



Dear Neighbor,

Despite current uncertainty about when the Missouri General Assembly will resume deliberations on legislation due to the coronavirus pandemic, my office will always be available to respond to your questions or concerns about Missouri's response to the pandemic and other state government or legislative issues. (You can read further down about the Governor's order April 9 for public and charter school buildings to remain closed for the rest of this school year.)

Email is probably the best way to reach my office during the partial closure of the State Capitol Building. If you are unable to quickly

reach me, my assistant [Brian Farmer](#) is ready to help you.

Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and family who might want to know the latest information about how to keep safe during the pandemic and about what is happening in state government and how it will impact them. Be safe and God bless.

Yours in Service,

*Mark A. Sharp*

## **Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report**

**Friday, April 10th, 2020**

### **LAWMAKERS BRIEFLY RETURN TO ENACT SPENDING BILL**

After an extended break due to COVID-19 concerns, Missouri lawmakers briefly returned to the Capitol to enact a supplemental appropriations bill on April 8 containing \$5.7 billion in spending authority related to the pandemic. However, only about \$2.7 billion of that spending authority is expected to be backed up by actual dollars.

House Bill 2014 provides additional spending authority for the remainder of the current fiscal year, which ends June 30. Including spending for other purposes, the bill provides \$6.32 billion in overall spending authority, about \$3.1 billion of which has actual money behind it. The Senate approved the bill by a vote of 28-1 before the House of Representatives voted 147-4 to send it to the governor.

While a legislative appropriation provides the state with the legal authority to spend money, an appropriation doesn't mean there will be sufficient money in the state treasury to cover the authorized spending. With HB 2014, lawmakers intentionally over-appropriated money anticipated from the recently enacted federal stimulus package to provide Gov. Mike Parson with the flexibility to determine how that money should be allocated within yet-to-be finalized federal guidelines.

Also, some of the federal money will be used to backfill state general revenue cuts, particularly for colleges and universities, Parson imposed last week as state revenue collections slow to a trickle with much of the economy shut down due to the pandemic. In addition, the excess spending authority will position the administration to spend additional federal dollars that Congress might send to the states in the coming weeks.

When the House met three weeks earlier to pass the initial version of HB 2014, the measure included just \$33 million in spending authority related to the pandemic, an amount House Democrats warned was woefully insufficient. Majority Republicans, however, dismissed Democratic concerns as “doomsday” talk and rejected amendments to bolster COVID-19 spending authority.

During its brief session, the Senate also voted 27-2 to grant final passage to House Bill 2456, which renews until 2022 a special tax on health care providers that the state uses to leverage additional Medicaid money from the federal government. The tax was set to expire in September. The House had already approved the renewal bill last month.

While both chambers have scheduled upcoming procedural sessions in which few lawmakers will be present and no business conducted, it’s unclear when or if the 2020 legislative will resume in earnest. The session ends May 15, but the governor could call lawmakers back for a special session to pass the state budget for the upcoming fiscal year and any other urgent business.

## **Governor Parson Closes Schools for Remainder of Academic Year**



**Missouri Governor — Michael L. Parson**

Office of Communications

April 9, 2020

In today’s COVID-19 briefing, Governor Mike Parson announced that all Missouri public and charter school buildings will remain closed through the remainder of the academic year.

This recommendation was made to Governor Parson today by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and several school superintendents from rural and urban areas across the state.

“Continuing our efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, I am ordering all public and charter schools to remain closed through the remainder of this academic year, with the exception of nutrition and child care outlined in our Stay Home Missouri Order,” Governor Parson said.

School services are expected to continue through the last day of school in each school district as pre-established by the academic calendar approved by their local board of education. These continued services include alternative educational opportunities as well as providing much-needed meals to students who count on them.

DESE will issue additional guidance to Missouri school leaders in the near future. In conjunction with the Governor’s Office, DESE is continuing efforts to help local school leaders by removing barriers and waiving the necessary state statutes and regulations.

Additional K-12 information can be found at [dese.mo.gov/COVID19](https://dese.mo.gov/COVID19).

## **Website for Essential Companies Hiring NOW!!**

Missouri faces unprecedented times due to the impacts of COVID-19. Here at the Department of Economic Development, we recognize that many of the low-income, at-risk citizens your organizations work with will be hit the hardest and be the first to lose employment. With that in mind, we wanted to direct your attention to the Missouri Now Hiring website <https://missourionestart.com/now-hiring>. Missouri One Start is connecting unemployed workers to essential companies who are staffing up to meet the increased demand for their products and services. There you will find a list of companies that are hiring right now. This site takes workers directly to the hiring/application pages of the respective companies. The list is updated on an ongoing basis, so checking back daily is advised. Please link your clients in-need to this website so our workers can make it past this situation as painlessly as possible.

