development Counseling Program (800-569-4287)
- [List of Housing Counseling Agencies](#)
- [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau suggestions](#)

Internet Access

Drive-in WiFi Hotspots

The Washington State Broadband Office estimates over 300 new drive-in Wi-Fi hotspots coming online statewide through an initiative to bring free public broadband internet access to all residents. Access is available to all residents with specific emphasis on remote learning for students. Additionally, this service can be used for job searches, telehealth, telework, unemployment filing, and census participation. For complete information and a map of locations, visit www.driveinwifi.wa.gov.

Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots

Xfinity is offering free WiFi hot spots, unlimited data, and no disconnects or late fees. A map of free hotspot locations and info on how to connect is [here](#). There are thousands of these hotspot locations across King County.

Comcast Internet Essentials

Comcast is offering 60 days of free internet access for low-income families. To sign up, applicants can visit their [website](#).

AT&T Access

AT&T offers low-cost internet service for eligible households who participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Visit their [website](#) for more information.

Utilities Assistance

If you need help paying your utility bills, contact your service provider immediately.

Utilities and Transportation Commission

UTC offers [energy assistance programs](#). For questions, email consumer@utc.wa.gov or call 1-888-333-9882.

Federal Government

Federal government also has [assistance programs](#) to help with telephone and heating bills. For questions, call USAGov at 1-844-872-4681.

Puget Sound Energy

[PSE](#) will not disconnect customers, will waive late fees and offer payment plans. PSE will also make funds available to help customers who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic through its [Crisis-Affected Customer Assistance Program \(CACAP\)](#).

City of Seattle

[Seattle City Light and Seattle Public Utilities](#) will not shut off service for Seattle residents during the emergency. They also offer [deferred payment plans and discount programs](#). For more information, call 206-684-3000 or send an email 24/7 at <http://www.seattle.gov/utilities/about-us/email-question>.

City of Bellevue

[Bellevue's Utilities Department](#) is not disconnecting water service for non-payment at this time. Additionally, it is temporarily waiving late fees for non-payment. For questions, call 425-452-6932 or email Utilities@bellevuewa.gov.

CenturyLink

[CenturyLink](#) is not disconnecting internet service or assessing late fees at this time. Eligible customers can get more information and contact CenturyLink at 1-800-871-9244.

T-Mobile

[T-Mobile](#) is not disconnecting small business customers due to inability to pay at this time. Additionally, it is temporarily waiving any late fees that small business customers incur due to the COVID-19 situation. Eligible customers can find more information from T-Mobile. If you are past due you can set up a payment arrangement [online](#), or dial 611 from your T-Mobile device to speak to your Team of Experts to find the best solution for you.

HELP FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Domestic Violence

- [National Domestic Violence](#) 1-800-799-7233 | TTY: 1-800-787-3224 | Text "LOVEIS" to 22522
- [Domestic Abuse Women's Network](#) (S. King County) 425-656-7867 | Toll Free 1-877-465-7234
- [LifeWire](#) (E. King County): 425-746-1940 | 1-800-827-8840
- [New Beginnings](#) (Seattle/N. King County): 206-522-9472

Sexual Assault

- [King County Sexual Assault Resource Center](#): 425-226-5062 | 1-888-998-6423 | TTY: 425-271-6332 | Contact Dando Voz in Spanish at 425-282-0324
- [Peace In the Home Helpline](#): 1-888-847-7205 (*help available in multiple languages*)

Gender-Based Violence

Please visit The Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence's [website](#) for updates and a list of local resources. **All services can be accessed through one of our County's 24-hour hotlines.**
206-568-5454

RESOURCES FOR VETERANS

[King County Veterans Program](#) is here to help with emergency support, employment, housing & financial stability, and legal & end of life planning. Auburn Senior Activity Center is offering consultation hours over the phone during COVID-19. Call Paul Stayback for assistance at 206-477-0648.

The White House's interagency veteran suicide prevention task force released a two-year, \$53 million [strategy](#) outlining public health approaches to suicide prevention, with emphasis on the special needs of veterans. Read more about this [here](#). Visit this [website](#) to learn more about VA's suicide prevention resources and programs.

Veterans who are in crisis or having thoughts of suicide, and those who know a veteran in crisis, can call Veterans Crisis Line for confidential support 24 hours a day. Call 800-273-8255 and press 1, send a text message to 838255 or chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat.

RESOURCES FOR IMMIGRANTS & REFUGEES

One America has compiled a list of resources in Washington State (some in multiple languages) to ensure everyone in our communities is able to receive the care and necessities they need. You can access these [resources here](#) or on the council's www.kingcounty.gov/council/gethelp site.

Columbia Legal Services has developed a coronavirus [benefits information guide](#) for people without immigration status, currently available in English and Spanish--and they are in the process of translating it into other languages.

RESOURCES FOR WASHINGTON STATE TRIBES

The Washington State Department of Commerce announced \$5 million in emergency grants is now available to the 29 federally recognized tribes in the state to bolster their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Each tribal government will receive an immediate grant of \$100,000, with the remaining \$2.1 million distributed based on a formula currently under development between Commerce and tribal leaders. More information about the grants is [posted here](#) under the "COVID-19 Emergency Response Grant for Tribal Governments" section.

On May 28th, Gov. Inslee announced the release of a proclamation related to provisions restricting tribes' use of fuel tax refunds to highway and transportation-related purposes. The [proclamation](#) is effective immediately and will expire on June 27, 2020.

ASSISTANCE FOR KING COUNTY PET OWNERS

Regional Animal Services of King County (RASKC) has joined an amazing regional effort to ensure pet owners are able to keep their animals happy and healthy by addressing food insecurity in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the generous support of [GreaterGood.org](https://www.greatergood.org/), a national nonprofit that protects people, pets and the planet, Seattle Humane worked with a team of shelter partners to create a distribution hub to get ongoing donations of pet food and supplies to those struggling financially.

