

Illinois Coronavirus Update as of March 25th, 2020

Updated March 25th 4:52 PM.

Current Status:

- For the latest updates, visit Illinois's coronavirus website: coronavirus.illinois.gov.
- Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in effect from March 9th for 30 days.
- Mandatory Stay-At-Home Executive Order (2020-10) in effect from Saturday March 21st at 5 P.M. through the end of April 7th
 - Residents are ordered to stay home, with exceptions.
 - Non-essential businesses must cease operations, go remote.
 - Essential services will remain open.
 - See COVID-19 EO Number 8 section below for additional details, including business exceptions and permitted activities.
- Restaurants and bars can continue operating for off-premises consumption.
- Pre-K-12 classes are cancelled from March 17th through April 7th
 - Chicago Public Schools closed through April 20th. Classes currently scheduled to resume on April 21st.
- Illinois has delayed its tax filing deadline to July 15th to align with federal changes.
- The State has created three new small business relief programs totaling \$94M. See below for details.

1,865 Confirmed Cases, 35 Counties, 19 Deaths, ~14,200 Tests ([Illinois Department of Public Health](#))

Small Business Relief – Governor Announces Three New Programs

By Friday, small businesses will be eligible to receive a share of \$94+ million in [state emergency assistance through three new programs](#).

Illinois Small Business Emergency Loan Fund – \$60M

- Partnership between the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (DFPR), Accion, Illinois Bankers Association, and the Community Bankers Alliance of Illinois.
 - \$60 million loan fund
 - \$30M in loan loss reserve, consisting of \$20M in DCEO funds, \$10M from banking community.
 - All businesses with under 50 employees and under \$3M in 2019 revenue outside Chicago are eligible to apply.
 - Allowing up to \$50,000 low interest loans with five-year repayment terms
 - Required payments not due for six months then fixed payments at 3% interest for the remainder of the five-year loan term.
 - Applications will be available on DCEO and state's coronavirus website on Friday, March 27th.

Downstate Small Business Stabilization Program – \$20M

- Focus on suburban and rural low-income communities
- Up to \$25,000 grants served by DCEO's Office of Community Development
- Businesses of up to 50 employees partner with their local governments to obtain up to \$25,000 in working capital
- This program redeploys Community Development Block Grant funds.

- Applications available on DCEO's website on Friday, March 27th.

Hospitality Emergency Grant Program – \$14M

- Grants intended for hotels, bars, restaurants to support working capital like job training, rent, increased pickup and delivery.
- Grant breakdown
 - Up to \$25,000 to eligible bars and restaurants
 - Bars and restaurants that generated between \$500,000 and \$1 million in revenue in 2019 can receive up to \$25,000.
 - Bars and restaurants that generated less than \$500,000 in 2019 revenue can receive up to \$10,000.
 - Up to \$50,000 to eligible hotels
 - Hotels with less than \$8 million in 2019 revenue can receive up to \$50,000.
- Grant [applications](#) (landing page) are live starting today and can be found at coronavirus.illinois.gov or on DCEO's website. Application [here](#).
- Accion will administer the program on behalf of the state and distribute the grants.
- Applications are available today March 25th and are due April 1st at 5 P.M. Eligible businesses will be entered into a lottery, with winners notified by April 4th.
- This program repurposes existing job training and tourism promotion funds.

COVID-19 Timeline:

- **March 25th** – Three programs totaling \$94M to support small businesses announced
- **March 24th** – Governor issues EO streamlining healthcare worker background checks
- **March 23rd** – Essential Equipment Task Force announced, which is a P3 (State, IMA, iBIO) to manufacture PPE and medical supplies.
- **March 23rd** – State executes contracts to obtain 3.5 million masks and other PPE
- **March 21st** – Stay-At-Home order takes effect at 5 P.M.
- **March 20th** – Stay-At-Home order issued with exceptions. See details below.
- **March 19th** – EO expanding telehealth access issued
- **March 18th** – Governor Pritzker announces coronavirus.illinois.gov, a website to update the public about COVID-19, which will be updated once daily. Local health department websites are likely to have more up to date information.
- **March 17th** – Governor Pritzker working with Illinois Sheriffs to prevent evictions.
- **March 17th** – Illinois utility companies have agreed not to shut off services at least in the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation. Many have agreed not to shut off service for even longer periods.
- **March 17th** – [Governor Pritzker activates 60 National Guard members](#) to assist with the response to COVID-19. More servicemembers are likely to be called upon in the coming weeks.

