

COVID-19 UPDATE

FDEM Provides COVID-19 Public Assistance Guidance

Since Florida received an Emergency Declaration due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all counties have been designated for Category B (emergency protective measures) under the Public Assistance (PA) program. Eligible applicants for the PA program are state and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations, including hospitals, clinics, and emergency medical providers.

FDEM has created an informational flyer to assist in answering questions regarding Category B eligible activities, ineligible costs, common issues with reimbursement, and emergency protective measures conducted by private nonprofit organizations. [Click here](#) to view the flyer.

FDEM wants to bring to your attention that the deadline to submit a Request for Public Assistance (RPA) to participate in the FEMA PA Program for COVID-19 is currently **April 12, 2020**; please submit your RPA by April 10, 2020. Details about how to submit an RPA are found [here](#).

Additional documentation requirements can be found [here](#).

Requests for Public Assistance:

The first step in the process of participating in FEMA's PA Program is to complete an RPA. RPAs are now being accepted through FDEM's website: www.FloridaPA.org. This process is directly accessible, regardless if the applicant has a www.FloridaPA.org account, through the home page by clicking "APPLY NOW."

Every eligible applicant will need to submit an RPA for this specific event in order to pursue funding under FEMA's Public Assistance Grant. The deadline for submission to FEMA is currently **April 12, 2020**.

For anyone requiring technical assistance through this process, there is a designated email address at RPA.Help@em.myflorida.com. If you have issues with accessing your www.FloridaPA.org account, please contact FDEM Recovery Systems Administrator David Solomon at david.solomon@em.myflorida.com or (850) 815-4426.

Guidance on Public Meetings

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) and Executive Office of the Governor (EOG) are discussing solutions to the quandary regarding public meetings that is presented to local governments in the present circumstance. A representative from the Attorney General's Office offered the following thoughts:

- Consideration is being given to allowing meetings to be conducted by communications media technology (CMT), as State level boards are allowed to do.
- The AGO is aware of their office's opinions that local governments must have a quorum of the members of the local board physically present in order for the meeting to be properly convened. The office is considering issuing an opinion relaxing or modifying that stance.

TAKE THE SURVEY

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

[FAC COVID-19 Webpage](#)

[Center for Disease Control](#)

- [Florida Mitigation Strategies](#)
- [Mitigation Strategies](#)
- [Guidance for Schools and Childcare Programs](#)

[Florida Department of Health](#)

- [COVID-19 Toolkit](#)
- [COVID-19 Case Dashboard](#)

[Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Tracking Dashboard](#)

[FAC Gold Corporate Partner, Witt O'Brien's, Resources](#)

- [COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Considerations](#)
- [Community Readiness Help](#)

LATEST UPDATES

March 17, 2020

[*Governor Ron DeSantis and FDEM Director Jared Moskowitz Announce Federal Resource Requests*](#)

March 17, 2020

[*Governor Ron DeSantis Issues an Executive Order Regarding Bars, Beaches and Restaurants*](#)

March 17, 2020

[*NACo Release Financial Volatility Guide and Strategy*](#)

March 16, 2020

[*NACo Issues Updates on COVID-19*](#)

March 16, 2020

[*FAC Issues COVID-19 Updates*](#)

March 16, 2020

[*NACo Launches New Map of County and State Emergency Declarations*](#)

- They said this is a rapidly evolving situation and every day brings a new understanding of the challenges we all are facing. Up until now, the EOG has been focused on the legislative session and public health announcements/orders. The EOG has been made aware of the real challenges facing local governments and they feel like a solution will be forthcoming in the coming days.
- In the meantime, each local government needs to make its own judgment calls about how to proceed. They said we need to consider whether for now any board meetings ought to be cancelled. If we feel we have to meet before a special dispensation is given to us by the AGO or the Governor, we need to use our best judgment in conducting a meeting that maximizes availability to the public by CMT and hoping that any judge who hears a case brought against us for a technical violation of the Sunshine Law would take into account the exigent circumstances and the measures we take to allow the public to view the meetings by CMT.

March 16, 2020
[President Provides Guidelines on Slowing the Spread](#)

[Click here](#) to view other updates.

