My top priority is the safety and well-being of our State. I am thankful for the great work that is being done by our medical community and first responders. Thank you also to everyone working in places where jobs cannot be done remotely like grocery stores and pharmacies. We know that you are working long hours and under sometimes stressful circumstances, and we appreciate your dedication.

It is always a great honor to serve you. Please let me or my team know if we can be of assistance. Here are some resources to assist you, your family and neighbors. Together, we'll work to recover and come back stronger as a community! #COVID19

Sincerely,

[Signature]

What You Need to Know About the Coronavirus (COVID-19)
A full Florida Department of Health press release can be found here.

Symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as many as 14 days following exposure.

Most people recover from the COVID-19 without needing special treatment. Elders and those with underlying medical problems such as high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes, are more likely to develop serious illness.

Everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick and avoid contact with people in poor health.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
The information above was provided by the Florida Department of Health. For questions related to COVID-19 in Florida, please contact the Department’s dedicated COVID-19 Call Center by calling 1-866-779-6121 or emailing COVID-19@flhealth.gov. The Call Center is available 24/7. You can also visit www.FloridaHealth.gov/COVID-19, which remains most up-to-date resource for information and guidance regarding COVID-19 in Florida.

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**Governor Ron DeSantis Issued Executive Orders**

*The Governor's Executive Order can be viewed [here](#).*


- **Executive Order 20-52**, declares a state of emergency for the State of Florida.

- **Executive Order 20-69**, suspending any Florida Statute that requires a quorum to be present in person or requires a local government body to meet at a specific public place. Local government bodies may utilize communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing, as provided in section 120.54(5)(b)2., Florida Statutes. Section 3. This Executive Order does not waive any other requirement under the Florida Constitution and “Florida’s Government in the Sunshine Laws,” including Chapter 286, Florida Statutes.

- **Executive Order 20-71**, directing all restaurants and food establishments within the State of Florida to suspend on-premises food and alcohol consumption for customers. The listed establishments may, however, operate their kitchens for the purpose of providing delivery or take-out services.

  - This Executive Order lifts the restriction that prohibits a specially licensed food service establishment from selling package sales of alcohol for delivery, take-out or consumption off-
Premises for restaurants complying with Executive Order 20-68, through the expiration of the state of emergency declared in Executive Order 20-52. Alcohol sales to go with food that is pick-up or delivered will be permitted and I.D. will be required for orders including alcohol.

- Additionally, the Executive Order requires the closures of gymnasiums and fitness centers within the State of Florida. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) shall utilize its authorities under Florida law to further implement and enforce the provisions of this Executive Order and shall take additional measures as necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

- **Executive Order 20-72**, regarding non-essential elective medical procedures. All hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, office surgery centers, dental, orthodontic and endodontic offices, and other health care practitioners’ offices in the state of Florida are prohibited from providing any medically unnecessary, non-urgent or non-emergency procedure or surgery which, if delayed, does not place a patient’s immediate health, safety or well being at risk, or will, if delayed, not contribute to the worsening of a serious or life-threatening medical condition.

- **Executive Order 20-80**, directing all persons whose point of departure originates from outside the State of Florida in an area with substantial community spread, to include the New York Tri-State Area (Connecticut, New Jersey and New York), and entering the State of Florida through airports to isolate or quarantine for a period of 14 days from the time of entry into the State of Florida or the duration of the person’s presence in the State of Florida, whichever is shorter.

- **Executive Order 20-82**, directing all persons who enter the State of Florida from an area with substantial community spread, to include the New York Tri-State Area (Connecticut, New Jersey and New York), to isolate or quarantine for a period of 14 days from the time of entry into the State of Florida or the duration of the person’s presence in the State of Florida, whichever is shorter. This Order shall not apply to persons employed by the airlines and those performing military, emergency or health response.

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**COVID-19 RESOURCES**

**For Families**

**FREE MEALS FOR KIDS AND TEENS**

summerbreakspot.freshfromflorida.com

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FAMILY RESOURCES**

fldoe.org/em-response/resources-families.stml

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**Florida Department of Corrections**

FDC is monitoring the spread of COVID-19 closely. FDC’s Office of Health Services is in constant contact
with the Florida Department of Health.

Soap and Hand Sanitizer:
Due to security concerns, inmates are not allowed access to alcohol-based hand sanitizer due to its flammability. Soap and water are readily available throughout the institution. Additionally, all inmates are issued soap and they are allowed to replace when depleted. Soap and water utilization is in line with CDC recommendations to wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Proper handwashing techniques are continually encouraged.

