



Good evening,

I hope you and yours are safe and well and that you have found the time to enjoy this beautiful weather while practicing social distancing. I want to take a moment to thank those of you in essential jobs who are working hard to take care of everyone at this time. We appreciate you and could not do this without you. In the spirit of gratitude and appreciation, the Mayor invites you to step outside your front door for about 5 minutes at 7 p.m. Thursday and cheer for health care workers, police officers, firefighters, park rangers, code officers, workers providing essential services, and all others who are helping the City of Dallas respond to the spread of the coronavirus.

As you are enjoying your neighborhoods during walks in the coming days, please remember to keep safety top of mind and walk against traffic.

For those of you who are in need or who work with communities in need, The North Texas Food Bank (NTFB), in conjunction with the Texas National Guard, Fair Park First, Spectra, and In the City for Good, is returning to Fair Park to distribute free food on Thursday, April 16 from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM, or until all available food has been distributed. The pick-up location will be in Lots 5A and 6A, located in between Robert B Cullum Boulevard and 2nd Avenue inside Fair Park. Participants should enter through Gate 5 only, located at the intersection of Robert B Cullum Boulevard and Grand Avenue. The Dallas Police Department will be onsite to assist with traffic flow.

I am still working with the University of Texas at Dallas on modeling our medical capacity and the pace of the spread in Dallas. Dr. Tim Bray, Associate Professor of Practice of Public Policy and Political Economy at UTD, will be going over some of the data tomorrow at 1:00pm at the Ad Hoc Committee on Human and Social Needs & Assistance. Tune in by visiting dallascityhall.com and clicking "Watch City Meetings Online."

My office will continue to send out updates as they are needed. They will likely be more intermittent until regulations change. As always, please reach out if we can be of service. We are here for you.

Updates Regarding Testing Sites

Starting April 15 the COVID-19 Community Based Testing Site (CBTS) located at the Ellis Davis Field House (EDFH) will begin utilizing self-swab testing kits, transitioning from nasopharyngeal swabs. "The self-swab testing method proves to be less invasive and is safer for patients and healthcare providers," said Randall Payton, Incident Commander of both CBTS locations. "Health and safety are the primary goals for workers and those being tested. We're confident this new method will decrease the risk of contamination."

The new process allows persons being tested to swab shallowly in their nose as opposed to a healthcare professional collecting a sample from further up the nasal cavity.

In addition, both testing sites are increasing their capacity to 500 tests each daily and have changed their testing criteria to the following:

- Anyone who is 65+ or has an underlying health condition OR
- Anyone with these three symptoms:
 - Shortness of breath
 - Cough
 - Fever of 99.6+

Tenant & Property Owner Relief

The Ad Hoc Committee on Human and Social Needs and Assistance is meeting tomorrow to discuss a City ordinance regarding tenant eviction protections. For our full update that we shared last weekend, please view this [document](#).

Family Violence Update

For all resources related to domestic violence and child abuse, please use this [document](#). April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. If you see something, say something by calling 911.

New Dallas County Amended Emergency Orders & Updates

Dallas County voted to extend [shelter in place orders through April 30th](#) and [emergency regulations through May 20th](#). You may find the shelter in place order in [Spanish here](#).

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins released a new website for all things COVID-19, www.dallascountycovid.org.

Please click [here](#) for a map of confirmed cases by zip code current as of end of day April 13th.

The City Attorney created an "Essential Businesses FAQ" in English and Spanish.
[English FAQ](#)
[Spanish FAQ](#)

Curious if your business is essential or non-essential? Email businesscovid19@dallascounty.org

Orders from the State

On April 2nd Governor Abbott released new emergency regulations state-wide. Our attorneys are reviewing our orders to ensure they align with the state's. You may find them [here](#). His office also released clarity regarding houses of worship. Find more information in [English here](#) or in [Spanish here](#).

Updated Data

As of 10:00 am April 15, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 109 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total case count in Dallas County to 1,986. The 43rd death from COVID-19 was reported of a woman in her 80's who was a resident of the city of Garland. She had been hospitalized in an area hospital, and did not have underlying high risk health conditions and did not have additional underlying health conditions. Of cases requiring hospitalization, most (69%) have been either over 60 years of age or have had at least one known high-risk chronic health condition.

Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third (30%) of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Most (69%) deaths have been male. Fourteen deaths have been associated with long-term care facilities.

Additionally, Dallas County released the [confirmed cases by ethnicity](#) and the [summary of deaths by age, pre-existing conditions and ethnicity](#).

Please see attached [summary](#) comparing COVID-19 to the flu released Tuesday, April 14th.

The following is an update on the City's planning and preparedness efforts regarding COVID-19, as of Wednesday, April 15, 2020.

Positive cases of COVID-19

- 1,986 in Dallas County - 109 are new
- 477 in Collin County
- 929 in Tarrant County
- 521 in Denton County
- 29 in Kaufman County
- 37 in Rockwall County
- 83 in Ellis County

Hospital Reports

Twenty-five hospitals reported ventilator and bed capacity numbers to Mayor Eric Johnson's office.

- Total beds: 5,710
- Beds occupied: 2,928
- Total ICU beds: 827
- ICU beds occupied: 505
- Total ventilators: 942
- Ventilators in use: 293

Lab Reports

As of 5:30 p.m. the City of Dallas Office of Emergency Management has received a report from seven labs. Please note Dallas County Health and Human Service did not provide its report by the deadline. Below are the numbers for today, Wednesday, April 15, 2020:

341 COVID-19
tests
59 positive
267 negative

Below are testing numbers from labs to date:

Dallas County has reported at least two recovered COVID-19 cases, however the exact number of patients who have been released from area hospitals to continue their recovery at home is not available at this time.