We also want to make sure you are aware of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that recently passed Congress. Nonprofits may be eligible for a

number of programs including disaster and paycheck protection loans. The link can be found here <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/paycheck-protection-program>. If your organization is struggling with aspects like keeping employees on the payroll, we encourage you to look into these resources.



St. Joseph Medical Center is doing everything we can to be a strong resource for our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have a dedicated team working together to meet the needs of South Kansas City.

Many members of our community have asked how they can assist. We cannot tell you how much we appreciate you thinking of our providers and staff who are working every day to help keep us all healthy.

We are accepting donations for the items listed below. If you have any questions or wish to discuss supporting our hospital in this way or ways not described in this communication, please contact Kim Chalmers, Supervisor of Senior Care Services at 816-943-4543 or by email at [KChalmers@primehealthcare.com](mailto:KChalmers@primehealthcare.com).

### What to donate:

- **Homemade Masks**
- **Disposable face masks**
- **N95 masks, sometimes called respirators**
- **Eye protection including face shields and safety goggles**
- **Disposable gowns**
- **Disposable gloves, especially non-latex**
- **Disposable surgical caps**
- **Disposable foot covers**
- **Wipes: bleach or antimicrobial**
- **Hand sanitizer**



## Coronavirus Facts and Resources

### Kansas City

If you would like to receive updates about what the City is doing in response to the coronavirus, **text COVIDKC to 888777**.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating a [hotline](#) for residents and health care providers to call for information and guidance about COVID-19.

The statewide hotline number is **877-435-8411**. The hotline is being operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



During this urgent and unprecedented public health crisis, the United Way of Greater Kansas City wants to remind you of the referral services available through 211, a one-stop resource for community relief – food, financial help, utility assistance, tax services and more. Through 211, callers are connected to more than 8,000 programs run by nonprofit organizations and government agencies throughout the 23-county United Way 211 service area. For assistance, visit [211kc.org](https://211kc.org) or dial 211.

Kansas City's website has a page dedicated to the coronavirus. It has the latest updates on the state of emergency proclamations, orders and Changes in City Operations and Online Resources. The page includes resources such as a Guide for Businesses and Organizations and links to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the KCMO Health Department.

### **Kansas City, Missouri Health Department (KCHD)**

1. Call (816) 513-6008 for general help and information:
2. Email at: [health@kcmo.org](mailto:health@kcmo.org).
3. Visit in person, Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Kansas City, Mo. Health Department: 2400 Troost Ave. Kansas City, MO 64108

### **Jackson County Health Department**

1. <https://www.jacohd.org/> or call (877) 435-8411

[KMBC](#) has a good website that has a list of local resources and home preparedness fact sheets.

**Please Visit KC City Hall website dedicated to COVID-19 for [Coronavirus FAQ's](#)**

The City encourages everyone to watch public meetings [online](#) or on [Channel 2](#) and submit public comments by [email](#).

## Grocery Stores and Local Businesses Hours for Seniors

**Hy-Vee:** Between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., an hour which is now set aside for those 60 and older, pregnant women and those who consider themselves at high-risk for COVID-19.

**Dollar General:** First hour of business each day will be dedicated to Senior Customers

**Hen House Markets:** The first hour Hen House Markets are open are reserved for shopping by seniors and guests with disabilities. Normal store opening hours are still in place, but all stores around the Kansas City metro will close at 8 p.m

**Target:** They are reserving the first hour of shopping every Wednesday to allow elderly shoppers and those with underlying health concerns easier access to groceries and other household items in its stores

**Whole Foods Market:** Stores in the Kansas City and nationwide will service customers who are 60 and older one hour before opening to the general public, under the new adjusted hours posted on the store's web page. For example, if a store's new hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., customers who are 60+ can shop starting at 8 a.m.

**Cosentino's Price Chopper:** 7-8 a.m.

**Meals on Wheels:** Located in: [North Kansas City Hospital](#)

**Address:** 2800 Clay Edwards Dr, Kansas City, MO 64116

**Phone:** [\(816\) 691-5322](tel:(816)691-5322)

## Missouri State Resources

**24 hour hotline: 877-435-8411**

**or** <https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/>

## Unemployment



Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or

[Missouri Unemployment Website](#)

## DO YOU QUALIFY FOR BENEFITS?

If you lost income or health insurance due to COVID-19, you may now qualify for help.

