



COVID-19 at a Glance

Region 3

Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia



COVID-19 at a Glance

Illinois

Overview

As the federal government leads the national response to COVID-19, states have taken a number of actions to mitigate the spread of the virus and reduce barriers to testing and treatment for those affected. This fact sheet provides state-level information on adopted social distancing measures, health policy action to reduce barriers to testing and treatment, and legislation that has been introduced in response to COVID-19.

Action to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19

As of March 16, 2020, every state has made an emergency declaration, with most taking the form of a State of Emergency or a Public Health Emergency. These declarations allow governors to exercise emergency powers and many have used this power to take additional actions to slow the spread of the virus by adopting social distancing measures.

Action Taken	
Stay at Home Order	Statewide
Mandatory Quarantine for Travelers	N/A
Non-Essential Business Closures	All Non-Essential Businesses
Mandated School Closures	Yes
Large Gatherings Ban	All Gatherings Prohibited
Bar/Restaurant Limits	Closed except for takeout/delivery
Primary Election Postponement	N/A

Health Policy Action on COVID-19

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) passed by the federal government on March 18, 2020 took action to ensure access to COVID-19 testing by requiring Medicare, Medicaid, all group health plans, and individual health insurance policies to cover testing and associated visits related to the diagnosis of the virus during the federally-declared emergency period. Additionally, FFCRA gives states the option to provide Medicaid coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents with 100% federal financing.

Many states have gone a step further to implement policies to increase access to COVID-19 testing and treatment, with some states already moving to require insurers to cover a COVID-19 vaccination with no cost-sharing if and when one becomes available. Other states are requiring state-certified insurance carriers to waive patient cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment.

States have also announced other actions, including extending special enrollment periods (SEP) in state-based health insurance exchanges, enabling early prescription drug refills, and requesting approval for Section 1135 waivers that permit them to waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and HIPAA requirements during a national emergency. While the FFCRA creates a federal emergency paid sick leave program through December 2020, some states have enacted mandatory sick leave policies that will fill in gaps in the new federal emergency leave.

Action Taken	
Waive Cost Sharing for COVID-19 Treatment	N/A
Requires Waiver of Prior Authorization Requirements	N/A
Free Vaccine When Available	N/A
Early Prescription Refills	N/A
Premium Payment Grace Period	N/A
Marketplace SEP	N/A
Section 1135 Waiver	Approved
Paid Sick Leave	N/A

Essential Businesses

An essential employee is a designated employee that is required to work during a business closure in order to meet operational requirements.

Essential employees' designation is determined by the state, along with the responsibilities of the employee, and the reasons for closing. There

are 14 essential employment categories listed by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): healthcare employees, first responders, food and agricultural employees, energy employees, water and sanitation, transportation and logistics, public workers, manufacturing, communications and IT, community-based government operations and essential functions, financial services, hazardous material management, defense industrial base, and chemical management.

Essential employees in Illinois fall under most of the 14 categories, except for defense, energy, and chemical.

Date Issued	Designation of Essential Businesses
3/20/20	COVID-19 Executive Order No. 8 and Essential Businesses & Operations



COVID-19 at a Glance

Illinois

State Legislation Responding to COVID-19

Bill Number	Description	Status
HB 5607	Amends the Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code. Requires the Department of Public Health to conduct a study, subject to appropriations, of the state's disease response preparedness, in particular studying the state's preparedness against the coronavirus. At the request of the Department, requires other state agencies, in particular the Emergency Management Agency, to support the Department's efforts.	Pending



COVID-19 at a Glance

Indiana

Overview

As the federal government leads the national response to COVID-19, states have taken a number of actions to mitigate the spread of the virus and reduce barriers to testing and treatment for those affected. This fact sheet provides state-level information on adopted social distancing measures, health policy action to reduce barriers to testing and treatment, and legislation that has been introduced in response to COVID-19.

Action to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19

As of March 16, 2020, every state has made an emergency declaration, with most taking the form of a State of Emergency or a Public Health Emergency. These declarations allow governors to exercise emergency powers and many have used this power to take additional actions to slow the spread of the virus by adopting social distancing measures.

