

Colorado COVID-19 Resource Clearinghouse

April 17, 2020

This resource guide includes a compilation of COVID-19 updates, information and resources for partner organizations supporting families, schools and communities. COVID-19 information seems to change daily, however this weekly communication will strive to provide links to access the most recent updates.

Each week all new items will be marked with a red asterisk

Global Youth Service Day

*Colorado Young Leaders is hosting a virtual service day over Global Youth Service Day Weekend April 17-19, 2020. Take a look at the [family-friendly service ideas](#) that can be done throughout the weekend to support your community.

Baby Supplies

*The Colorado Office of Early Childhood's [website](#) has helpful information on early childhood resources including a link [HERE](#) for all emergency baby supply pickup locations. These supplies are part of FEMA's \$3M delivery of infant formula, diapers and wipes and will be distributed statewide.

CENSUS Call to Action!

The 2020 Census count has been extended to mid-August and we urge colleagues, grantees, partners, and communities to uplift positive messages about the importance of participating in the census. Consult the [Census Funders Toolkit](#) for resources and support.

Everyone counts including young children, babies, foster children, foreign born residents, older adults and anyone who usually resides in a household. Respond by [phone](#) or online in 13 different languages: [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Korean](#), [Russian](#), [Arabic Tagalog](#), [Polish](#), [French](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Portuguese](#) and [Japanese](#).



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Tips to Take Care...

*After weeks of social distancing and isolation we have to remember to take care of ourselves! Generation Schools Network has launched a weekly newsletter designed to help. We are borrowing [Office Break Yoga](#) as this week's Tip to Take Care!

Food Access

See below for links to organizations working to increase access to food for families:

- Families needing food assistance should fill out the Blueprint to End Hunger's [Denver Metro Emergency Food Access Form](#).
- Helpful phone numbers:
 - Village Exchange Center Pantry - (720)668-9968
 - Hunger-Free Hotline - (720)382-2920
 - [Denver Metro Emergency Food Network](#) - (720)594-2065 (text for more information)
- Map of [Denver Emergency Food Resources](#) which is also available in [Spanish](#).
- [Colorado Food Pantries](#) managed by FoodPantries.Org
- School District Meal Information:

Denver Public Schools	Adams 12
Jefferson County Schools	Commerce City
Aurora Public Schools	Cherry Creek Schools

- Farms currently distributing food in Denver:
 - [Dahlia Campus greenhouse](#) **accepts and doubles SNAP benefits
 - [Emerald Gardens](#)
 - [Groundwork Greens](#)
 - [Altius Farms](#)
 - [High Plains Food Co-op](#) (food boxes delivered)



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[Four Seasons Farmers Market](#) (orders delivered)

[The Growhaus](#) (food boxes delivered)

- Here is a fact sheet provided by the [Food Action Resource Group](#) that summarizes the Families First Act's changes to Child and Adult Care Food Program waivers.

Health, Safety & Well Being

This list of questions and answers covers a variety of concerns related to physical health, personal and community safety and mental health supports.

Q. Is there funding that helps an individual pay their bills?

*A. Take a look at this list of [charities and organizations](#) that may be able to help.

Q. How can kids and families reduce stress?

*A. Watch this [Tools4ToughTimes](#) video provided by Asset Education and follow the student-led campaign on Instagram at #TOOLS4TOUGHTIMES and download the Asset At-Home Toolkit [HERE](#).

Q. What services are available from Mile High United Way?

A. **Call 211** to get connected to health and human services. Or, **text** your zip code to **898-211**. You will be connected to more than 7500 services including housing, SNAP benefits, child-care, transportation, clothing needs, mental health and substance abuse support, employment, and medical/dental clinics.

Q. How can you make your own mask?

A. Watch this [YouTube video](#) to learn how to make your own mask.

Q. Where is COVID-19 testing information?

A. [Colorado COVID-19 Testing & Updates](#)

Q. What is the latest COVID-19 news and information?

A. [Colorado Department of Health & Environment](#)
[National Center for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

Q. Is Excel offering assistance?

A. Excel Energy will not disconnect service to any residential customers until further notice. You can arrange for a payment plan [HERE](#) or call 1-800-895-4999.



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Q. What should be done once a person gets sick?

*A. There is a helpful flyer: [10 things you can do to manage your COVID-19 symptoms at home](#). If you are interested in obtaining this flyer in other languages, please contact Nora at nflood@wendcollective.org.

Q. Lost health insurance?

A. If you have lost health insurance coverage due to COVID-19, a special enrollment period has opened at [Connect for Health Colorado](#) (open through April 30th).