King County has leased a warehouse to store pallets of pet food and supplies, which will be distributed across the state. The groups have created an updated [interactive map](#) to help pet owners find distribution sites around the region. Pet owners who are unable to visit a physical location can visit this link to fill out and submit a [Pet Food Bank request form](#). For questions, please call 425-649-7566 or email outreach@seattlehumane.org.

Click [here](#) to learn more about King County's Pet Assistance Program.

RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

A national group of community members has established a [long list of resources](#) geared toward freelancers and artists. This includes actors, designers, musicians, composers, craft artists, teaching artists, writers, and others.

[Seattle Artists Relief Fund](#) - to assist Seattle's creative professionals such as musicians, DJ's, independent chefs, writers, etc.

[Cultural Relief Fund](#) - The King County Council has approved \$2 million towards 4Culture's COVID-19 response efforts. Click [here](#) to view the recipients of the 2020 Cultural Relief Fund.

[Amplifier](#) - 4Culture is partnering with Amplifier to select 10 King County artists to provide art work for an emergency, global campaign around the themes of public health and safety, or mental health and well-being. Each selected artist will receive a \$1,000 award. **Open call is closed.**

[American Guild of Musical Artists \(AGMA\)](#) Relief Fund is providing support and temporary financial assistance to members in need.

[Equal Sound](#) has established a coronavirus Relief Fund available to musicians who have lost income due to a cancelled show.

[Foundation for Contemporary Arts](#) offers an Emergency Fund for visual and performing artists who meet certain eligibility guidelines. The average grant award totals about \$1,600.

[Recording Academy](#) offers **MusiCares**, a short-term financial assistance program for personal needs which have arisen due to unforeseen circumstances.

[New York Foundation for the Arts](#) operates the Rauschenberg Emergency Grant program, which provides one-time grants of up to \$5,000 to artists who experience an unexpected medical emergency.

[Sweet Relief](#) has established a donor-directed assistance fund to offer short-term financial support for musicians and music industry workers affected by the COVID-19 novel coronavirus.

OTHER GRANT-BASED ASSISTANCE

4Culture: Landmarks Capital Funding

The Landmarks Capital Funding Program is now accepting applications to support urgent repairs, including emergencies and time-sensitive projects. It will prioritize projects that prevent further damage or disrepair to historic properties, or address life safety issues. The deadline to submit your application is on September 16th at 5:00PM.

Visit their [website](#) for workshop schedules and more information, or contact Dana Phelan at 206-263-1604 or dana.phelan@4culture.org.

4Culture's Reopen Fund: Organizations + Landmarks

4Culture, through an allocation by the King County Council, has committed a total of \$1.4 million to support King County cultural organizations and historic properties in their efforts to reopen their programs to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Reopen Fund supports training, protective equipment, infrastructure improvements, systems upgrades, additional personnel and other measures needed to do these activities successfully. Applicants must be cultural organizations, municipalities, or owners/stewards of historic properties in King County. Cultural organizations applying for these funds must have a primary mission related to one or more of 4Culture's funding areas: arts, heritage, and preservation. The deadline to apply is August 17th at 5:00 PM. Visit [4Culture's website](#) to apply.

Seattle Small Business Stabilization Fund

For microbusinesses with 5 or fewer employees, owner with low/medium income (less than 80% area median income), and a physical location. The City of Seattle has delayed B&O taxes for small business and established a [small business stabilization fund](#) to provide grants of up to \$10,000.

Seattle Foundation COVID-19 Response Fund

The Seattle Foundation announced a total of \$9.2 million in grants, funded by private philanthropic donors to support childcare, mental and behavioral health, and emergency financial assistance for vulnerable workers and families. You can learn more about the grants [here](#).

For community-based organizations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and its consequences. The Seattle Foundation announced over \$10 million in [grants](#) to nonprofit organizations providing a variety of critical services in this difficult time.

Amazon Neighborhood Small Business Relief Program

Will provide [assistance](#) for businesses with fewer than 50 employees or \$7 million in annual revenue, as well as a physical presence near Amazon's buildings in South Lake Union, Denny Regrade or downtown Bellevue. Funds are expected to be disbursed in early April.

BUSINESSES

Federal Small Business Administration

Paycheck Protection Program

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) is an SBA loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers employed and on the payroll during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis. SBA will forgive loans if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the money is used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities. Small businesses will be able to apply if they were harmed by COVID-19 between February 15, 2020 and June 30, 2020. The program is retroactive to February 15, 2020 in order to help bring workers who may have already been laid off back onto payrolls.

The SBA resumed accepting [Paycheck Protection Program](#) applications from participating lenders. The new deadline to apply for a Paycheck Protection Program loan is **August 8, 2020**. The new PPP Flexibility Act offers more flexibility and longer timelines to maximize loan forgiveness, along with reductions to the minimum required use of proceeds for payroll costs.

Translations: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Chinese Simplified](#) | [Chinese Traditional](#) | [French](#) | [German](#) | [Gujarati](#) | [Haitian](#) | [Creole](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Italian](#) | [Japanese](#) | [Korean](#) | [Polish](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Russian](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan

Small businesses with less than 500 employees in many Washington counties are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans. The interest rate is no higher than 4%, and the duration of the loans are no more than 30 years, but looks like the specific rates/duration are determined through the application process.

Guide: https://www.business.wa.gov/site/alias_business/1563/sba-disaster-loans.aspx

To apply: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>

SBA Debt Relief

The SBA is providing a financial reprieve to small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The SBA will automatically pay the principal, interest, and fees of **current 7(a), 504, and microloans** for a period of six months. The SBA will also automatically pay the principal, interest, and fees of **new 7(a), 504, and microloans** issued prior to September 27, 2020.