Action Taken	
Stay at Home Order	Statewide
Mandatory Quarantine for Travelers	N/A
Non-Essential Business Closures	All Non-Essential Businesses
Mandated School Closures	Yes
Large Gatherings Ban	All Gatherings Prohibited
Bar/Restaurant Limits	Closed except for takeout/delivery
Primary Election Postponement	Yes

Health Policy Action on COVID-19

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) passed by the federal government on March 18, 2020 took action to ensure access to COVID-19 testing by requiring Medicare, Medicaid, all group health plans, and individual health insurance policies to cover testing and associated visits related to the diagnosis of the virus during the federally-declared emergency period. Additionally, FFCRA gives states the option to provide Medicaid coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents with 100% federal financing.

Many states have gone a step further to implement policies to increase access to COVID-19 testing and treatment, with some states already moving to require insurers to cover a COVID-19 vaccination with no cost-sharing if and when one becomes available. Other states are requiring state-certified insurance carriers to waive patient cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment.

States have also announced other actions, including extending special enrollment periods (SEP) in state-based health insurance exchanges, enabling early prescription drug refills, and requesting approval for Section 1135 waivers that permit them to waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and HIPAA requirements during a national emergency. While the FFCRA creates a federal emergency paid sick leave program through December 2020, some states have enacted mandatory sick leave policies that will fill in gaps in the new federal emergency leave.

Action Taken	
Waive Cost Sharing for COVID-19 Treatment	N/A
Requires Waiver of Prior Authorization Requirements	N/A
Free Vaccine When Available	N/A
Early Prescription Refills	N/A
Premium Payment Grace Period	N/A
Marketplace SEP	N/A
Section 1135 Waiver	Approved
Paid Sick Leave	N/A

Essential Businesses

An essential employee is a designated employee that is required to work during a business closure in order to meet operational requirements.

Essential employees' designation is determined by the state, along with the responsibilities of the employee, and the reasons for closing. There

are 14 essential employment categories listed by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): healthcare employees, first responders, food and agricultural employees, energy employees, water and sanitation, transportation and logistics, public workers, manufacturing, communications and IT, community-based government operations and essential functions, financial services, hazardous material management, defense industrial base, and chemical management.

Indiana businesses and employees that are labeled as essential include child protective services, mail services, healthcare, and emergency services, and gas stations.

Date Issued	Designation of Essential Businesses
3/23/20	Executive Order 20-08 and Excerpt from Indiana Executive Order 20-08



COVID-19 at a Glance

Indiana

State Legislation Responding to COVID-19

Bill Number	Description	Status
<i>No legislation has been introduced as of 4/23/20</i>		



COVID-19 at a Glance

Kentucky

Overview

As the federal government leads the national response to COVID-19, states have taken a number of actions to mitigate the spread of the virus and reduce barriers to testing and treatment for those affected. This fact sheet provides state-level information on adopted social distancing measures, health policy action to reduce barriers to testing and treatment, and legislation that has been introduced in response to COVID-19.

Action to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19

As of March 16, 2020, every state has made an emergency declaration, with most taking the form of a State of Emergency or a Public Health Emergency. These declarations allow governors to exercise emergency powers and many have used this power to take additional actions to slow the spread of the virus by adopting social distancing measures.

Action Taken	
Stay at Home Order	Statewide
Mandatory Quarantine for Travelers	N/A
Non-Essential Business Closures	All Non-Essential Retail Businesses
Mandated School Closures	Yes
Large Gatherings Ban	All Gatherings Prohibited
Bar/Restaurant Limits	Closed except for takeout/delivery
Primary Election Postponement	Yes

Health Policy Action on COVID-19

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) passed by the federal government on March 18, 2020 took action to ensure access to COVID-19 testing by requiring Medicare, Medicaid, all group health plans, and individual health insurance policies to cover testing and associated visits related to the diagnosis of the virus during the federally-declared emergency period. Additionally, FFCRA gives states the option to provide Medicaid coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents with 100% federal financing.