- **March 17th** – [Governor Pritzker applies for a statewide Economic Industry Declaration](#) with the U.S. Small Business Association. If approved, small businesses and nonprofits impacted by the coronavirus would have access to up to \$2 million in low-interest loans.
- **March 16th** – [Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation allows curbside pickup](#) of medical cannabis outside of dispensaries.
- **March 16th** – [Illinois Gaming Board announces](#) suspension of all licensed video gaming operations, effective at 9 pm on March 16th through March 30th.
- **March 16th** – Executive Order 2020 – 07 signed, suspending all on-premises consumption of food and beverages in businesses, prohibiting gatherings of 50 or more people, and allowing for public bodies to meet remotely.
- **March 15th** – [Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot announces](#) she is working on a relief package for restaurants forced to close their dining rooms by Executive Order 2020 – 07.
- **March 15th** – Executive Order 2020 – 06 signed, amending 2020 – 05 by exempting certain schools from closing educational services.
- **March 13th** – [Illinois Gaming Board announces](#) a 14 day closure of casinos, beginning March 16th.
- **March 13th** – Executive Order 2020 – 05 signed, closing schools from March 17th through March 30th.
- **March 13th** – Executive Order 2020 – 04 signed, to limit gatherings of 1,000 people or more.
- **March 12th** – Executive Order 2020 – 03 signed, to extend the deadline for Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act applications from March 16th to March 30.
- **March 11th** – [Governor J.B. Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Employment Security announce](#) people who cannot work due to COVID-19 and do not receive paid sick leave from their jobs qualify for unemployment benefits.
- **March 11th** – WHO characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic.
- **March 9th** – [Governor J.B. Pritzker declared](#) the State of Illinois as a disaster area in effect for 30 days.
- **Late 2019** – COVID-19 outbreak emerges.

Executive Orders:

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 10](#) (2020-12) – March 24, 2020

- During the duration of the Disaster Proclamation, the provision of the Health Care Worker Background Check Act that prohibits individuals from being hired as certified nursing assistants if they have been inactive on the Health Care Worker Registry is

suspended if: the individual has been inactive for no more than 5 years, was in good standing at the time of inactivity, and completes and submits forms required by IDPH.

- During the duration of the Disaster Proclamation, the provision of the Health Care Worker Background Check Act limiting conditional employment for certified nursing assistants to three months is suspended. It is now 6 months after which they must complete a fingerprint background check.
- During the duration of the Disaster Proclamation, the 30-day prior notification requirement for juvenile inmate release is suspended. Department of Juvenile Justice shall take steps to notify State's Attorneys as far in advance and as quickly as possible.
- During the duration of the Disaster Proclamation, the monthly exam requirement of the Miners' Examining Board is suspended.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 9 \(2020-11\)](#) – Amendments to Prior Orders, March 23, 2020

- Amends EO 2020-10 to clarify facilities that are Human Services Operations where individuals may leave their home to work or obtain services.
- Reiterates that the term Human Services is defined broadly to preserve access.
- Nothing in the EO 2020-10 shall alter or diminish the State or local government's ability to order a quarantine or the closure of a location during the duration of the public health emergency. Additionally, clarifies that local governments retain the authority to issue stricter requirements than the governor's EO.
- Day care centers –
 - Day care centers granted an emergency license for children of employees exempted by EO 2020-10 to work as permitted.
 - Licensing requirements suspended for family homes that receive up to 6 children during the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
- E-learning ISBE prior approval requirement suspended during the duration of the Disaster Proclamation.
 - No public hearing or prior notification requirements for staff, students, and parents
 - However, e-learning programs must be verified by the regional office of education or intermediate service center for the school district.
 - E-learning programs adopted pursuant to EO may exceed number of emergency days in the approved school calendar.
- 14-day notification requirement of inmate release suspended during Disaster Proclamation.
 - Department of Corrections shall take steps to ensure notification as far in advance and as quickly as possible to the State's Attorney.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 8 \(2020-10\)](#) – Stay-At-Home Executive Order in Response to COVID-19, March 20, 2020

- Beginning March 21st at 5 PM through April 7th, residents are order to stay at home with the following exceptions. To the extent that residents are outside their home, they should follow Social Distancing guidelines. Exceptions are as follows:
 - Essential Activities:
 - Health Care – visiting a doctor, obtaining medical supplies, prescriptions
 - Necessary Supplies – Groceries, household items, necessities to facilitate Work From Home (WFH)
 - Outdoor Activities – Physical activity in parks or rec areas except for playgrounds. Social Distancing must be observed.

