

Update on Administration Efforts on COVID-19

03/20/20

From: Russo, Joseph H. EOP/WHO <Joseph.H.Russo@who.eop.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 10:46 PM

To: Russo, Joseph H. EOP/WHO <Joseph.H.Russo@who.eop.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Update on Administration Efforts on COVID-19, 03/20/19

Good evening,

President Trump and the White House Coronavirus Task Force announced additional actions today as part of the ongoing, government-wide response to the global pandemic:

- To **help American families and businesses**, the Treasury Department announced that Tax Day will be moved from April 15 to July 15.
- To **minimize impact on our nation's students**, the Department of Education is temporarily waiving all interest on federally held student loans.
- Early, **decisive travel restrictions** helped slow the spread of Coronavirus to our country. Today, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the United States and Mexico have agreed to restrict non-essential travel across the border.
- **More help is on the way.** The Trump Administration worked with Congress last week on a bipartisan deal to deliver economic relief and support for American families, which the President signed into law on Wednesday. More legislative action is expected soon.



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

Today I spoke with our Nation's Small Businesses, which employ nearly half of America's workforce. We are taking the MOST aggressive action in history to deliver fast relief to your businesses and workers. We will always protect our Small Businesses! [@SBAgov](#)



Ivanka Trump ✓ @IvankaTrump · 2h

Americas small businesses and entrepreneurs are the backbone of our economy.

We are working hard with Congress and the country's largest banks to deliver much needed relief – fast.

Stay safe, healthy and supportive of one another! We are all in this together! 🇺🇸

4:22 PM · Mar 20, 2020 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

White House COVID-19 Updates

- President Trump is Taking Necessary Safety Measures at the Border to Prevent Further Spread of Coronavirus ([HERE](#))
- President Trump, Vice President Pence, and Members of the Coronavirus Task Force Press Briefing ([VIDEO](#), [REMARKS](#))
- 1600 Daily: President Trump Announces More Actions to Confront Global Pandemic ([HERE](#))

Treasury and IRS Issue Guidance on Deferring Tax Payments Due to COVID-19 Outbreak ([HERE](#))

- Following President Donald J. Trump's emergency declaration pursuant to the Stafford Act, the U.S. Treasury Department and IRS today issued guidance allowing all individual and other non-corporate tax filers to defer up to \$1 million of federal income tax (including self-employment tax) payments due on April 15, 2020, until July 15, 2020, without penalties or interest.

FDA provides guidance on production of alcohol-based hand sanitizer to help boost supply, protect public health ([HERE](#))

- As part of the FDA's ongoing commitment to address the COVID-19 pandemic, the agency has issued two guidance documents to communicate its policy for the temporary manufacture of certain alcohol-based hand sanitizer products.

FDA allows expanded use of devices to monitor patients' vital signs remotely ([HERE](#))

- Today, as part of the FDA's ongoing efforts to address the COVID-19 outbreak, the agency issued a new policy that allows manufacturers of certain FDA-cleared non-invasive, vital sign-measuring devices to expand their use so that health care providers can use them to monitor patients remotely.

CMS Approves Washington State's Request for 1135 Medicaid Waivers ([HERE](#))

- Today, CMS approved an 1135 Medicaid waiver request for the state of Washington. The state submitted its request for 1135 waiver authority on March 15, 2020 and in keeping with CMS's commitment to ensure our state partners have the tools they need to combat COVID-19, the agency acted within days to approve a wide variety of Medicaid flexibilities.

Joint Statement on US-Canada Joint Initiative: Temporary Restriction of Travelers Crossing the US-Canada Land Border for Non-Essential Purposes ([HERE](#))

- The US-Canada land border serves as an economic engine that supports over \$1.7 billion (USD) dollars in daily cross-border trade. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States and Canada are temporarily restricting all non-essential travel across its borders. In each of our countries, we are encouraging people to exercise caution by avoiding unnecessary contact with others. This collaborative and reciprocal measure is an extension of that prudent approach.

Joint Statement on US-Mexico Joint Initiative to Combat the COVID-19 Pandemic ([HERE](#))

- Recognizing the robust trade relationship between the United States and Mexico, we agree our two countries, in response to the ongoing global and regional health situation, require particular measures both to protect bilateral trade and our countries' economies and ensure the health of our nations' citizens. We agree to the need for a dedicated joint effort to prevent spread of the COVID-19 virus and address the economic effects resulting from reduced mobility along our shared border.

Defense Health Officials Detail COVID-19 Aid Effort ([HERE](#))

- Army Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Ronald J. Place, director of the Defense Health Agency, and Navy Surgeon General Rear Adm. (Dr.) Bruce L. Gillingham told Pentagon reporters today that the military medical establishment is looking at all ways to support Americans.

USDA: Secretary Perdue Salutes the Heroes in the U.S. Food Supply Chain ([VIDEO](#))

- “And for all you people from the people who are stocking those shelves, from the people who are driving the trucks to get this food to us, the people who are processing the food and the people who grow the food and all the vendors that supplied our farmers to help them grow this food whether it’s fertilizer or feed or seed or any other input. Thank you so much for what you’re doing.”

Helping Students Adversely Affected by School Closures, Secretary DeVos Announces Broad Flexibilities for States to Cancel Testing During National Emergency ([HERE](#))

- Secretary DeVos announced today students impacted by school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic can bypass standardized testing for the 2019-2020 school year.