Many states have gone a step further to implement policies to increase access to COVID-19 testing and treatment, with some states already moving to require insurers to cover a COVID-19 vaccination with no cost-sharing if and when one becomes available. Other states are requiring state-certified insurance carriers to waive patient cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment.

States have also announced other actions, including extending special enrollment periods (SEP) in state-based health insurance exchanges, enabling early prescription drug refills, and requesting approval for Section 1135 waivers that permit them to waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and HIPAA requirements during a national emergency. While the FFCRA creates a federal emergency paid sick leave program through December 2020, some states have enacted mandatory sick leave policies that will fill in gaps in the new federal emergency leave.

Action Taken	
Waive Cost Sharing for COVID-19 Treatment	N/A
Requires Waiver of Prior Authorization Requirements	For COVID-19 Testing
Free Vaccine When Available	State Requires
Early Prescription Refills	State Requires
Premium Payment Grace Period	N/A
Marketplace SEP	N/A
Section 1135 Waiver	Approved
Paid Sick Leave	Proposed March 2020

Essential Businesses

An essential employee is a designated employee that is required to work during a business closure in order to meet operational requirements. Essential employees' designation is determined by the state, along with the responsibilities of the employee, and the reasons for closing. There are 14 essential employment categories listed by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): healthcare employees, first responders, food and agricultural employees, energy employees, water and sanitation, transportation and logistics, public workers, manufacturing, communications and IT, community-based government operations and essential functions, financial services, hazardous material management, defense industrial base, and chemical management.

Kentucky's essential employees mostly fall under the 14 categories, with a special focus on manufacturing and supply chain.

Date Issued	Designation of Essential Businesses
3/22/20	Executive Order 2020-246 and Gov. Beshear Issues New Guidance to Help Halt the Spread of COVID-19



COVID-19 at a Glance

Kentucky

State Legislation Responding to COVID-19

Bill Number	Description	Status
<u>HR 135</u>	A Resolution encouraging the Legislative Research Commission to establish the Kentucky Emergency Preparedness Task Force.	Adopted
<u>HB 352</u>	Relates to appropriations and revenue measures providing financing and conditions for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the government of the Commonwealth; addresses federal funds received from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security, or CARES, Act.	Enacted
<u>SB 150</u>	In response to the coronavirus public health emergency, waives various professional and business licensing fees; provides for unemployment benefits; provides for the Coronavirus Hotline.	Enacted
<u>SB 177</u>	Relates to education and declaring an emergency; allows a school district to request approval for additional student attendance days under an emergency nontraditional instruction plan when the district is closed due to the state of emergency declared by the Governor related to COVID-19.	Enacted
<u>SB 282</u>	Requires employers to provide accrued paid sick leave to employees. Provides mechanism for employees to accrue paid sick leave; establishes guidelines for employers to calculate paid sick leave for employees; sets forth manner in which paid sick leave can be used; creates a civil penalty for violation of provisions.	Pending
<u>HB 356</u>	Makes appropriations for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the Judicial Branch of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky; authorizes, for the during of a state of emergency, the Chief Justice to declare a judicial emergency to protect the health and safety of court employees, elected officials and the general public, and to extend any statutory timelines and statutes of limitations for court filings.	Enacted
<u>HB 387</u>	Creates a new section of a specific Subchapter of KRS Chapter 154 to establish the rural hospital operations and facilities revolving loan fund.	Eligible for Governor
<u>HB 449</u>	Provides definitions of terms related to disaster or emergency-related work; exempts disaster response employees and disaster response businesses from income tax beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2024; exempts disaster response businesses beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2024; excludes the income of a disaster response employee and a disaster response business from local tax; excludes a disaster response business from certain permit requirements.	Pending
<u>SJR 246</u>	Directs the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to assess Kentucky's preparedness to address the coronavirus and report to the General Assembly.	Pending
<u>SR 296</u>	A resolution honoring the teachers, classified employees, bus drivers, janitorial/custodial staff, and other individuals who are delivering meals to Kentucky's students while schools are closed due to the coronavirus	Adopted