Guide: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-debt-relief#section-header-0>

SBA Express Bridge Loans

This loan enables small businesses who currently have a business relationship with an SBA Express Lender to access up to \$25,000 quickly. These loans can provide vital economic support to small

businesses to help overcome the temporary loss of revenue they are experiencing and can be a term loans or used to bridge the gap while applying for a direct SBA Economic Injury Disaster loan.

Guide: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/sba-express-bridge-loans>

State Resources

Labor and Industries (L&I) Consultation Program

L&I's Consultation Program offers confidential, no-fee, professional advice and assistance to Washington businesses. These services can help you find and fix hazards in your workplace and strengthen your safety program. [List of Services](#) | [Request an onsite consultation](#) | [Call a consultant near you](#) (King County 206-835-1065)

Working Washington Small Businesses Emergency Grant Program

Gov. Inslee has created this \$5M Grant Program for small businesses using a portion of the state's Strategic Reserve Fund (SRF). See the list of grant recipients [here](#). **Applications closed in King County.**

Association of Washington Business

The Association of Washington Business announced a [new website](#) aimed at helping Washington businesses safely welcome back employees and customers. It features an online portal to connect Washington businesses with 'Made in Washington' manufacturers of personal protective equipment (PPE), plus a toolkit for small businesses to help prepare their physical spaces for reopening and assist in communicating new health and safety protocols with employees and customers.

Business Response Center

The state Economic Resiliency Team (ERT) has started a Business Response Center to answer general business inquiries around financial help or other business assistance during the COVID-19 outbreak. Businesses with questions can visit this [one-stop portal](#) to get information related to COVID-19.

Small Business Resiliency Assistance

In partnership with Washington State's ethnic commissions, Commerce is contracting with community-based organizations to provide linguistically and culturally appropriate help to business owners. Visit their [website](#) for more information.

Washington State Department of Commerce

The Washington Department of Commerce has created a list of [crisis planning tools and resources](#) where you can get information about emergency grants, disaster loans, and other small business support.

Washington State Department of Revenue

The Washington State Department of Revenue can provide extensions on taxes and/or waive filing fees. Contact DOR at 360-705- 6705 or visit their [website](#).

Export Assistance

The Washington State Department of Commerce's [Export Assistance Team](#) division can help companies identify alternative markets and provide firms with STEP Vouchers to defray the costs of trade show or trade mission fees, airfare, interpreter and translation services, business matchmaking, export training programs and more. Contact the Export Assistance team at 206-256-6100.

The SBA's [Export Working Capital Program](#) can help small businesses obtain working capital advances from lenders on export orders, export receivables or letters of credit. SBA's Senior International Credit Officers can work directly with an impacted company to explain the program and application process.

King County Resources

Small Business Assistance Program - Unincorporated King County

King County is launched a new program to help small businesses in unincorporated King County that have been hurt by COVID-19. To learn more about this program, visit www.kingcounty.gov/localbusinesshelp.

To find out if your business is in unincorporated King County, here are two ways to find out:

- Find your business [on this map](#). The green layer indicates unincorporated King County.
- Enter the business address in [King County's Parcel Viewer](#) and see what's listed for Jurisdiction.

Coaching & Technical Assistance

If your business is in unincorporated King County, you can get help from a U.S. Treasury-certified community development financial institution. Technical assistance coaches can help you with...

- Information about the latest (federal, state, and local) funding and loan resources
- Utility bill assistance
- Filling out grant or funding application forms
- Coaching to help your business survive the impacts of Covid-19 closures
- Other advice and assistance

To access this technical assistance, call 206-331-3275 and leave a voice mail with your contact information. A technical services coach will call you back within two business days. You may also fill out and submit a Technical Assistance/Coaching Request Form at this [website](#).

Grants

The application period for the first round of King County's Small Business Assistance Grant Program has **ended**. Information on the next round of grant funding will be available on this [website](#) soon. To be eligible, a business must:

- Be active and licensed in the state of Washington, with a physical business address in unincorporated King County
- Have **no more than 15 full-time employees**
- Have been **in business for at least three years** as of Jan. 1, 2020
- Have gross revenues of **up to \$1.5 million per year**
- Have received **no other COVID-19 related aid** from federal programs, including grants, loans, or other support

King County Offers Grant for Science, Arts, Culture, Independent Music Venues

King County is providing one-time economic support grants to certain types of organizations in King County including science organizations; arts, culture, and science organizations that provide educational programs; and independent live music venues. **The grant application period is now closed. King County will notify applicants by August 14th of award status.**

For questions, please call 206-296-1608 and leave a voicemail with your name and phone number. If you need an interpreter, please indicate what language you speak. The technical assistant will call back with an interpreter within two business days. Click [here](#) for more information.

King County Office of Equity & Social Justice Community Response Fund

On May 5th, the King County Council approved a second emergency supplemental budget proposed by Executive Dow Constantine to provide additional resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Included in the legislation is \$1 million for the [Office of Equity and Social Justice \(OESJ\)](#) to expand funding for the COVID-19 Community Response Fund. **The application is now closed.**

Local Resources

Kent Small Business Emergency Relief Grant

The City Council authorized the use of \$1 million of its federal CARES Act funds for Emergency Relief Grants to help businesses recover. Businesses could receive grants of \$4,500 each to help with economic relief from the pandemic. The application deadline has been extended to August 9th at 8:00PM. Visit the city's [website](#) for more information.

Federal Way COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant Program

Local small businesses may now begin applying online for the second round of the Federal Way COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant. There will be \$1,000 and \$2,000 grants available. [Applications](#) are accepted until August 19th until 5:00 PM.

For questions, call 253-835-2414 or email CovidGrant@cityoffederalway.com.