- Work – Carry out Minimum Basic Operations or function of Essential Businesses
 - Aid in Care – Traveling to care for family, friends, pets is allowed
 - Essential Government Functions
 - All services provided by the State and all lower-level units of government “needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies or to provide for or support the health, safety and welfare of the public.” This includes first responders, law enforcement, court personnel, emergency dispatchers, etc. Each unit of local government will determine its essential employees critical to the performance of Essential Government Functions.
 - Operation of Essential Businesses or Operations. These include Healthcare and Public Health Operations, Human Services Operations, Essential Government Functions and Essential Infrastructure and the following:
 - Stores that sell groceries or medicine
 - Food, beverage, and cannabis consumption and agriculture
 - Charitable and social service organizations
 - Media
 - Gas stations and auto repair and supply
 - Financial institutions
 - Hardware and supply stores
 - Critical trades
 - Mail, post, shipping, delivery, and pick-up services
 - Educational institutions – distance learning, critical research allowed but classes still closed until April 7th
 - Laundry
 - Restaurants for off-premises consumption – includes third-party delivery apps
 - Supplies to WFH
 - Essential Business and Operations supplies
 - Transportation – including rideshare and public transit
 - Home care services
 - Residential facilities and shelters
 - Professional services – includes legal, accounting, real estate, insurance services
 - Day cares for exempted employees
 - Manufacturing, distribution and supply chain for critical products and industries
 - Critical labor union functions
 - Hotels and motels
 - Funeral services
- Non-Essential businesses must cease operations except for Minimum Basic Operations
 - Exclusive Work-From-Home (WFH) is allowed
 - Minimum Basic Operations. These include:
 - Maintain the value of inventory, preserve the physical condition of a plant or equipment, security, payroll and benefits processing
 - Facilitate WFH
 - Must comply with Social Distancing requirements
- All public and private gatherings of any number outside the home are prohibited except for limited purposes. Any gathering of 10 or more is prohibited unless exempt.
- All places of amusement are closed

- Travel – All travel except for Essential Travel and Essential Activities by any mode is prohibited.
- Healthcare Operations defined in Sec. 1 (7) – construed broadly to minimize disruption
- Essential Infrastructure – See Sec 1 (9) for a full list, but it includes – food; construction, especially to respond to the public health emergency, but also housing; airport operations and maintenance; utilities; distribution centers; oil refineries; public transportation, including ports; waste collection; cybersecurity operations; and internet, video and telecommunication systems.
- Essential Travel – allowed for Essential categories and actions detailed above as well for non-residents to leave and to return to a place of residence from outside the state.
- Social Distancing Requirements
 - 6-foot distance from others
 - Hand washing for at least 20 seconds
 - Regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces
 - Essential Businesses and Operations and those Minimum Basic Operations must:
 - Designate six-foot distances
 - Have hand sanitizer regularly available
 - Designate separate operating hours for vulnerable populations
 - Post online whether facility is open and procedures for remote access.
- All state, local, county enforcement of eviction orders must cease.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 7 \(2020-09\)](#) – Executive Order to Expand Telehealth Services and Protect Health Care Providers in Response to COVID-19, March 19, 2020

- Beginning March 19th and during the duration of the Disaster Proclamation, health insurers regulated by the Department of Insurance are required to cover all costs of telehealth services by in-network providers that deliver clinically appropriate medically necessary covered services and treatment.
 - Issuers may establish reasonable requirements, including documentation and recordkeeping, to the extent consistent with this order. Issuers shall notify providers of necessary instructions to facilitate billing requirements.
 - Utilization review requirements may not impose requirements more stringent than for the same in-person treatment.
 - For telehealth services that related to COVID-19, insurers shall not impose any prior authorization requirements.
 - Insurers shall not impose any cost-sharing requirements for telehealth services provided by in-network providers except for those in High Deductible Health Plans if the care is not deemed preventative care.
- EO does not apply to “excepted benefits” as defined in federal rules, however, it does apply to limited scope dental, vision, long-term care, accident and specified disease coverage.
- Disclosure prohibition and written consent provisions of the Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act are suspended for the duration of the Disaster Proclamation.
- For medical licensees whose license has lapsed or been inactive for less than three years, continuing education requirements and reinstatement fees are waived for reinstatement. This applies during the duration of the Disaster Proclamation.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 6 \(2020-08\)](#) – Executive Order in Response to COVID-19, March 17, 2020

- During the duration of the Disaster Proclamation and 30 days after, expiration of vehicle registrations, driver's licenses, permits, parking decals, temporary and permanent identification cards are suspended. Hearings conducted by the Illinois Secretary of State are also suspended.
- Requirements for filing statements of economic interest are suspended for the same time period described above.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 5 \(2020 – 07\)](#) – Executive Order in Response to COVID-19, March 16th, 2020