COVID-19 at a Glance

Kentucky

	pandemic.	
<u>SR 321</u>	A resolution honoring Kentucky Mist Distillery for its help during the COVID-19 pandemic.	Adopted
<u>SR 323</u>	Resolution honoring the late American singer-songwriter John Prine.	Adopted
<u>SR 332</u>	Commends Governor Andy Beshear, the entire Executive Branch, Kentucky's mayors and their administrations, health care workers, grocery store employees, sanitation personnel, court personnel, school district workers, truck drivers and warehouse workers, the entire staff of the Legislation Research Commission, and all other Kentuckians who have courageously served their fellow citizens during the COVID-19 crisis.	Adopted



COVID-19 at a Glance

Michigan

Overview

As the federal government leads the national response to COVID-19, states have taken a number of actions to mitigate the spread of the virus and reduce barriers to testing and treatment for those affected. This fact sheet provides state-level information on adopted social distancing measures, health policy action to reduce barriers to testing and treatment, and legislation that has been introduced in response to COVID-19.

Action to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19

As of March 16, 2020, every state has made an emergency declaration, with most taking the form of a State of Emergency or a Public Health Emergency. These declarations allow governors to exercise emergency powers and many have used this power to take additional actions to slow the spread of the virus by adopting social distancing measures.

Action Taken	
Stay at Home Order	Statewide
Mandatory Quarantine for Travelers	N/A
Non-Essential Business Closures	All Non-Essential Businesses
Mandated School Closures	Yes
Large Gatherings Ban	All Gatherings Prohibited
Bar/Restaurant Limits	Closed except for takeout/delivery
Primary Election Postponement	N/A

Health Policy Action on COVID-19

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) passed by the federal government on March 18, 2020 took action to ensure access to COVID-19 testing by requiring Medicare, Medicaid, all group health plans, and individual health insurance policies to cover testing and associated visits related to the diagnosis of the virus during the federally-declared emergency period. Additionally, FFCRA gives states the option to provide Medicaid coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents with 100% federal financing.

Many states have gone a step further to implement policies to increase access to COVID-19 testing and treatment, with some states already moving to require insurers to cover a COVID-19 vaccination with no cost-sharing if and when one becomes available. Other states are requiring state-certified insurance carriers to waive patient cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment.

States have also announced other actions, including extending special enrollment periods (SEP) in state-based health insurance exchanges, enabling early prescription drug refills, and requesting approval for Section 1135 waivers that permit them to waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and HIPAA requirements during a national emergency. While the FFCRA creates a federal emergency paid sick leave program through December 2020, some states have enacted mandatory sick leave policies that will fill in gaps in the new federal emergency leave.

Action Taken	
Waive Cost Sharing for COVID-19 Treatment	N/A
Requires Waiver of Prior Authorization Requirements	N/A
Free Vaccine When Available	N/A
Early Prescription Refills	N/A
Premium Payment Grace Period	N/A
Marketplace SEP	N/A
Section 1135 Waiver	Approved
Paid Sick Leave	N/A

Essential Businesses

An essential employee is a designated employee that is required to work during a business closure in order to meet operational requirements.

Essential employees' designation is determined by the state, along with the responsibilities of the employee, and the reasons for closing. There

are 14 essential employment categories listed by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): healthcare employees, first responders, food and agricultural employees, energy employees, water and sanitation, transportation and logistics, public workers, manufacturing, communications and IT, community-based government operations and essential functions, financial services, hazardous material management, defense industrial base, and chemical management.

The State of Michigan recognizes employees that fall under the 14 categories as essential.