Financial services

Many banks and credit unions have options for their clients. Their advice is to call them directly and work out the best plan for your business. Support includes: [1st Security Bank](#), [Bank of America](#), [BECU](#), [First Financial Northwest Bank](#), [JP Morgan Chase](#), [Salal Credit Union](#), [Umpqua Bank](#), [US Bank](#), [Verity Credit Union](#), [Wells Fargo](#).

WORKERS

Paid Family and Medical Leave

Paid Family and Medical Leave program can provide paid leave benefits for Washington workers who need to take time off from work due to a serious health condition or to care for a family member with a serious health condition. Certification by a healthcare provider is required for applications for Paid Family and Medical Leave due to a serious health condition.

[Paid Family and Medical Leave COVID-19 FAQ](#) | [How Paid Leave Works](#)

Paid Sick Leave

Workers may use accrued paid sick leave if their employer is shut down due to a health-related reason, including COVID-19. Additionally, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) requires certain employers to provide workers with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19.

[L&I Paid Sick Leave FAQ](#) | [FFCRA Employee Paid Leave Rights](#)

Food Production Paid Leave Program

Gov. Jay Inslee issued a [proclamation](#) that sets forth the parameters for the Washington COVID-19 Food Production Paid Leave Program. The proclamation went into effect on August 18th. The program provides a \$3 million fund to support workers in the food production industry who are unable to obtain leave through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. These workers are often ineligible for other forms of paid leave, even when exposed to COVID-19. Read more about it [here](#).

Regular Unemployment

ESD adopted a series of emergency rules to relieve the burden of temporary layoffs, isolation and quarantine for workers and businesses [esd.wa.gov/unemployment](#). Some of the changes include:

- You must provide basic information, including:
 - Your name, date of birth, and Social Security number
 - Names and addresses of all employers
 - Dates you worked at each employer
 - Your citizenship status or authorization to work
- **Work search requirements are optional** for all claimants until September 1, 2020.
- You can request **standby status for up to 12 weeks**.
- The **one-week waiting period** to be eligible for unemployment benefits is **waived**.
- Once you are approved, you will need to submit a weekly claim for each week you are unemployed.
- If you are unsure of your eligibility, apply anyway. Complete the application as best you can and ESD will follow up with you as soon as possible.
- For information on temporary layoffs, standby and furloughs, [click here](#).

FAQs: [esd.wa.gov/newsroom/covid-19](#)

Apply Online: <https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/>

Apply By Phone: 800-318-6022 | Agents not available, mostly automated system
 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. | Monday – Saturday except Holidays
 Submit your weekly claims 12:01 a.m. Sunday – 4 p.m. Friday (automated)
 Traffic is lowest 11 p.m. to 6 a.m

General Questions: 833-572-8400 | Agents available
 Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 How unemployment works
 Questions about the application
 Locating information online

Translations: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Amharic](#) | [Somali](#) | [Oromo](#) | [Farsi](#) | [Russian](#) | [Punjabi](#)
[Chinese](#) | [Korean](#) | [Laotian](#) | [Cambodian](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Tagalog](#)

Tips for Workers Seeking Unemployment

ESD recommends workers take the following four steps to help ensure their unemployment benefits are filed correctly and start quickly:

1. Sign up for the [agency's COVID-19 action alerts](#).
2. Download and review the [ESD eligibility checker](#). This will help workers determine if they are currently eligible for benefits.
3. Download and [read the application checklist](#) to make sure that you have what you need.
4. A Secure Access Washington (SAW) account is needed to file an unemployment claim. ESD recently [posted a video](#) that explains the process to be followed in order to apply for benefits. After reviewing the video, please [sign up for a SAW account](#).

COVID-19 Scenarios & Benefits Available					
COVID-19 SCENARIOS	Paid Sick Leave (Unemployment paid)		Unemployment Insurance		Paid Family & Medical Leave (PFL)
	Control Date	Control Date	Emergency Rule	Control Date	Control Date
1. Worker is laid off with COVID-19	✓	✗	✓	?	?
2. Worker is laid off with COVID-19	✓	✗	✗	✓	?
3. Worker was exposed and quarantined. Business remains open	✓	✗	✗	✓	?
4. Worker caring for ill family member	✓	✗	?	✓	✗
5. School was closed by a public health order at COVID-19 and worker has no children	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
6. Worker is exposed and quarantined and advised to self-quarantine	?	✗	✓	?	✗
7. Worker is afraid of gathering in group and workplace is not self-isolating	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
8. Employee must then show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
9. Employee must show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
10. Employee must show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
11. Employee must show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
12. Employee must show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
13. Employee must show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
14. Employee must show that he or she is quarantined by a public official	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗
15. Health care worker and has regular or casual contact	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓

Fraudulent Unemployment Claims

If you have reason to believe someone has applied for unemployment benefits using your information or used a scam to obtain your private information, please report that to us using the information below. You can go to <https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/> to log in or create an account and verify your identity to ensure that your social security number isn't associated with an email that isn't yours. If someone else is claiming benefits under your name, you will need to [report the fraud](#) as soon as possible.

Workers' Compensation

Workers' compensation is a state-run insurance program that provides benefits for people who suffer job-related injuries or illnesses. It is operated by the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (lni.wa.gov). In most cases, exposure to or contraction of COVID-19 is not considered to be an allowable, work-related condition. [FAQs](#)

However, under certain circumstances, claims from health care providers and first responders involving COVID-19 may be allowed. For a COVID-19 claim, you must show:

- There is an increased risk due to your occupation
- If not for your job, you would not have been exposed
- You can identify a specific source or event in your job that led to your exposure (for instance, you treated a patient with the virus)

How can I file a COVID-19 claim?

For workers: Online via [FileFast](#) tool | By phone: **1-877-561-3453 (FILE)**
At your doctor's office (if you complete the Report of Accident at your doctor's office, the doctor files the form for you).