### Monthly Income per Family Size

	Food Stamp (SNAP)	TANF (Cash Assistance)*	Medicaid for Kids**	Medicaid for Families	Help paying for Child Care
	\$1,832	\$234	\$4,310	\$234	\$1,944
	\$2,311	\$292	\$5,430	\$292	\$2,454
	\$2,790	\$342	\$6,550	\$342	\$2,961

\*A child must be present in the home to qualify.

\*\*Some income levels require a monthly premium.

**NOTE:** There are more requirements to qualify, not just income.  
Visit [mydss.mo.gov](http://mydss.mo.gov) to learn more.

## HOW TO APPLY

If you think you may qualify for benefits,  
you can apply in one of these ways:



Visit [myDSS.mo.gov](http://myDSS.mo.gov)



Call 1-855-FSD-INFO (1-855-373-4636)



Email or fax your application and documents to  
[FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov](mailto:FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov) or 573-526-9400



### Questions?

Call 1-855-FSD-INFO (1-855-373-4636)

## UNEMPLOYMENT

## **How to File?**

If you're eligible, you'll need the following:

1. Your Social Security number;
2. Any amount you were paid in the past week, before taxes and deductions;
3. The name and mailing address of each job you worked in the past 18 months;
4. The dates you started and ended work at each of those jobs.

If this is your first time filing for unemployment please watch [this video](#) on unemployment basics. Visit [uinteract.labor.mo.gov](https://uinteract.labor.mo.gov), create an account and file your claim. If your job loss is related to coronavirus issues, make sure to check a box that says "COVID-19" in your application to waive a requirement to search for a new job amid the crisis.

Missouri provides benefits for up to 20 weeks, which can be extended to 33 weeks under the federal provisions.

The state will pay you up to \$320 per week, and the federal government will provide \$600 on top of whatever you get from the state for each week you're on employment prior to July 31.

Benefits can be paid within 22 days unless there is an issue with your eligibility, which on average can take 4-6 weeks to resolve.

You should continue filing weekly requests for payment even if you have not yet received benefits.

Regional Claims Center representatives are available by phone Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM by calling:

**Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or visit**

[Missouri Unemployment Website](#)

Please visit the Missouri Department of Labor's website for more information about COVID-19 FAQ's for Businesses and Workers: <https://labor.mo.gov/coronavirus>

US Department of Labor has a few sites dedicated to Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave>

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-questions>

## **SCHOOL BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS**

GO TO THE WEBSITES BELOW FOR INFORMATION ON BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS FOR AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS DURING THE CURRENT CLOSURE.

### **CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

[www.center.k12.mo.us](http://www.center.k12.mo.us)

Click on COVID-19 and then click on MEALS.

### **GRANDVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT**

[www.grandviewc4.net](http://www.grandviewc4.net)

Click on School Closure Information, then click on Read More and then click on What About Food Services.

### **HICKMAN MILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

[www.hickmanmills.org](http://www.hickmanmills.org)

Click on District Announcements and then click on MEALS.

**KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

[www.kcpublicschools.org](http://www.kcpublicschools.org)

Click on COVID-19 and then click on MEALS.

**PLAYING IT SAFE!**

**PLAYGROUNDS & COURTS ARE CLOSED**

**PARKS & TRAILS REMAIN OPEN**

*PLEASE PRACTICE COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CDC:*

**DO NOT USE PARKS IF YOU FEEL SICK**

**MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING~KEEP 6' BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS & GATHER IN GROUPS OF 10 OR LESS**

**WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE / AFTER USE OF PARKS FACILITIES**

**SHARE TRAILS & SIDEWALKS~WARN OTHERS OF YOUR PRESENCE AS YOU PASS**



## **Stimulus Package Takeaways**

As I'm sure that many of you have heard, the federal government has passed a recent stimulus package that will provide assistance to people in need who are suffering through this economic crisis. While there are many components of the stimulus package, I just

wanted to highlight a few key features of the bill. I do encourage everyone to read this New York Times [article](#) which answers many questions that you may have about your stimulus eligibility, unemployment benefits, student loans, and retirement. Also to get an idea of what you could be receiving from the federal government, please review this [article](#) from Washington Post that has a stimulus payment calculator. Please reach out to my office if you have any questions.