Date Issued	Designation of Essential Businesses
3/23/20	Executive Order No. 2020-21 and Executive Order 2020-21: Guidance For Business



COVID-19 at a Glance

Michigan

State Legislation Responding to COVID-19

Bill Number	Description	Status
SCR 24	A concurrent resolution to approve an extension to the state of emergency and state of disaster declared across the State of Michigan to address the COVID-19 pandemic.	Adopted
SR 107	Urges the federal government to fund the medical costs associated with testing and mandatory hospital stays for the novel coronavirus.	Adopted
HR 242	Urges the Congress of the United States and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide financial assistance to the state of Michigan and affected residents to address the novel coronavirus outbreak.	Pending
HR 245	Prescribes Temporary Rules for Emergency Operation of the House of Representatives.	Pending
HR 246	Memorializes the United States Department of the Treasury to use its rulemaking authority to exempt Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act stimulus payments from private debt collection by banks to house financial services.	Pending
HR 247	Memorializes the United States Department of the Treasury to use its rulemaking authority to exempt Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act stimulus payments from garnishment by creditors and debt collectors.	Pending
SB 151	Provides supplemental appropriations for various state departments and agencies. Makes a one-time appropriation of \$25 million from the state general fund to the Coronavirus public health emergency and response fund. Federal revenues up to \$50 million authorized by and available from the federal government for the COVID-19 public health emergency are appropriated to departments for state and local preparedness and response activities.	Enacted
HB 4729	Provides for omnibus budget appropriations for the 2019-20 fiscal year; includes a sum of \$125 million in one-time appropriations from the general fund to combat the coronavirus COVID-19.	Enacted
HB 5630	Provides for funding for the new coronavirus reporting requirements and requires Department of Health and Human Services to pay for certain costs related to coronavirus.	Pending
HB 5631	Appropriates \$10 million from the general fund to the pandemic outbreak fund within the State Treasury to pay for the costs related to the coronavirus.	Pending
HB 5633	Requires insurance coverage and treatment for coronavirus.	Pending
HB 5704	Provides guidance around testing patients in the care of emergency personnel for COVID-19.	Pending



COVID-19 at a Glance

Ohio

Overview

As the federal government leads the national response to COVID-19, states have taken a number of actions to mitigate the spread of the virus and reduce barriers to testing and treatment for those affected. This fact sheet provides state-level information on adopted social distancing measures, health policy action to reduce barriers to testing and treatment, and legislation that has been introduced in response to COVID-19.

Action to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19

As of March 16, 2020, every state has made an emergency declaration, with most taking the form of a State of Emergency or a Public Health Emergency. These declarations allow governors to exercise emergency powers and many have used this power to take additional actions to slow the spread of the virus by adopting social distancing measures.

Action Taken	
Stay at Home Order	Statewide
Mandatory Quarantine for Travelers	All Travelers
Non-Essential Business Closures	All Non-Essential Businesses
Mandated School Closures	Yes
Large Gatherings Ban	All Gatherings Prohibited
Bar/Restaurant Limits	Closed except for takeout/delivery
Primary Election Postponement	Yes

Health Policy Action on COVID-19

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) passed by the federal government on March 18, 2020 took action to ensure access to COVID-19 testing by requiring Medicare, Medicaid, all group health plans, and individual health insurance policies to cover testing and associated visits related to the diagnosis of the virus during the federally-declared emergency period. Additionally, FFCRA gives states the option to provide Medicaid coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents with 100% federal financing.

Many states have gone a step further to implement policies to increase access to COVID-19 testing and treatment, with some states already moving to require insurers to cover a COVID-19 vaccination with no cost-sharing if and when one becomes available. Other states are requiring state-certified insurance carriers to waive patient cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment.

States have also announced other actions, including extending special enrollment periods (SEP) in state-based health insurance exchanges, enabling early prescription drug refills, and requesting approval for Section 1135 waivers that permit them to waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and HIPAA requirements during a national emergency. While the FFCRA creates a federal emergency paid sick leave program through December 2020, some states have enacted mandatory sick leave policies that will fill in gaps in the new federal emergency leave.

Action Taken	
Waive Cost Sharing for COVID-19 Treatment	N/A
Requires Waiver of Prior Authorization Requirements	N/A
Free Vaccine When Available	N/A
Early Prescription Refills	N/A
Premium Payment Grace Period	All Policies
Marketplace SEP	N/A
Section 1135 Waiver	N/A
Paid Sick Leave	N/A

Essential Businesses

An essential employee is a designated employee that is required to work during a business closure in order to meet operational requirements.