Additional Resources

Information from the Governor's Office:

[COVID-19 resource list for impacted Washington businesses and workers](#)

Information from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau:

[Protect Yourself Financially from the Coronavirus](#)

Information from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority:

[Job Interrupted —A To-Do List for Tough Times](#)

Information from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority:

[Financial Peace of Mind in the Age of Coronavirus](#)

Information from the Federal Trade Commission:

[Avoiding Coronavirus Scams](#)

INSURANCE

The Washington State [Office of the Insurance Commissioner](#) has resources and information available for consumers who have insurance related questions.

Health Insurance

Information about coronavirus and health insurance for consumers, insurers and medical providers can be found [here](#). For questions, call 1-800-562-6900 or send a message via [chat](#).

Washington Health Plan

Insurance experts are available by phone to answer questions and get you enrolled. You can call them to get help or make an appointment. Those who are currently uninsured should contact a Navigator for help filling out an application and selecting a plan.

[Special Enrollment information](#) | [Navigator search](#)

Property and Liability Insurance

Information about the coronavirus pandemic and how it is affecting property and liability insurance in Washington state can be found [here](#).

Business and Commercial Insurance

Information for Washington state businesses about coronavirus and its impact on commercial insurance and business operations can be found [here](#).

Event Cancellation Insurance

Event venues typically recommend the person or company booking a scheduled event to have event cancellation insurance coverage. Coverage for communicable disease outbreaks, such as a coronavirus, is typically not included in a standard event cancellation insurance policy. Read more about it [here](#).

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance can protect you against financial loss if you're forced to cancel, delay or interrupt your vacation, business trip, or other travels. It can also offer you protection if you experience a medical emergency, damage to personal property and even if a death occurs while you're traveling.

Before buying travel insurance

Check to see if it covers [trip cancellation](#) due to health and disease outbreaks (i.e., Coronavirus) or natural disasters where you are traveling to.

Insurance Assistance

The Washington State Insurance Commissioner can help answer questions about insurance coverage for damages related to COVID-19.

What you need to be covered

To be covered against any business losses due to a communicable disease, such as COVID-19, you would need to have purchased an additional endorsement to your policy.

Contact your insurance agent or insurance company directly to find out if you already have this added coverage. If you don't have added coverage and would like to buy it, contact your insurance agent or company to see if it's available. If you didn't buy the added endorsement prior to the outbreak and you want to buy it, the insurer may not want to sell you the endorsement.

NOTE: The Office of the Insurance Commissioner does not have the authority to require insurers to sell any type of coverage or policy endorsements to consumers.

SCHOOLS & CHILD CARE

New Recommendations for 2020-2021 School Year

On August 5th, Gov. Jay Inslee, joined by Chris Reykdal, state Superintendent of Public Instruction, announced [new recommendations](#) from the Washington State Department of Health for resuming in-person instruction in public and private K-12 education for the upcoming 2020–2021 school year. The plan allows local health departments and school districts decide if and how they will allow students back in the classroom. Read more about it [here](#).

Campus Reopening Guide: Plan to Restart Higher Education

On June 24th, Gov. Jay Inslee was joined by presidents of Washington colleges and universities to unveil the [guidance for reopening](#) in-person instruction at higher education institutions in the fall. The announcement comes with a [proclamation](#) providing specific health guidance for four-year public and private institutions, as well as two-year community and technical colleges, apprenticeships and private career schools.

Washington Schools Expected to Reopen for Fall Classes

Washington schools are expected to reopen for in-person classes and other activities this fall, though with several safety guidelines in place and the possibility of distance learning as needed on a district by district basis, announced Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction. Read the full [planning guide here](#).

Washington School-Based Health Alliance

WA SBHA has released Guidance for Washington School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) for 2020-2021 School Reopening. This [resource](#) was developed to support coordination between Washington school-based health centers (SBHCs) and the school districts they serve as schools reopen during the COVID-19 pandemic.

School Closures

On April 6th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced that the closure of schools to reduce the spread of COVID-19 will be extended through the end of the school year in June. It was initially set to expire on April 24. Distance learning will continue through the end of the year, and Inslee said seniors in good standing could still expect to receive their diplomas this year. You can find more details on the order [here](#).

Guidance and Resources for Distance Learning

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction published new guidance on student learning and grading for the duration of the school closures and distance learning. You can view the new resources and guidance [here](#).

Child Care

Emergency Child Care for Essential Workers in King County

- King County Council unanimously passed legislation appropriating \$2.2M in funding to provide emergency child care for first responders and other essential workers who live or work in King County. The legislation ensures [essential workers](#) will have access to safe, consistent and uninterrupted care. The County collaborates with Child Care Resources to identify providers and match families with vacant slots, and their Department of Community and Human Services oversees the program.

For details, call **Child Care Resources at 1-800-446-1114** or email Cory Snelson at snelson@childcare.org. After intake, a resources specialist will work to match you with an eligible childcare provider that meets your family needs. Please note, verification of employment and/or home address will be required to complete intake. To expedite the intake process, please send the required verification documents to subsidy@childcare.org.

- For those essential workers who work or live **in Seattle**, the City of Seattle rolled out an Emergency Child Care program to support first responders and essential workers. If you are an essential worker living or working in the City of Seattle, [please visit this website to fill out an interest form](#).

Recommendations and Guidance for Child Care Providers

King County Public Health announced [new guidance for child care](#) and early learning providers that are considered essential during the stay-at-home order. These updated guidelines from Public Health will help these providers prevent and prepare for cases of COVID-19.