Q. What mental health services are available?

A. Visit these websites for a variety of mental health resources: [Stress & Coping](#), [Anxiety Support](#), [Mental Health for Frontline Workers](#), [Asian Hate Crimes](#), [Center for Victims of Torture](#), [Domestic Abuse Support](#), and [Tipped and Service Worker Support](#)

*Also, for social emotional learning information, please click these links:

- The 74 published this analysis of student [social-emotional health recommendations](#) to encourage schools to focus on more than just academics.
- Inner Explorer has developed a [mindfulness app for families](#) to use daily to reduce stress, boost immune systems, improve learning, and foster resiliency.
- The Center to Improve Social Emotional Learning & Safety compiled resources to support states, districts, and schools [HERE](#).

Q. Are there risks of fraud and scams?

A. Information on fraud and misinformation can be found by visiting the [Federal Trade Commission Consumer Protection](#) and/or [Stop Fraud Colorado](#).

Q. How can undocumented people find help?

A. Learn about the rights of undocumented people including accessing health care [HERE](#). The Center for Health Progress has published this [Immigrant Resource Guide](#) also in [Spanish](#).

Q. What about housing information in Denver?

A. For rental assistance call 311 and press 6 or locate shelters [HERE](#). Helpful hints about communicating with landlords can be found [HERE](#).

Q. Is there help for job/hours lost due to COVID-19?

A. [Colorado Department of Labor & Employment](#)

Q. Does each city have COVID-19 information?

A. Here is a resource for [printable information](#) in multiple languages from Admin4ALL.eu.

RISE Aurora published this comprehensive [Resource Guide](#) to support Black, LatinX, immigrant, refugee, undocumented, and asylum-seeking families in the Aurora Community.



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Here are a few local city websites with information:

[City of Aurora](#) (multiple languages)

[City of Lakewood](#)

[City of Denver](#) (multiple languages)

[City of Englewood](#)

[City of Centennial](#)

[Commerce City](#)

Q. What are the special hours for seniors at grocery stores?

A. **King Soopers:** From 7 am to 8 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Whole Foods: One hour before public opening.

Dollar General: The first hour of the day.

Safeway and Albertsons: From 7 am to 8 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Target: The first hour of shopping every Wednesday.

Remote Learning

*The National Center for Special Education in Charter Schools (NCSECS) launched [Educating All Learners](#), a new website full of resources and network connections to support remote learning for special education students.

*Free Access to [New York Times](#) for all U.S. High School Students now through July 6th!

*The Denver Public Schools updated remote learning plan can be found [HERE](#).

Moonshot edVentures has created a [virtual resource hub](#) to increase access to tools for educators.

The [¡Colorín Colorado!](#) website has a variety of resources for ELL and multilingual education.

Education Next recently published this [Q&A article](#) on Khan Academy.

Think Equal has provided free children’s books, lessons and activities [HERE](#) for teachers and parents to use at home to help improve children’s self-confidence, emotional literacy and diversity awareness.

NPR Music has a list of [virtual concerts](#) to watch from home.

Listen [HERE](#) to a [podcast](#) called “A Kids Guide to Coronavirus.”

[Transcend Education](#) has curated resources to meet the needs caused by school closure including resources for [school and system leaders](#), [teachers and parents](#) as well as [remote workers](#).



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Denver Public Schools has developed a [Family Resource Webpage](#) with links and videos in multiple languages for parents to use to find help with learning how to use Google classroom and other online remote learning tools.

Aurora Public Schools launched a [Remote Learning Resources](#) website that has comprehensive information for families.

Google launched [Learn@Home](#) to provide parents with direct links to activities and ideas for enhancing their children's remote learning experience.

The Charter School Growth Fund has organized high-quality materials for schools and networks and shared as an open source [HERE](#).

Watch this [5-minute video](#) that explains Google Classroom to parents.

The Barbara Bush Foundation created an online literacy toolkit to help parents and children learn at home together [HERE](#).

Playworks has provided free video tutorials of games that follow CDC guidelines and can be played at home with little to no equipment [HERE](#).

Financial, Business & Non-Profit Supports

*In addition to the boost in weekly Unemployment Benefits provided by the CARES Act, there are other features that will help workers like the temporary Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program. It is recommended that employees [apply for unemployment](#) insurance as soon as they lose their jobs or lose their ability to earn money (self-employed or contract employees).

- ❑ The temporary [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program](#) pays benefits to those not traditionally eligible like the self-employed, independent contractors and those with limited work history who are unable to work due to the coronavirus.

*The Council on Foundations is facilitating a peer exchange for HR Leaders. Join their next small group [dialogue](#) on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 from 3:00-4:00 pm ET to discuss Recruitment & Layoffs in the Midst of COVID-19.



