

COVID-19 JIC UPDATE 5/22/2020

Please note: The JIC update is issued on an as-needed basis.

Governor's Press Release

State of Iowa announces new Test Iowa locations as testing criteria expands

Schedule can be found on coronavirus.iowa.gov.

DES MOINES - Today, the Office of Governor Kim Reynolds announced new Test Iowa locations will open next week in Marshalltown, Sioux Center, and Council Bluffs.

A schedule of sites, locations and times can be found [here](#).

Test Iowa is a statewide initiative to expand COVID-19 testing. Testing criteria now allows any Iowan to be tested, regardless of symptoms or potential exposure to the virus. To be tested, Iowans must first complete an assessment at www.testiowa.com and schedule an appointment at a test site.

Test Iowa's mobile testing model makes it possible to quickly operationalize a temporary test site in a community where virus activity is increasing or access to testing is limited. Testing is rapidly scaled up to identify positive cases, conduct contact tracing, and determine scope of the virus in the community. Over time when test volume decreases, sites are moved to other communities where there is a need.

The Test Iowa site currently in Sioux City will close when testing concludes at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 22. The site opened on May 4. Testing remains in Sioux City through local health care providers as well as the new Test Iowa Site in Sioux Center.

Map Data

Current map data is available at <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>.

Additional Information and Resources

Virtual Memorial Day Service

The Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) and Iowa Veterans Cemetery (IVC) will be broadcasting a virtual Memorial Day Service from IVC at 8 a.m. via the IDVA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/IowaDepartmentofVeteransAffairs/. The event will remain on the page after the live cast, and the public is encouraged to view the event in lieu of public gatherings. The cemetery will remain open in accordance with National Cemetery Administration guidance. Visitors are welcome on the grounds, but are asked NOT to gather in groups and to continue to adhere to current social distancing guidelines. The administration building, and facilities within it, will remain closed to the public until further notice.

Virtual Family Assistance Center-NEW

A Virtual Family Assistance Center (American Red Cross) provides information and resources to help those dealing with the loss of a loved one to the coronavirus. <https://www.redcross.org/virtual-family-assistance-center.html>.

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State of Iowa

State COVID-19 Website

<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>

The State of Iowa COVID-19 website contains resources for residents from statistics, state agency resources, and health information. Reopening guidance is also available.

Test Iowa

Test Iowa is an initiative to expand testing capacity to limit the spread of COVID-19 in Iowa. Test Iowa sites are located in the following counties:

Polk

Black Hawk

Woodbury (closing 5-22)

Linn

Crawford

Scott

Wapello

Buena Vista

Sioux (beginning 5-27)

Marshall (beginning 5-28)

Pottawattamie (beginning 5-29)

Test Iowa Clinic

Burlington (5-26)

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Currently Iowa state parks, forests, and preserves are open. Information about visiting state parks, reopening guidance, and temporary seasonal or construction-related closures can be found here:

<https://www.iowadnr.gov/Places-to-Go/State-Parks/Alerts-and-Closures>

Iowa Department of Public Health

IDPH reopening guidance is available at <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Guidance>

Iowans who are experiencing stress, anxiety or fear related to COVID-19 can visit Your Life Iowa through the following sources:

- Web <https://yourlifeiowa.org/>
- Call: 855.581.8111
- Text: 855.895.8398

IDPH continuously updates information on their COVID-19 page. Find press releases at

https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Iowa Workforce Development

Iowans who may qualify for unemployment due to COVID-19 or under the CARES Act can find

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information and a link to apply online here: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/>

An FAQ for COVID-19 and Unemployment Insurance Benefits for Employers and Workers related to return to work concerns can be found at <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/>

Feeding Iowans Task Force

Information on the Feeding Iowans Task Force is now available at www.coronavirus.iowa.gov. Information on this page includes assistance resources, task force membership, and materials translated into additional languages.

Volunteer Iowa

Volunteer Iowa has set up an online volunteer event page for COVID-19-related volunteer opportunities. Opportunities are listed on the statewide online volunteer portal:

http://volunteeriowa.galaxydigital.com/need/?s=1&need_init_id=3002. Volunteer Iowa is also working to get volunteer centers, food banks, etc. to populate their volunteer needs on the portal so individuals have a resource to search for volunteer opportunities.

Iowa Department of Corrections

The Iowa Department of Corrections has established a public hotline available Monday through Friday during normal business hours at 515-373-5457. Information related to the Iowa Department of Corrections response to COVID-19 can be found at <https://doc.iowa.gov/COVID19>.

Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals

The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals has information related to COVID-19 as it pertains to reopening guidance, administrative hearings, health care facilities, restaurants, bars, and hotels, as well as social and charitable gambling license activities. More information at <https://dia.iowa.gov/about/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>.

Iowa Legal Aid

Individuals with questions of a legal nature can call the COVID-19 Legal Information Hotline at 1-800-332-0419. The hotline was developed in partnership with Iowa Legal Aid, the Iowa State Bar Association, and the Polk County Volunteer Lawyer Project. The hotline can assist Iowans with business and compliance issues and other personal legal concerns. More information at <https://www.iowalegalaid.org/>.

Public Information in Other Languages

The COVID-19 website now offers a link to other languages thru Google Translator.

<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>

Iowa Department of Human Rights

The Iowa Department of Human Rights provides COVID-19 information in multiple languages at the following website: <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/node/1868/>

Emergency Interpretation Hotline

The Iowa International Center offers a free phone interpretation hotline for emergency situations. These services are offered for emergency personnel (police, fire, paramedic, ER, domestic violence shelters) when they determine that language is a barrier to providing appropriate services at

<https://iowainternationalcenter.org/local-resources/emergency-interpretation/>.

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Refugee Alliance of Central Iowa

The Refugee Alliance of Central Iowa is offering an Iowa COVID-19 ELL Help Line that connects callers with information, healthcare providers, and resources in different languages. The help line is available Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1-877-558-2609. Additional information can be found at

<https://www.refugeeallianceofcentraliowa.org/covid19-information>.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

This page provides information on COVID-19 from the CDC. At the bottom of the page you can sign up to receive a COVID-19 newsletter.

Small Business Loans

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued a disaster declaration for the state of Iowa as of January 31, 2020, and continuing. The declaration allows pandemic-impacted small businesses to apply for low-interest support loans. The declaration comes after Gov. Kim Reynolds submitted a federal funding request via the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program.

Applications can be made via the SBA's website: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. Applicants can monitor the status of their applications online after submission.

For questions, please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center at 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Additional resources for businesses can be accessed at www.safeguardiowa.org.

Rumor Control

The World Health Organization has introduced a rumor control website that also has downloadable graphics. It is available at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>

FEMA is operating a rumor control page at <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control>

FEMA also provides other resources like fact sheets: <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus>

Federal Coronavirus Site: <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

The CDC also addresses this on their site: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/share-facts.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fshare-facts.html

Medicare Scams and Fraud information: <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus>. Iowans can contact Iowa Senior Medicare Patrol for information about scams and to report fraud. Iowa Senior Medicare Patrol is housed in the Iowa Insurance Division: <https://shiip.iowa.gov/smp/>

FDA has published a press release entitled, "[Court Orders Halt to Sale of Silver Product fraudulently Touted as COVID-19 Cure.](#)"

FDA overall Website: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-issues/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

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HSEMD Social Media

JIC staff continues to post on social media.

Facebook: @IowaHSEMD

Twitter: @IowaHSEMD