Translations:

Recommendations	Amharic Chinese Somali Spanish Vietnamese
Child Care Providers	Amharic Chinese Somali Spanish Vietnamese
Parent Information Sheet	Amharic Chinese Somali Spanish Vietnamese
Daily Checklist for All Child Care Facilities	Amharic Chinese Somali Spanish Vietnamese

[Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#)

Information and resources regarding child care. Submit any concerns or questions to us by emailing dcyf.covid-19@dcyf.wa.gov. This inbox is monitored daily and responses will be added to this website.

[Department of Health](#)

Child care resources & recommendations

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Information on COVID-19 and children

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

Germ prevention strategies and information on reducing the spread of illness in childcare settings

K-12

[Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction](#)

COVID-19 guidance & resources for K-12 public schools

Higher Education

[Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges](#)

List of Community and Technical Colleges in Washington

[Washington Student Achievement Council](#)

List of all the colleges and institutions in Washington

[Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools \(REMS\)](#)

Technical Assistance (TA) Center Infectious disease planning resources

Career Connect Washington

On May 5th, Gov. Jay Inslee and Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal kicked off Career Connected Learning Month in Washington. As part of the effort, [Career Connect](#) will bring daily learning opportunities to students across the state. Every school day at 3:30 P.M., students can hear from real people doing real jobs in Washington.

Student Loans Deferment

To provide relief to student loan borrowers during the COVID-19 national emergency, federal student loan borrowers are automatically being placed in an administrative forbearance, which allows you to temporarily stop making your monthly loan payment. On Aug. 8, 2020, President Trump directed the Secretary to continue to suspend loan payments, stop collections, and waive interest on ED-held student loans until Dec. 31, 2020. You can still make payments if you choose to do so.

<https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/coronavirus>

Support and Ideas for Families with Kids

The Washington Healthy Youth (WHY) Coalition supports families by providing up-to-date resources, including articles about talking to youth about the COVID-19 pandemic, links to virtual parenting sessions and seminars, and ideas for keeping youth busy and engaged while staying at home. Visit www.starttalkingnow.org to find these resources. They also are posted regularly on the [Start Talking Now Facebook page](#).

TRAVELERS & COMMUTERS

International Travel

If you're planning to travel outside the U.S., be aware of COVID-19 [international travel advisories and restrictions](#). Check for the latest information before you travel.

CDC is frequently updating its [Travel Alerts](#) and may add travelers returning from other countries to the list of who should be monitored.

Passengers returning to the United States who have been in mainland China within the previous 14 days will have a health screening by the CDC at eleven designated airports. The airports to which all flights carrying passengers from China will be funneled are:
SEA | JFK | ORD | SFO | HNL | LAX | ATL | IAD | DFW | DTW | EWR

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport continually prepares for the gradual reopening of our economy. This includes doubling down on cleaning. Measures being taken include frequent disinfection with medical-grade cleaning products with an emphasis on high-touch areas, and an additional 250 hand sanitizer stations throughout the terminal. Coming soon, bathrooms that aren't already touchless will be converted, two hour cleaning at security checkpoints and deep cleaning TSA bins after hours, and electrostatic sprayers from Clorox and Victory will be added into their fleet of cleaning equipment. You can learn more at the Port of Seattle's [progress report](#). Get the latest about the [airport, travel restrictions and updates](#).

Amtrak

Amtrak continues to monitor the coronavirus situation closely and is taking action based on guidance from public health experts. [Check the Amtrak's website](#) before you travel by train.

Washington State Ferries

The [state ferry system](#) has taken many actions to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus and keep its facilities as safe as possible. Check its webpage for the latest information. The ferry system also offers a free [travel alert subscription service](#) via email or text message.

Students who plan to Travel

Students returning from travel to areas with community spread of COVID-19 must follow guidance they have received from health officials. COVID-19 information for travel is updated regularly on the CDC website. For questions about students who plan to travel, or have recently traveled, to areas with community spread of COVID-19, refer to CDC's [FAQ for travelers](#).

Traveling to Medical Appointments

Public Health is working with Metro to develop COVID-transportation for people with disabilities. Metro Access is maintaining its traditional service area, hours and days of service, and may be an option for fixed-route riders with disabilities who are not currently certified for Access service.

- **Customers with disabilities who are no longer able to reach their essential destinations** using fixed-route service can contact the Access Transportation Call Center at 206-205-5000 for assistance with both urgent and ongoing essential transportation needs.
- **Customers with disabilities who have urgent transportation needs do not need to be currently certified for Access service.** However, those with an ongoing need for transportation will need to apply for Access service through Metro's [temporarily streamlined eligibility process](#). To learn more about safely travelling to medical appointments, see [Public Health Insider](#), the news blog for Public Health.

Sound Transit

Read [Sound Transit's Platform blog post](#) for the latest information on how Sound Transit is responding to heightened COVID-19 concerns.

Fares

Starting July 1st, fare collection has resumed on ST Express buses*. With this resumption, Sound Transit has also transitioned to a single flat fare of \$3.25 for all Adult riders on ST Express, regardless of distance traveled. Flat fares for ORCA LIFT, youth, seniors and riders with disabilities remain the same. \$3.25 adult flat fare aligns ST with other regional agencies. More information about the flat fare is available [here](#).

*** Fare collection is dependent on the completion of safety measure being installed at the front of the buses, so some routes may continue to be fare-free until these measures are complete.**

Temporary Recovery Fares on Link light rail and Sounder trains expire and fares return to regular full fares published for [Link light rail](#) and [Sounder](#) service. Passengers who qualify can now [apply for ORCA Lift online or over the phone](#) without having to visit a processing site.

Fare Enforcement Officers

Starting May 19th, fare enforcement officers will begin educating riders about the resumption of fares, including the Temporary Recovery Fare, and providing information about ORCA Lift. Once fares resume, fare enforcement officers will follow social distancing guidelines and request that riders show an ORCA card, a Transit GO Ticket app activated ticket, or a ticket as proof of payment.

