



Medical Society of Delaware
LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHY DELAWARE

COVID-19 UPDATE

5-5-2020

In an effort to keep Delaware's medical community current on the latest information regarding the coronavirus crisis, the Medical Society of Delaware is sharing the following:

Governor Carney Announces Interim Steps for Small Businesses / Uniform Testing for Nursing Homes

Delaware Governor John Carney announced today that small business retailers will be allowed to do business starting **Friday, May 8th** at 8:00 a.m., using curbside pickup as long as social distancing can be maintained. This announcement includes hair salons. Only hair care services are permitted to be offered, and only to workers at essential businesses.

The Governor and the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) announced a plan to test all residents and staff of Delaware long-term care facilities for COVID-19. DPH will provide facilities with tests, testing supplies, training, and support for the universal testing program to protect the most vulnerable Delawareans. Expanding COVID-19 testing capacity for vulnerable populations is a requirement of federal guidance for economic reopening.

[Read more..](#)

MSD Offers Guidance on Reopening Medical Practices

The Medical Society of Delaware's Physicians Relations Department has created a useful and informative guide on best practices to safely resume medical practice operations and patient visits. This guidance has been compiled with input from the Delaware Division of Public Health. [Read more.](#)

Governor Carney Addresses Questions from

Reporters

Delaware Governor John Carney addressed reporters today in his semi-weekly briefing about key issues facing the First State, including discussions about opening businesses and beaches. Division of Public Health Director Karyl Rattay, MD was on hand, as well as A.J. Schall, Director of the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA), to answer questions about testing and efforts to prevent community spread in the First State. [Watch press briefing.](#)

DPH Announces 83 New Positive Cases / Five Additional Deaths

According to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) **83** new Delawareans have been diagnosed with COVID-19, taking the total number of lab-confirmed cases to **5,371**, including **284** who are hospitalized, **61** of whom are critically ill.

One hundred eighty-seven individuals have died due to COVID-19 in Delaware with ages ranging from 26 to 103 years old. The most recent deaths announced today ranged in age from 48 to 101. One was a New Castle County resident, two were Kent County residents, and two were Sussex County residents. Four of the individuals had underlying health conditions. Four individuals were residents of long-term care facilities.

Latest statistics on positive cases:

- New Castle County cases: 1,979
- Kent County cases: 847
- Sussex County cases: 2,520
- Unknown County: 25
- Age range: 0 to 103

[Read more.](#)

Pandemic EBT Food Assistance Program Approved

The Division of Social Services was approved by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to operate Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT), a new program authorized by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that provides assistance to families with children who are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals.

The P-EBT program provides a supplemental food-purchasing benefit to current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households and a new EBT benefit to other eligible households to offset the cost of meals that would have otherwise been available at school. [Read more.](#)

MSD Goes Blue for Health Care Workers

Starting yesterday, tourist attractions, hotels, restaurants, and other businesses around the First State began shining blue lights on their buildings in support of frontline and essential workers. MSD's unofficial mascot "Bella" wanted to show her appreciation too! It should never go without saying - **we appreciate the dedication and hard work of all Delaware's health care workers.** #ThanksDE.



For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, MSD has created a coronavirus resource page on our website. [View resource page.](#)

Medical Society of Delaware
900 Prides Crossing
Newark, Delaware 19713
(302) 366-1400

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