Essential employees' designation is determined by the state, along with the responsibilities of the employee, and the reasons for closing. There are 14 essential employment categories listed by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA): healthcare employees, first responders, food and agricultural employees, energy employees, water and sanitation, transportation and logistics, public workers, manufacturing, communications and IT, community-based government operations and essential functions, financial services, hazardous material management, defense industrial base, and chemical management.

The State of Ohio recognizes the 14 categories released by CISA as essential services.

Date Issued	Designation of Essential Businesses
3/22/20	Director's Stay At Home Order



COVID-19 at a Glance

Ohio

State Legislation Responding to COVID-19

Bill Number	Description	Status
SCR 12	Denounces discriminatory words and deeds resulting from COVID-19.	Pending
SB 294	Extends absent vote by mail to April 28.	Pending
SB 298	Makes COVID-19 website available in multiple languages.	Pending
SB 299	Provides paid leave to quarantined workers and to create a grant program to compensate contract who cannot perform services during public health emergencies.	Pending
SB 301	Changes the Consumer Sales Practices Act to prohibit price gouging; declares an emergency.	Pending
HB 197	Amends several codes to continue essential operations of state government and maintain the continuity of the state tax code in response to the declared pandemic and global health emergency related to COVID-19; makes appropriations; declares an emergency; expands unemployment benefits for individuals out of work due to COVID-19; extends absentee voting for the Ohio primary to April 28; extends the deadline to file income tax forms to July 15.	Enacted
HB 557	Authorizes public bodies to meet via teleconference and video conference during a public health state of emergency as declared by the Governor; declares an emergency.	Pending
HB 563	Requires notice of EMT transport of a contagious patient.	Pending
HB 565	Extends income tax filing deadline.	Pending
HB 567	Authorizes partially refundable earned income tax credit.	Pending
HB 574	Transfers and appropriates money for unemployment compensation.	Pending
HB 576	Suspends homestead interest penalty and foreclosure.	Pending
HB 578	Supports homeless shelters and rent assistance due to COVID-19.	Pending
HB 580	Requires health plan issuers cover telemedicine in emergency.	Pending
HB 581	States the General Assembly intends to enact legislation addressing the urgent needs of the state related to the COVID-19 outbreak.	Pending
HB 585	Waives certain primary and secondary education requirements to account for school closings in compliance with the Director of Health's order due to the implications of COVID-19; declares an emergency.	Pending
HB 590	Prohibits price gouging after a declaration of an emergency; declares an emergency.	Pending
HB 591	Suspends some employer municipal income tax withholding requirements during the COVID-19 state of emergency; declares an emergency.	Pending
HB 592	Appropriates \$10 million to the Ohio Association of Community Health Centers to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.	Pending
HB 593	Requires paid leave for an employee who is unable to work due to quarantine or mandatory isolation; creates a grant program to compensate contract workers who cannot perform services during public health emergencies; makes an appropriation; declares an emergency.	Pending
HB 594	Regards re-employment of a retirant as a police officer, firefighter, or emergency medical worker during a state of emergency; allows a deferred	Pending



COVID-19 at a Glance

Ohio

	retirement option plan participant to work past the participant's employment end date during a state of emergency; declares an emergency.	
<u>HB 598</u>	Temporarily authorizes emergency medical technicians to perform certain medical services in hospitals and to declare an emergency.	Pending
<u>HB 599</u>	Requires, during the period of the emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D issued on March 9, 2020, and for six months thereafter, prompt notification of an emergency medical services worker or funeral services worker who has treated, handled, or transported a patient who tested positive for COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.	Pending
<u>HB 600</u>	Authorizes a person who has had a valid commercial driver's license to drive an ambulance during the state of emergency due to COVID-19 and to declare an emergency.	Pending
<u>HB 603</u>	Requires the Chancellor of Higher Education to waive interest rates and suspend payments on state student loan programs for up to sixty days, to require the Chancellor to conduct a study to assist institutions of higher education and students during the COVID-19 outbreak, and to declare an emergency.	Pending
<u>HB 605</u>	Amends the Revised Code to make COVID-19 contracted by an employee of a retail food establishment or food processing establishment an occupational disease under the Workers' Compensation Law under certain circumstances.	Pending
<u>HB 606</u>	Grants civil immunity to a person who provides services for essential businesses and operations for injury, death, or loss that was caused by the transmission of COVID-19 during the period of emergency declared by Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, and to declare an emergency.	Pending
<u>HB 608</u>	Makes changes to the law regarding peace officer and firefighter certifications during the declaration of an emergency regarding coronavirus; declares an emergency.	Pending