Service Changes

Sound Transit's annual fall service change begins Saturday, September 19th, for Link light rail and ST Express bus routes operated by King County Metro. It begins Sunday, September 20th, for ST Express bus routes operated by Community Transit or Pierce Transit, and Monday, September 21st, for Sounder train. Visit the [Service Changes](#) site for more information.

Starting September 19th, service on **Link Light Rail** will run every eight minutes during peak hours on weekdays, every 15 minutes on weekends and off-peak on weekdays, and every 30 minutes on evenings.

Starting September 21st, **Sounder South** will increase to nine round trips from seven round trips, and schedule adjustments will be made to a number of ST Express routes to better meet rider demand.

King County Metro

Read [Metro Matters blog](#) for the latest information on its response to COVID-19.
Accessible in [14 languages](#).

Service Restoration

On June 22nd, Metro will restore service to some routes and increase water taxi service as more industries reopen and restrictions are gradually lifted. **For a complete list of service changes**, visit [King County Metro](#).

- If your route is not operating, [transit planners have created a list of options](#) to consider. Also, customer service is available to help with trip planning 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday at 206-553-3000.
- To support public health and prevent the spread of COVID-19, **riders are still required to wear masks** when riding transit and in situations where they cannot maintain six feet of distance from other people.
- **Fares are not yet being collected on Metro services through August.** Riders should board at the middle or back doors unless they need to access the ADA area or boarding assistance.
- **Access paratransit program** continues normal operations and follows its enhanced daily sanitization procedures. In addition, riders with disabilities who will no longer be able to access fixed route services due to the reductions can make a reservation to use Access without needing to be certified to use it.
- **Metro added [trips and seat signs](#)** to support public health and passenger safety.

Text to Departures - as the new schedule rolls out, buses may be running less often, during fewer hours, and/or be canceled. As such, we encourage riders to text their bus stop ID # to 62550 to find out when the next bus will arrive.

To plan your trips, call Metro Customer Service at 206-553-3000 (WA Relay: 711). If you need an interpreter, select the interpreter option (Press 1). Nearly **200 languages** are covered by the translation line. Please note that interpreter calls may take longer.

For routes that experienced service cuts (i.e., fewer hours and/or frequency of trips), there's an [Interactive Web Tool](#) listing specific trips cut for each route.

During the COVID-19 response riders should take into account that electronic resources such as Google maps, One Bus Away and other applications and websites won't have accurate information for all trips.

Passenger Limits

Metro institutes [passenger limits to maintain safe spacing on buses](#). To help maintain six feet of separation from others, Metro identified the optimal number of riders on to be 12 on a 40-foot bus and 19 on a 60-foot bus. The optimal number of passengers in the ADA priority seating area is one. When a bus reaches or exceeds the optimal number, the driver will pass subsequent stops unless current passengers wish to exit. Drivers may show their bus is at capacity by switching the external destination from "Essential Trips Only" reminder to "Coach is Full, Sorry." Customers are asked to please reserve transit for first responders, medical personnel, other essential workers, and people who rely on Metro for access to food, medicine and other essential needs.

Planned Service Cuts and Revisions in September

As customers look to return to transit, Metro is preparing for this fall's regular service change in September. Due to reduced revenue, the September change will include cuts and suspensions to routes while maintaining a countywide transit network and its commitments to safety, equity, and sustainability. Click [here](#) for a complete list of service cuts and revisions.

VanPool/VanShare

To support COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, Metro is offering essential workers the opportunity to form temporary vanpools with as few as two riders. Metro Vanpools have been reduced to a minimum of two people for new and existing groups, and Metro is not collecting fares on the service until further notice. Additionally, Metro has designated a limited supply of vans to provide essential workers with a rideshare option where other transit options are unavailable. You can learn more [here](#).

Effective April 1st, participants' vanpool/vanshare costs above their employer subsidy will be waived until further notice. Fares will be waived in-full for participants with no employer subsidy. Metro is also temporarily easing the van ridership requirements. For more information, email vanpool@kingcounty.gov, visit www.kingcounty.gov/metrovans or call 206-625-4500.

KING COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

The King County Library System (KCLS) is pleased to add two new services to select locations during the COVID-19 closures, including [book returns and curbside to go](#).

Visit www.kcls.org/reopening for more information on KCLS' multiphase plan to expand services. For questions, contact KCLS at 425-462-9600 or chat with a staff at <https://kcls.org/ask/>.

PHASE 2: All libraries remain closed to the public.

Staff are allowed in buildings with physical distancing and health protocols in place. Patrons may place and pick up holds and materials with Curbside To Go services at select locations, in a multiphase rollout. Modifications are likely. KCLS offers limited mobile outreach delivery with [Library2Go](#).

PHASE 3: Some or all libraries are open to the public with modified operations

PHASE 4: All libraries are open to the public; full-service operations resume

- KCLS continues to provide [online services](#), programs and resources, such as digital collections and virtual programming to ensure that patrons of all ages can continue to learn, build skills, and stay entertained while at home.
- Revamped its K-12 webpage with links to a wide variety of education support resources, tips and activities, from homework help through [Tutor.com](#) to STEM learning from [Tumblemath.com](#).
- Small business webpage with links to information and resources which includes COVID-19 information and resources for Washington state businesses.
- Databases like [Lynda.com](#) for skill building on a host of topics.
- Access for market research tools, and access to Microsoft Office certification classes, plus 425 Startup, a popular program series for entrepreneurs.
- A wide range of streaming content to keep us entertained and engaged. Offerings include movies, TV shows, PBS' highly regarded Great Courses series, and health and fitness classes for all ages.

PARKS & RECREATION

King County Parks

On June 19th, the state Department of Health approved King County's application to move into Safe Start Phase 2, which includes new guidance for recreation and fitness. Parks' level of service is dependent upon their workforce capacity, which has been limited due to COVID-19. Click [here](#) to see what's open as of July 15th.