- Beginning March 16th at 9 pm, all businesses in Illinois that offer food or beverages for on-premises consumption must suspend and not permit on-premises consumption.
 - Includes restaurants, bars, grocery stores, and food halls.
 - Service for off-premise consumption is permitted and encouraged.
 - Includes carry-out, in-house delivery, third-party delivery, drive-through, curbside pick-up, and catering services.
 - Need environment for adequate social distancing in carry-out sales.
 - Exemption from this Executive Order for businesses located in airports, hospitals, and dining halls in colleges and universities.
- Beginning March 18th, all public and private gatherings in Illinois of 50 or more people are prohibited for the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
 - Amends Executive Order 2020 – 04, which previously prohibited gatherings of 1,000 people or more.
 - Includes community, civic, public leisure, faith-based events, sporting events with spectators, concerts, conventions, fitness centers/health clubs, bowling alleys, private clubs, theaters, and any similar event or activity.
 - Exceptions for venues that provide essential goods and services.
 - Includes, grocery stores, hospitals, pharmacies, gas stations, banks/credit unions, and shelters.
- The Illinois State Police, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the State Fire Marshal, and the Illinois Liquor Control Commission are directed to cooperate with one another to enforce this Executive Order.
- This Executive Order does not amend or supersede the authority of the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- Requirement of the Unemployment Insurance Act for a one-week waiting period for unemployment insurance claims is suspended for those who are unemployed or otherwise eligible for benefits during the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
- Provisions of the Open Meetings Act requiring or relating to in-person attendance for members of a public body are suspended during the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
 - Requirement that members of a public body must be physically present.
 - Conditions limiting when remote participation is permitted.
- Public bodies are encouraged to postpone their business where possible.
- When meetings are necessary, public bodies are encouraged to provide video, audio, or telephonic access to meetings.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 4 \(2020 – 06\)](#) – Amendment to Executive Order 2020 – 05 In Response to COVID-19, March 15th, 2020

- Schools operated by the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, the Illinois State Board of Education, or the Illinois Department of Human Services may remain open for

educational purposes provided that they are able to exercise necessary precautions to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

- Supersedes contrary provisions of prior Executive Orders.
 - Provisions that are not contrary will remain in effect from prior Executive Orders.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 3 \(2020 – 05\)](#) – Executive Order in Response to COVID-19, March 13th, 2020

- Beginning March 17th, all public and private pre-K-12 schools must close for educational purposes through March 30th.
 - Schools may remain open to provide food and other non-educational services.
 - Schools will still be used as election polling locations.
- Definition of “chronic absence” from school is suspended during the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
- Requirement to receive school board approval to establish an electronic-learning program is suspended during the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
 - No public hearing necessary.
 - No 30-day communication requirement necessary prior to implementation.
 - E-learning programs must be approved by the regional office of education of intermediate service center for the school district.
 - Must ensure the specific needs of students are met.
 - Special education.
 - English learners.
 - Cannot deny plans for failing to meet the required 5 clock hours of instruction or schoolwork if the plan provides substantial student learning opportunities.
 - E-learning programs may exceed the number of emergency days approved in the school calendar.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 2 \(2020 – 04\)](#) – Executive Order in Response to COVID-19, March 13th, 2020

- Beginning March 13th, all public and private gatherings in Illinois of 1,000 or more people are cancelled until the end of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
 - Includes concerts, festivals, conferences, sporting events, other planned events where social distancing measures cannot be maintained.
 - Does not include school or work attendance.
- Beginning March 16th, the James R. Thompson Center is closed to members of the public for the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.
 - Exceptions for:
 - Necessary conduct of state business,
 - To obtain services from state agency or constitutional office,
 - Operate a business located in the building,
 - Public access businesses located on the ground floor through exterior entrances.
- Beginning March 13th, the two-year continuous service requirement for state employees to receive advancement of sick leave is suspended for the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.

[COVID-19 Executive Order Number 1 \(2020 – 03\)](#) – Executive Order to Extend Application Deadline for Adult-Use Applications Due to COVID-19, March 12th, 2020

- Extend submission deadline for applications in the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act from March 16th to March 30th.
 - Craft grower license application.
 - Infuser license application.
 - Transporter license application.
- Requirements to submit applications in-person are suspended.
- Beginning at 5 pm on March 12th, the Illinois Department of Agriculture will only be accepting applications by mail, until the new deadline of March 30th.