COVID-19 at a Glance

West Virginia

Overview

As the federal government leads the national response to COVID-19, states have taken a number of actions to mitigate the spread of the virus and reduce barriers to testing and treatment for those affected. This fact sheet provides state-level information on adopted social distancing measures, health policy action to reduce barriers to testing and treatment, and legislation that has been introduced in response to COVID-19.

Action to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19

As of March 16, 2020, every state has made an emergency declaration, with most taking the form of a State of Emergency or a Public Health Emergency. These declarations allow governors to exercise emergency powers and many have used this power to take additional actions to slow the spread of the virus by adopting social distancing measures.

Action Taken	
Stay at Home Order	Statewide
Mandatory Quarantine for Travelers	From Certain States
Non-Essential Business Closures	All Non-Essential Businesses
Mandated School Closures	Yes
Large Gatherings Ban	N/A
Bar/Restaurant Limits	Closed except for takeout/delivery
Primary Election Postponement	Yes

Health Policy Action on COVID-19

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) passed by the federal government on March 18, 2020 took action to ensure access to COVID-19 testing by requiring Medicare, Medicaid, all group health plans, and individual health insurance policies to cover testing and associated visits related to the diagnosis of the virus during the federally-declared emergency period. Additionally, FFCRA gives states the option to provide Medicaid coverage of COVID-19 testing for uninsured residents with 100% federal financing.

Many states have gone a step further to implement policies to increase access to COVID-19 testing and treatment, with some states already moving to require insurers to cover a COVID-19 vaccination with no cost-sharing if and when one becomes available. Other states are requiring state-certified insurance carriers to waive patient cost-sharing for COVID-19 treatment.

Action Taken	
Waive Cost Sharing for COVID-19 Treatment	N/A
Requires Waiver of Prior Authorization Requirements	N/A
Free Vaccine When Available	N/A
Early Prescription Refills	State Requires
Premium Payment Grace Period	COVID-19 Diagnosis/Impacts Only
Marketplace SEP	N/A
Section 1135 Waiver	Approved
Paid Sick Leave	N/A

States have also announced other actions, including extending special enrollment periods (SEP) in state-based health insurance exchanges, enabling early prescription drug refills, and requesting approval for Section 1135 waivers that permit them to waive or modify certain Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and HIPAA requirements during a national emergency. While the FFCRA creates a federal emergency paid sick leave program through December 2020, some states have enacted mandatory sick leave policies that will fill in gaps in the new federal emergency leave.

Essential Businesses

An essential employee is a designated employee that is required to work during a business closure in order to meet operational requirements.

Essential employees' designation is determined by the state, along with the responsibilities of the employee, and the reasons for closing. There are 14 essential employment categories listed by the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA):

healthcare employees, first responders, food and agricultural employees, energy employees, water and sanitation, transportation and logistics, public workers, manufacturing, communications and IT, community-based government operations and essential functions, financial services, hazardous material management, defense industrial base, and chemical management. West Virginia essential employees all fall under the 14 categories listed above, with the addition of employees working in hardware stores, motels and hotels, and laundry services.

Date Issued	Designation of Essential Businesses
3/23/20	Executive Order No. 9-20



COVID-19 at a Glance

West Virginia

State Legislation Responding to COVID-19

Bill Number	Description	Status
<i>No legislation has been introduced as of 4/23/20</i>		