Seattle Aquarium

On June 29th, the Seattle Aquarium reopened to the public after being closed for months to help slow the spread of COVID-19. The aquarium experience will be different for visitors when the doors reopen. Visit the [Seattle Aquarium's website](#) for more information.

Limited Reopening of Boating, Fishing, Parks

On April 27th, Gov. Jay Inslee announced that he will allow a phased reopening of recreational boating, fishing and day use of state parks. The Governor noted that local jurisdictions could keep restrictions in place longer, if appropriate. Read more about the amended proclamation [here](#).

State Parks

More than 100 Washington state parks reopen for day use on Tuesday, May 5th. Many others remain closed and there are restrictions and guidelines that must be followed. Click [here](#) to view a list of what is and isn't open.

Ready to get outside in a physically distanced way? Here are some tips:

- If you feel sick at all, even a little bit, you need to stay home. Wait until you feel better.
- Gatherings are still prohibited. You can golf or fish or hunt or go to the park with people in your own household, but not with your other friends or family just yet.
- Spend your time outside far away from other people. If you are temporarily unable to be at least six feet away from others, wear a cloth face covering.
- Do not travel to outdoor recreation areas. Enjoy the outdoors that is closer to your home. Overnight trips and camping are still prohibited.

Please note that bathrooms may not be open yet at all locations, especially at parks and other areas that were closed for the winter. Do not forget to wash your hands. Bring water and soap with you and don't forget to scrub for 20 seconds. You may want to bring some hand sanitizer and toilet paper in your backpack too.

Individual parks may close again with limited notice if large groups of people congregate there or if there are other safety or physical distancing concerns. If you see any issues of crowding, trash, or other concerns of wildlife areas or boat launches, you can report those issues [online](#).

FARMERS MARKET

Like grocery stores, farmers markets are among the many essential businesses that have remained open – with important safety guidelines in place. *Public Health Insider* has [tips](#) for how to keep you, your family, the vendors and other visitors healthy.

Auburn Farmers Market

The Auburn Farmers Market is open on Sundays from June 7th to September 20th, 2020 at 10:00 am – 3:00 p.m. Visit their [website](#) for additional information or check the Auburn Examiner's [comprehensive guide](#).

Federal Way Farmers Market

The Federal Way Farmers Market is open on Saturdays from May 16th through October 31st. The market is open from 9:00 am to 3:00pm with the opening hour (9:00-10:00 am) reserved for people ages 60 and older, and those with compromised immune systems. Visit their [website](#) for additional information.

AVOIDING SCAMS

Consumers should be on alert for increased fraud during the COVID-19 outbreak. Consumers should be vigilant about protecting their finances and should not share financial or other sensitive information with anyone who contacts you unsolicited.

Here are some tips to help you keep the scammers at bay:

- Your bank or credit union should not ask for your financial account details via email. If you receive an email, contact your bank or credit union with the contact information listed on their website.
- Don't click on links from sources you don't know. They could download viruses onto your computer or device.
- Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts saying that have information about the virus. For the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).
- Ignore online offers for vaccinations. There currently are no vaccines, pills, potions, lotions, lozenges or other prescription or over-the-counter products available to treat or cure Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) — online or in stores.
- Do your homework when it comes to donations, whether through charities or crowdfunding sites. Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don't do it.

Office of the Attorney General: Consumer Alerts

Accessible public information is the most effective weapon in our fight to free our market from unfair and deceptive business practices. In our attempt to increase consumer awareness, the Attorney General's Office has created an assortment of informational services to meet the needs of our diverse audience.

We strive to provide the most accurate information, in the most convenient formats, to Washington's businesses and consumers. Traditional news releases, alerts, blogs, tweets, brochures, and special training opportunities all take center stage in our efforts to improve Washington's economy.

<https://www.atg.wa.gov/scam-alerts>

CONTACT INFORMATION

NEW STATE CORONAVIRUS WEBSITE

<https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>

REAL TIME GLOBAL COVID-19 DATA

<https://ncov2019.live/data>

911	For medical emergency
211	Washington State Novel Coronavirus Call Center Washington 211 System WA DOH partnered with Washington 211 to answer questions, concerns or provide information about COVID-19 from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. PT daily. Washington 211 replaces the department's novel coronavirus call center. Callers can continue to dial 1-800-525-0127 and press # to be transferred to a Washington 211 call taker.
211211	Text "coronavirus" to this number to get a reply message with helpful links from the CDC website. If you respond with your zip code, you will receive links to the state and local health websites. Once opted in, users can receive daily COVID-19 text updates and alerts.
206-477-3977	King County Novel Coronavirus Call Center (Medical questions related to COVID-19) If you are in King County and believe you were exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, or you do not have a healthcare provider, contact our novel coronavirus call center. Healthcare providers with questions about COVID-19 may also call this number. Daily from 8 AM to 7 PM PST
206-296-1608	King County COVID-19 Business and Community Information Line Non-medical questions about COVID-19 including compliance and business related issues. Monday – Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM PST
1-866-427-4747	King County 24-Hour Crisis Line For professional mental health services and support.

	King County Public Health: https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/communicable-diseases/disease-control/novel-coronavirus.aspx
360-902-4111	Governor Inslee’s Website: https://www.governor.wa.gov/issues/issues/covid-19-resources
206-418-5500	WA Department of Health Communicable Disease Epidemiology https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus
1-877-561-3453 1-877-561-FILE	WA Labor & Industries: https://lni.wa.gov/agency/outreach/workers-compensation-coverage-and-coronavirus-covid-19-common-questions
1-800-318-6022	WA Employment Security Department: https://esd.wa.gov/newsroom/covid-19
1-800-562-6900	WA Office of the Insurance Commissioner: https://www.insurance.wa.gov/coronavirusp