

#### **Other Frequently Asked Questions**

### How will the virus affect the upcoming election cycle?

To ensure public safety, Connecticut <u>rescheduled</u> its 2020 presidential primary election date from Tuesday, April 28 to Tuesday, June 2. The CARES Act appropriates \$400 million in Election Assistance Grants, including approximately \$5,381,732 to Connecticut, to help states prepare for the 2020 elections. States can use the funding to implement safer voting procedures, such as expanding mail-in voting, early voting, and online registration.

## What impact will the virus have on the 2020 Census?

During this difficult time, the US Census Bureau is taking all precautionary measures to protect the health and wellbeing of all residents. At the same time, it is important to not forget that our ability to shape the future of our communities rests in your hands. It has never been easier, safer, and more important to respond to the 2020 Census. You can respond online, by phone (844-330-2020), or in writing - all from the comfort of your home. For more information, please go to 2020Census.gov.

On March 13, my colleagues and I wrote a letter to Census Director Dr. Steven Dillingham requesting more information about the Bureau's plans to proceed in response to the pandemic.

#### I'm concerned about my internet connection being shut off. What should I do?

The Federal Communications Commission launched the <u>Keep Americans Connected Pledge</u> to ensure internet service providers support Americans impacted by the coronavirus.

#### What changes to public transportation are in effect?

- Review Metro-North Railroad's <u>planned service changes</u>. MTA crews are frequently disinfecting railcars.
- Beginning March 27, Metro-North will provide hourly service on the Harlem, Hudson and New Haven lines, with extra trains added during peak times. Under the reduced schedule, Metro-North will operate 424 trains (Metro-North runs 713 trains at full capacity). Beginning the weekend of April 4/April 5, Metro-North will provide hourly service while also suspending shuttle service between Wassaic and Southeast on the Upper Harlem line.
- The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) strongly encourages the public to use public transportation for essential travel only.
- CTDOT <u>announced</u> all CTtransit, CTfastrak, and transit districts bus passengers must board using
  the rear door (riders who require special accommodations such as those in wheelchairs can
  continue to use the front door). Rear door boarding will help maintain social distancing between
  customers and bus drivers. Staff are also sanitizing passenger equipment daily.

### What can I do to help?

Connecticut

The Connecticut Department of Public Health is partnering with United Way 2-1-1 of Connecticut to collect resources from those willing to make donations. Anyone who has these vital materials and would like to donate them to Connecticut's medical community should fill out the online form <a href="here">here</a>. The state is requesting help in accumulating the following items:

- N95 Respirators
- Face Masks/Surgical Masks
- Face Shields
- Surgical Gowns
- Gloves (nitrile, or non-latex)
- Thermometers
- Thermometer Covers (if applicable to the type of thermometer)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Other Medical Items

#### **FEMA**

# Companies with Medical Supplies, Equipment, and Services

Please email <a href="mailto:covidsupplies@fema.dhs.gov">covidsupplies@fema.dhs.gov</a> if you are interested in selling medical supplies or equipment to the federal government. Private companies that want to produce a product related to the COVID response should email <a href="mailto:nbeoc@max.gov">nbeoc@max.gov</a>. For more information about partnering with FEMA, refer to the agency's <a href="mailto:lndustry Liaison Program">lndustry Liaison Program</a>.