

COVID-19 Resources in Tennessee

Tennessee Department of Health Coronavirus Hotline: 877-857-2945 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT daily.

Small Business Support

- Submitted request for Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance to the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- Once the declaration is made, all Tennessee small businesses and nonprofit organizations that have suffered economic injury as a result of COVID-19 will be eligible to apply for disaster loan assistance of up to \$2 million per applicant.
- Small businesses who are ready to explore these efforts should visit www.SBA.gov. Additional information can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 Testing Sites

- Remote assessment sites for COVID-19 are quickly becoming available through the help of private providers.
- Remote assessment sites, or “drive through testing” allow Tennesseans to safely pursue COVID-19 testing without creating unnecessary risks in traditional clinical settings.
- Remote assessment sites should not be the first course of action for a person seeking a test. If a person is seeking a test and/or showing symptoms they should first call their health care provider. Individuals can be screened for testing by their health care provider or local health department.
- A link to testing sites throughout Tennessee can be found [here](#).

Expanded Unemployment Relief

- The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is actively working with economists to determine how economic downturn could affect our state’s economy and how to best use the [Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund](#).
- The department will extend unemployment benefits to
 - employees who suddenly find themselves out of work as businesses temporarily cease operations during the pandemic
 - those who are quarantined by a physician for COVID-19 and are temporarily away from their job
- The department is also working with the federal government to gain more flexibility in job search requirements.
- The department is suspending certain regulations so those who are approved will get paid more quickly.
- Tennesseans are encouraged to apply online [here](#).

Relief for Local Governments

- The budget allocates \$200 million to provide specific support and relief to our county and city governments in the wake of this pandemic.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

- The Tennessee Department of Human Services has issued a new policy offering emergency cash assistance for those impacted at this time by utilizing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds.
- These funds will be up to \$1,000 for a family of 5+ who qualifies and has had a loss of a job as a result of COVID-19.
- These efforts will be up and working within one week, and we encourage Tennesseans in need to apply online when the application becomes available here.

Child Care Facilities

- The administration is providing \$10 million in COVID-19 emergency response and recovery grants to support existing child care facilities that are facing greater needs.
- Child care facilities that currently receive subsidies will continue to receive them regardless of a potential loss in the wake of COVID-19 through the end of March.
- As Tennesseans step up and consider providing child care for friends and neighbors, please contact the Department of Human Services [here](#) for guidance on how to safely accomplish this especially in the wake of COVID-19.

FY21 Budget

- A new \$150 million fund for health and safety issues resulting from COVID-19
- \$350 million in the Rainy-Day fund to ensure Tennessee remains prepared and continues to fully fund obligations such as the BEP, growth in TennCare and other liabilities
- Additional \$9.3 million in non-recurring funds for the adult health care safety net and \$3 million in recurring funds.

Consumer Service Provisions – Department of Safety

- Effective immediately, the Department is waiving its requirement for drivers' licenses that citizens appear in person and have a new photograph taken through October 1, 2021. This will allow many customers with expiring credentials to renew online and not visit in person.
- Non-US citizens with Temporary driver licenses (Class XD and XID) will still need to visit in person to renew those licenses upon expiration of the current license.
- All Driver Licenses, Learner Permits, Commercial Driver Licenses, Photo Identification Licenses (ID), and Handgun Carry Permits that would expire between March 12, 2020, and May 19, 2020, will be extended for six (6) months from the original expiration date. The Department will issue a letter of extension to the individuals

affected. Affected individuals will be required to keep the letter with them during the extension period.

- Gov. Lee has asked the federal government to delay the October 1st deadline to acquire a Real ID. That decision from the federal government is pending.