Governor Ron DeSantis Issues an Executive Order Regarding Bars, Beaches and Restaurants

Governor Ron DeSantis issued an [Executive Order](#) that will reduce density and crowds in restaurants, bars, nightclubs and beaches to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Bars and Nightclubs

Under the direction of Governor DeSantis, all bars and nightclubs throughout Florida will close for the next 30 days. Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) will be enforcing and providing further guidance.

Beaches

The Governor is directing parties accessing public beaches in the state of Florida to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance by limiting their gatherings to no more than 10 persons.

Restaurants

Restaurants across the state of Florida will now be required to limit customer entry to 50 percent of capacity. Seating must be staggered and limited to ensure seated parties are separated by a distance of at least six feet, in accordance with CDC guidelines. Restaurants are encouraged to remain open and expand take-out and delivery services. Additional information will be provided by DBPR.

Work with your Emergency Managers

Like with hurricanes, the Division of Emergency Management is leading the response to COVID-19 in the state of Florida. Please work with your emergency managers for the latest information regarding the response. The Division of Emergency Management is holding daily conference calls with county emergency management directors with the latest updates.

Actions Taken by Florida's Counties

FAC Sends Out Survey to See How Counties in Florida are Dealing with COVID-19

As counties grapple with responding to the ever changing information coming out regarding COVID-19, FAC felt we could all learn from each other. As a result, yesterday, FAC sent out a short survey to our members regarding the actions they have take so far.

28 out of 67 counties responded to the survey. [Click here](#) to see which counties responded. If you county has not yet taken the survey, please do so now. The survey is available [here](#).

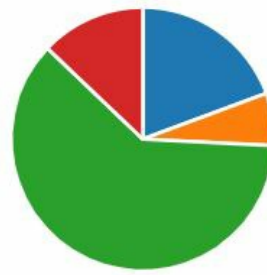
Please be on the look out for future emails, asking you to refresh your answers so all information is up to date.

Issuing a Local State of Emergency:

Regarding Gatherings of 10 or more:



● Yes 25
● No 6



● Asked organizers to cancel 6
● Required cancellation 2
● Directed all to follow state/fed... 19
● No Direction 4

TAKE THE SURVEY

VIEW THE RESULTS

News from NACo

NACo Launches National Map of State and County Emergency Declarations

NACo has launched a new national map of state and county emergency declarations. If you click on the state or county, a pop up box will show links to the state and/or county declaration (and the date of issuance). [Click here](#) to view the map.

NACo Provides Analysis of Congressional Coronavirus Supplement Packages

Congress and the Administration are in the process of responding to the coronavirus outbreak with economic stimulus measures, public health investments and aid to state and local governments. On March 6, President Trump signed an \$8.3 billion emergency supplemental appropriations package (P.L. 116-123) that includes comprehensive resources to enhance the national response to coronavirus, as well as key provisions to support state and local efforts to address cases of illness. [Click here](#) to view NACo's analysis on the first (enacted) and second (pending) Congressional Coronavirus Supplement Packages.

In addition to the first and second congressional supplemental aid packages, NACo is working with Congress, White House and others on a third package and other pressing policy, funding and practice guidance issues. [Click here](#) to see NACo's current federal advocacy strategy regarding additional coronavirus aid packages.

Resources from FAC's Program & Corporate Partners

Nationwide Releases Financial Volatility Guide and Strategy

Nationwide has created a guide which provides financial educational information and strategies that inform you and your employees on how to remain objective and thoughtful in times like these when headline news is spiraling out of control. [Click here](#) to view the guide.

Confirmed Cases in Florida

The Florida Department of Health recently announced the launch of a new [COVID-19 Case Dashboard](#) which is updated twice daily with the total number of cases in Florida

Today, as of 10 a.m., there are 314 total** total Florida cases. More information on a case-by-case basis can also be found [here](#).

Total Cases Overview	314
Traveled	73
Contact with confirmed case	50
Travel & contact with confirmed case	63
Unknown and Under Investigation	128

Confirmed Cases in Florida Residents	289
Confirmed by DOH	172
Tested by private labs	117
Characteristics of Florida Resident Cases	
FL resident diagnosed & isolated out of state*	6
Deaths	7
Cases in Non-Florida Residents	25
Confirmed by DOH	23
Tested by private labs	2

***Total cases overview includes positive cases in Florida residents and non-Florida residents tested in Florida.*