



NJ Chamber CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

March 19, 2020

Coronavirus Update for New Jersey Business

The latest information collected by the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce about how the outbreak is affecting New Jersey and your business.

Breaking News - [The U.S. Small Business Administration named New Jersey a 'declared disaster state'](#) in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic. The declaration will allow New Jersey small business owners impacted by the pandemic to apply for financial assistance.

To apply for an SBA loan, [click here](#).
For guidance on SBA loans, [click here](#).

Cases in New Jersey - New Jersey officials [announced 162 new coronavirus cases](#) Wednesday increasing the statewide total to 427 positive tests with five deaths as the outbreak continues to expand.

Drive-thru Testing - New Jersey's [first government-run drive-thru coronavirus testing center is set to open](#) tomorrow at Bergen County Community College in Paramus. It will be supported by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

What N.J. Needs - New Jersey can't fight the coronavirus on its own, and Gov. Phil Murphy has a [list of things](#) he says the state needs from the federal government.

Questions and Answers - Can I tell employees if a coworker has tested positive for the coronavirus or other communicable diseases? This and other human resources [questions-and-answers are here](#).

Background

Business Closures - Gov. Murphy [mandated the indefinite closure across New Jersey](#) of 1) all indoor portions of retail shopping malls and 2) all indoor and outdoor places of public amusement. This supplements the list of facilities currently closed to members of the public, which includes casino gaming floors, racetracks, gyms and entertainment centers.

Restaurants and Bars Can Partially Operate - [Takeout and delivery are still an option](#) at restaurants and bars (including those in malls that have a separate entrance)

Correction: We said yesterday that delivery service must end at 8 p.m. That was incorrect.

No Groups of 50 or More - The governor teamed with governors of New York and Connecticut to recommend the [cancellation or postponement of in-person events consisting of 50 people or more](#).

Resources

New Jersey set up a website with [information for businesses](#) and the impact of coronavirus.

To report a scammer or suspected price gouging, report it to N.J. Division of Consumer Affairs at (973) 504-6240 or at <http://njconsumeraffairs.gov>.

Gov. Murphy set up a 24-hour hotline where trained healthcare professionals are standing by to answer questions about coronavirus. The number is 1-800-222-1222 and the call is free. If using an out-of-state phone line, call 1-800-962-1253.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a good web page called [guide for business and employers for dealing with the Coronavirus](#).

The New Jersey Chamber of Commerce is staying on top of Coronavirus (COVID-19) developments. For news media requests, please email [Scott Goldstein](#).