Screening:
Anyone, including staff, entering a correctional institution will be screened, and entrance will be restricted if they:
- Have traveled internationally or on a cruise within the last 14 days.
- Have signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection such as fever, cough, shortness of breath.
- Have had contact with someone who has or is under investigation for COVID-19.

Communication:
Inmates will continue to have access to their loved ones through mail, phone calls and video visitation. Legal visits will not be impacted. FDC has partnered with vendors to provide some complimentary phone and video visitation services. Through the April 5th FDC visitation suspension, Securus and JPay will offer:
- One free video visitation session per JPay account that is linked to a Florida inmate;
- Two free phone calls up to 15 minutes in length per incarcerated individual each week;
- Four free JPay Stamps for each inmate, each week, credited Friday mornings beginning tomorrow, March 13, 2020; and
- The cost of outbound (from an inmate to a friend/family member) VideoGrams will be reduced by 50%, from four JPay Stamps per VideoGram to two JPay Stamps per VideoGram.

New Commitments and Transfers:
- All non-critical inmate transfers have been suspended.
- New commitments and intakes have been restricted.

Volunteers:
- Volunteer activities have been suspended statewide.

More information can be found here.

Information:
The Department will continue to make information readily available to the public through our website at the following link:
http://www.dc.state.fl.us/comm/index.html

Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan
Last Tuesday, Governor Ron DeSantis activated the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan.

Effective immediately, eligible small businesses interested in applying for the Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan program, a short-term loan designed to help business owners bridge the gap between the time of impact and when the business has secured long-term assistance, should apply for the program through one of two ways:

Apply online and upload required supporting documentation or download an application here, complete it and mail it with the required supporting documentation to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) at: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, C/O Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan, 107 E. Madison Street, MSC-160, Tallahassee FL 32399-4120.
Small businesses that have applied for the bridge loan program in response to COVID-19 should not submit an additional application.

Through the program, qualified small businesses with two to 100 employees impacted by COVID-19 can apply for interest-free loans of up to $50,000 for one-year terms. To be eligible, a business must be located in Florida, have been established prior to March 9, 2020, and demonstrate economic injury as a result of the virus.

For questions regarding the loan program, please contact DEO toll-free at 833-832-4494 or email FloridaBusinessLoanFund@deo.myflorida.com.

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**Families First Coronavirus Response Act**

The **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act)** requires certain employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. The Department of Labor's (Department) Wage and Hour Division (WHD) administers and enforces the new law's paid leave requirements. These provisions will apply from the effective date through December 31, 2020.

Generally, the Act provides that covered employers must provide to **all employees**:

- Two weeks (up to 80 hours) of **paid sick leave** at the employee's regular rate of pay where the employee is unable to work because the employee is quarantined (pursuant to Federal, State, or local government order or advice of a health care provider), and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and seeking a medical diagnosis; or
- Two weeks (up to 80 hours) of **paid sick leave** at two-thirds the employee's regular rate of pay because the employee is unable to work because of a bona fide need to care for an individual subject to quarantine (pursuant to Federal, State, or local government order or advice of a health care provider), or care for a child (under 18 years of age) whose school or child care provider is closed or unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19, and/or the employee is experiencing a substantially similar condition as specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretaries of the Treasury and Labor.

A covered employer must provide to **employees that it has employed for at least 30 days**:

- Up to an additional 10 weeks of **paid expanded family and medical leave** at two-thirds the employee's regular rate of pay where an employee is unable to work due to a bona fide need for leave to care for a child whose school or child care provider is closed or unavailable for reasons related to COVID-19.

Information on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act can be found at: [https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employer-paid-leave](https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employer-paid-leave)
Recap of Links

Click on the resource to access the link.

Governor's Resources & Executive Resources
Florida Department of Health
Florida Department of Emergency Management
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Small Business Loans
Re-Employment Assistance
Price - Gouging Hotline
Coronavirus Tax Relief
Families First Coronavirus Response Act
Free Meals for Kids and Teens
Adult Care Food Program
Florida Department of Education Family Resources

Local Resources

Duval County:
City of Jacksonville
Duval County School District

Nassau County:

Nassau County Emergency Management

Nassau County School District

Nassau County Chamber of Commerce

Staff

Dee Alexander
Chesten Goodman
Chad Corcoran

E-mail Senator Bean!