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. Most adults would get a one-time payment of \$1,200, although some would get less. For every qualifying child age 16 or under, the payment would be an additional \$500.
2. The amount varies based on certain criteria. Please see [article](#)
3. You **DO NOT** need to apply to receive payment. IRS has your info and will Direct Deposit
4. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin [said](#) he expected most people to get their payments within three weeks. However, it could take up to 2 months.
5. Those on Social Security, Disability and currently unemployed will also get a stimulus payment

### **Unemployment Benefits**

1. The new bill would wrap in far more workers than are usually eligible for unemployment benefits, including self-employed people and part-time workers
2. Gig workers, freelancers, and independent contractors would be newly eligible
3. If you have Covid-19 or care for a family member who does have, and are unemployed then your covered
4. If your ordered by a health care provider to quarantine, then you would be covered
5. If your employer has shut down due to the Coronavirus and you are unable to work, your covered
6. This bill leaves out people who are able to work from home, currently receiving paid sick leave/family leave, new entrants to the workforce

7. If your currently receiving unemployment benefits then those benefits would be extended 13 weeks
8. If unemployment benefits have recently run out then you can reapply

**Is there any relief for renters in the bill?**

Yes. The bill would put a temporary, nationwide eviction moratorium in place for any renters whose landlords have mortgages backed or owned by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and other federal entities. This will last for 120 days after the bill passes, and landlords also can't charge any fees or penalties for nonpayment of rent.

Please see the [article](#) for more information

## **Important Medical Information**

### **HOSPITALS**

**Children's Mercy Hospital**

**2401 Gillham Rd, Kansas City 64108**

Emergency .....(816) 234-3430

Non-Emergency.....(816) 234-3000

Volunteer Services .....(816) 234-3496

**North Kansas City Hospital .....(816) 691-2000**

**2800 Clay Edwards Dr, Kansas City 64116**

Emergency .....(816) 691-2098

**Research Medical Center - Brookside Campus.....(816) 276-7000**

**6601 Rockhill Rd, Kansas City 64134**



**St. Joseph Medical Center .....(816) 942-4400**  
**1000 Carondelet, Kansas City 64114**

**Saint Luke's Hospital**

**4401 Wornall Rd, Kansas City 64111**

Non-Emergency.....(816) 932-2000

Pharmacy .....(816) 932-2107

Nurse Line .....(816) 932-6220

**Swope Health Services.....(816) 923-5800**

**3801 Blue Parkway, Kansas City 64130**

**Samuel Rodgers Health Center .....(816) 474-4920**

**825 Euclid Ave, Kansas City 64124**

**Truman Medical Center.....(816) 404-7000**

**7900 Lee's Summit Rd, Kansas City 64139**

Transportation .....(816) 404-3375

**Veterans Administration Medical Center.....(816) 861-4700**

**4801 E Linwood Blvd, Kansas City 64128**

**The Family Health Care** location at 300 Southwest Blvd. in Kansas City, KS, will offer testing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Patients with a doctor's prescription can get tested for COVID-19. Call 913-722-3100 or by visiting [www.sleefhc.org](http://www.sleefhc.org).



# COVID-19

## CORONAVIRUS vs. COLD vs. FLU vs. ALLERGIES

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19*	COLD	FLU	ALLERGIES
<b>Fever</b>	Common (measured at 100 F or higher)	Rare	High (100-102 F), can last 3-4 days	No
<b>Headache</b>	Sometimes	Rare	Intense	Sometimes
<b>General aches, pains</b>	Sometimes	Slight	Common, often severe	No
<b>Fatigue, weakness</b>	Sometimes	Slight	Common, often severe	Sometimes
<b>Extreme exhaustion</b>	Sometimes (progresses slowly)	Never	Common (starts early)	No
<b>Stuffy nose</b>	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
<b>Sneezing</b>	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
<b>Sore throat</b>	Rare	Common	Common	No
<b>Cough</b>	Common	Mild to moderate	Common, can become severe	Sometimes
<b>Shortness of breath</b>	In more serious infections	Rare	Rare	Common
<b>Runny nose</b>	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
<b>Diarrhea</b>	Sometimes	No	Sometimes**	No

\* Information still evolving.

\*\* Sometimes for children.

Sources: DHSS, CDC, WHO, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

## My Legislation

[HB2107](#)- Modifies residency requirements for the A+ Schools Program

[HB2169](#)- Establishes Blair's Law, which creates the offense of unlawful discharge of a firearm for discharging a firearm within or into the limits of a municipality with criminal negligence

[HB 2635](#) - Provides that the period of detention on arrest without a warrant is 48 hours for criminal offenses involving a dangerous felony or deadly weapon

[HB 2636](#) - Modifies provisions regarding the expungement of records

[HB 2690](#) - Establishes a Negro Leagues Baseball Museum special license plate

**Update:** [HB2169](#) was passed out of General Laws Committee by a vote of 12-1. The bill has moved to the Rules Committee.



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**Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback, questions or ideas!**