Delivering on President Trump's Promise, Secretary DeVos Suspends Federal Student Loan Payments, Waives Interest During National Emergency ([HERE](#))

- Secretary DeVos announced today that the office of Federal Student Aid is executing on President Donald J. Trump's promise to provide student loan relief to tens of millions of borrowers during the COVID-19 national emergency.

SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to States

- SBA offered disaster assistance to small businesses economically impacted by the coronavirus in [Louisiana](#), [Colorado](#), [Tennessee](#), [Kentucky](#), [Vermont](#), [Mississippi](#).

Administrator Wheeler Meets with Disinfectant Manufacturers Highlighting Agency Work to Fight Coronavirus ([HERE](#))

- Today, EPA Administrator Wheeler hosted a series of conference calls with large and small disinfectant manufacturers, including members of the Consumer Brands Association and the Household & Commercial Products Association. On the calls they discussed the agency’s expanded and expedited work in response to the outbreak under the Emerging Viral Pathogens Guidance for Antimicrobial Pesticides.

In Case You Missed It: Secretary Carson Applauds Governor for Taking Action To Protect Homeless ([HERE](#))

- Today, Secretary Carson praised California Governor Gavin Newsom’s actions to provide unsheltered homeless populations with emergency housing options to protect them and prevent the spread of coronavirus.

VA national cemeteries to adjust operations in response to COVID-19 ([HERE](#))

- All U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs national cemeteries are open and will continue to provide interments for Veterans and eligible individuals. However, effective March 23 — as part of the agency’s response to the coronavirus — committal services and the rendering of military funeral honors will discontinue until further notice.

For the most up-to-date information, please see the CDC's website: www.coronavirus.gov.

Thank you,
Joe

Joe Russo

Special Assistant to the President and Director of Business Outreach
White House Office of Public Liaison

COVID-19: Background & Additional Information

[The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America](#)

For background and the most up-to-date information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: [HERE](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Twitter ([here](#))
- Facebook ([here](#))

What you should know:

- [Workplace, School, and Home Guidance](#)
- [People at Risk for Serious Illness from COVID-19](#)
- [How COVID-19 Spreads](#)
- [Symptoms](#)
- [Steps to Prevent Illness](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [What to Do If You Are Sick with COVID-19](#)
- [Stigma Related to COVID-19](#)
- [Facts about COVID-19](#)
- [Information for People at Higher Risk and Special Populations](#)
- [Communication Resources](#)

Situation Updates:

- [Situation Summary](#)
- [Cases in the U.S.](#)
- [Global Locations with COVID-19](#)
- [Risk Assessment](#)
- [CDC in Action: Preparing Communities](#)

Information for Businesses:

- [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- [Information for Communities, Schools, and Businesses](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations – Community Facilities](#)
- SBA: [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- DOL: [Guidance for Preparing Workplaces for Coronavirus](#)
- DOL: [OSHA Resources for Workers and Employers on COVID-19](#)
- WHO: [Get Your Workplace Ready for COVID-19](#)
- CISA: [Risk Management for COVID-19](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19](#)

Information for Travel and Transportation:

- [Information for Travel](#)
- [Guidance for Ships](#)
- [Guidance for Airlines and Airline Crew](#)
- State: [Travel Advisories](#)
- State: [Traveler’s Checklist](#)
- State: [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#)
- DOT: [FAQs from FTA Grantees Regarding COVID-19](#)

Information for Healthcare Providers, First Responders, and Research Facilities:

- [Information for Healthcare Professionals](#)
- [Resources for State, Local, Territorial and Tribal Health Departments](#)
- [Resources for Healthcare Facilities](#)
- [Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with COVID-19 or Persons Under Investigation in Healthcare Settings](#)
- [Information for Laboratories](#)
- [Resources for First Responders](#)
- [Guidance for Public Health Professionals Managing People with COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation Who Have Pets or Other Animals](#)
- [FAQs and Considerations for Patient Triage, Placement and Hospital Discharge](#)
- [Guidance for Homeless Shelters](#)
- [Guidance for Hemodialysis Facilities](#)
- CMS: [Information on COVID-19 and Current Emergencies](#)
- CMS: [Guidance for Hospice Agencies](#)
- CMS: [Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act Requirements and Implications Related to COVID-19](#)
- CMS: [FAQs for State Survey Agency and Accrediting Organizations](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19](#)

Information for Law Enforcement:

- [What Law Enforcement Personnel Need to Know](#)
- [Bureau of Prisons COVID-19 Resources](#)

Information for Families and Households:

- [Information on COVID-19 for Pregnant Women and Children](#)

- [Interim Guidance for Household Readiness](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations for U.S. Households](#)
- [Guidance for Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Homes and Residential Communities](#)
- [FAQ: COVID-19 and Children](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19](#)

Information for Schools and Childcare Providers:

- [Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools](#)
- [Resources for Institutes of Higher Education](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations – Community Facilities](#)
- USDA: [USDA Makes It Easier, Safer to Feed Children in California Amid Coronavirus Outbreak](#)
- DOEd: [Resources for Schools and School Personnel](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19](#)

Information for Community Events and Gatherings:

- [Interim Guidance for Mass Gatherings and Large Community Events](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Community- and Faith-Based Organizations](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19](#)

Agency Resources and Information:

- [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#)
- [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid](#)
- [U.S. Food & Drug Administration](#)
- [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#)
- [U.S. Department of Defense](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [U.S. Department of Energy](#)
- [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#)
- [U.S. Department of Labor](#)
- [U.S. Department of State](#)
- [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#)
- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [U.S. Small Business Administration](#)