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*Bellwether's [COVID-19 Strategic Planning Toolkit for Education & Non-Profit Leaders](#) is an easy-to-use, practical resource that aims to help leaders made decisions and actionable plans.

*The CARES Act established the **Education Stabilization Fund**, a \$30.75B fund which the Department of Education will distribute to state in two separate funding streams to support schools. Read this [overview](#) provided by the Montessori Public Policy Initiative. In addition, the National Association of Charter School Authorizers has guidance [HERE](#) to help charter schools access multiple Federal resources for COVID-19.

*Information on how the Colorado Department of Education will continue to distribute per-pupil READ Act dollars next year can be found [HERE](#). Also, [CDE is suspending](#) spring K-3 READ Act and Preschool Results Matter assessment requirements.

*Denver Public Schools Board of Education recently reviewed and adopted this [Electronic Participation Policy](#) for school board meetings as required by HB20-1301 which was signed into law on March 18th.

Time Sensitive information for Non-Profits interested in the new [Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\)](#) - If you are interested in a PPP loan, contact your financial institution and ask if they participate in the 7(a) program. If your financial institution does not participate, ask if they have a relationship with a bank or credit union that does and then pursue the PPP application **as soon as possible**.

State and Federal income [tax filing deadlines](#) have been extended to July 15, 2020 and the IRS has published this information about [Economic Impact Payments](#).

Colorado is providing COVID-19 related updates for businesses on this website: [Colorado COVID-19 Business Resource Center](#).

The Colorado Restaurant Association has put together information that may be helpful for those [affected by the closure of restaurants and bars during this time](#)

The Colorado Non-Profit Association provides COVID-19 training opportunities, resources and general updates on their [website](#).

Government Activity

We have compiled some concise summaries of recent legislative actions both in Colorado and at the national level.

State Level Information:

School closures have been extended through the end of the school year and are a key part of the social distancing strategy that officials hope will slow the spread of the new coronavirus. Directives from Governor Polis are updated [HERE](#).



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Federal Information:

***[Federal Education Policy Response](#) to COVID-19: Compiled by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers and updated April 10, 2020.**

[The Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) was passed on March 18th. It goes into effect April 1, 2020 and remains in effect through December 31, 2020. The two key provisions that impact schools and non-profits pertain to Paid Sick Leave and Family Medical Leave. [HERE](#) is a worksheet describing scenarios and benefits available.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) was signed into law on March 27th. There are several [key provisions](#) that can support and impact schools, child-care centers and their employees including Small Business Administration loans, expanded unemployment benefits, and relief to schools. The CARES Act is summarized below by Colorado Congressman Joe Neguse:

- Direct cash payments of \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child for most American taxpayers to supplement lost income and help with unexpected expenses as a result of this crisis; [Click here to learn more about receiving a coronavirus rebate.](#)
- Historic expansion of [unemployment insurance](#) to replace 100% of average wages to help furloughed and laid-off workers; an additional \$600 per week for the next four months; an extra 13 weeks of eligibility; and assistance for freelancers;
- Over \$2.4 billion in direct relief for Colorado, including support for childcare and early education, affordable housing, assistance for Colorado's homeless population, transit assistance and election assistance;
- \$16 billion to replenish the Strategic National Stockpile supply of pharmaceuticals, personal protective equipment, and other medical supplies that are desperately needed in hospitals across the country;
- \$1 billion for the implementation of the Defense Production Act to bolster domestic supply chains and enable industry to quickly ramp up production of personal protective equipment, ventilators, and other urgently needed medical supplies;
- \$350 billion in loan forgiveness grants to small businesses who are on the brink of collapse in the face of this public health emergency; [See more about assistance available for small businesses here.](#)
- And considerably more funds for Colorado's National Guard, assistance for our first responders, food banks, broadband services to equip distance learning and our nation's veterans.
- This [Indian Country Legislative Summary](#) includes information specific to tribal organizations.



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Volunteer Opportunities

[A Little Help](#) has the ability to coordinate volunteers to serve older adults through grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, and running errands.

Sign up to volunteer at the [Food Bank of the Rockies](#), [United Way](#) or [Help Colorado Now](#).

Help out with the Denver [City-Wide Phone Bank](#).

The Center for Educational Excellence in Alternative Settings (CEEAS): Join their letter-writing campaign for their students who are currently incarcerated and volunteers can sign up [HERE](#).

Blood Donation Centers in need of donations: - [Vitalant](#) (formerly Bonfils), [The American Red Cross](#), and [America's Blood Centers](#) all have information on their websites about blood donation locations and requirements.

Just keep swimming.

-Dory



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