Total tests to date by DCHHS 1,132

Total tests to date private labs* 7,150

Total negative tests to date* 6,897

Total active cases 1,986

Total deaths 43

*Numbers as of March 13, 2020 to date, since the Mayor's order went into effect.

Community Based Testing Sites - The numbers reported from the two community-based testing sites for April 14 are as follows:

American Airlines Center	Ellis Davis Field House
Total number of visitors: 211	Total number of visitors: 145
Total tested: 197	Total tested: 131

Information on Applying for Unemployment

Individuals who have lost their job or wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for unemployment benefits by calling the Texas Workforce Commission's Unemployment Benefit Claim Self-Service at 800-939-6631 or by applying online at ui.texasworkforce.org.

Due to the unusual high volume of Texans filing unemployment claims, TWC is in the process of expanding the number of call centers to meet the need. Individuals are requested to stagger their calls and access to the online portal based on the applicant's area code. Following are the recommended call and access times.

NAVIGATING UNEMPLOYMENT:

HOW TO APPLY FOR BENEFITS AFTER LOSING YOUR JOB DUE TO COVID-19



Texans who find themselves unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible to apply for unemployment benefits and manage their claims through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).



Apply Online

Visit ui.texasworkforce.org and create a user ID and password.



Apply on the Phone

Call the TWC Tele-Center at 800-939-6631.

WHAT YOU NEED TO GET STARTED:

- Personal information and Social Security number
- Personal Identification Number (for returning claimants only)
- Previous employer's business name, address, and phone number
- Dates worked for last employer, along with wages and work hours
- Nine-digit routing information and account number for your bank or credit union, should you wish to receive benefits via direct deposit.

STEP 1: Complete the online application

STEP 2: Choose your payment plan & sign up for e-mail updates

STEP 3: Submit your application & retain the confirmation number

STEP 4: Receive your benefits via debit card or direct deposit

UI.TEXASWORKFORCE.ORG | TWC TELE-CENTER: 800-939-6631

WHEN TO APPLY:

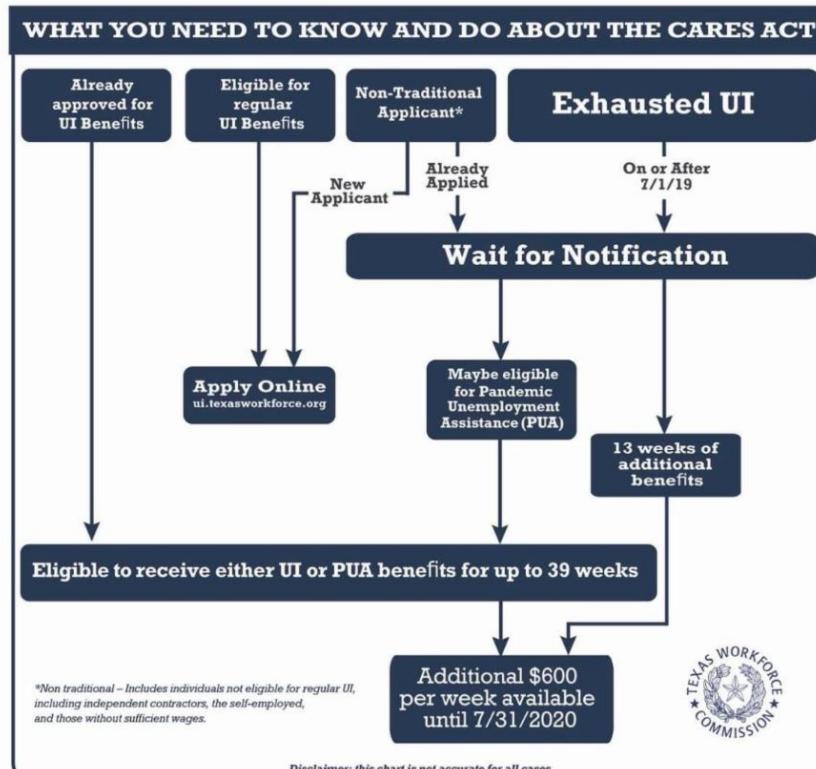
TWC is currently experiencing a massive increase in call volumes and hold times on their Tele-Center phone lines and online web application. To help prevent website outages and ensure every applicant is able to file their unemployment benefits claims, TWC is asking Texans to apply during designated times and days, based on the number their area code begins with.

If your area code begins with 9, file claims on:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

If your area code begins with 7 or 8:
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

If your area code begins with 3, 4, 5 or 6:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

If your area code begins with 2:
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
1:00 PM and 5:00 PM.



UI.TEXASWORKFORCE.ORG | TWC TELE-CENTER: 800-939-6631

UT School of Law Launches Website with Financial Assistance Resources
The Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic at The University of Texas School of Law has launched a new website that tracks housing policies adopted by the federal government, State of Texas, and local jurisdictions to help Texas residents stay in their homes during the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying financial crisis. The site covers renter protections, foreclosure protections, and utility access protections. <http://sites.utexas.edu/covid19relief/>

Increased Coyote Sightings in Residential Neighborhoods

As we shelter in place longer, coyotes will be seen more frequently in residential neighborhoods as they scavenge for food where they can find it. This is a nationwide trend, so please don't be alarmed. Please access this [helpful guide](#) to enable us to co-habitat peacefully. Please note unless they are deemed unhealthy or aggressive, animal services Dallas Animal Services will not remove them. If you see

an aggressive coyote, report it through 3-1-1.

COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Donations

UTSW has created a site to screen candidates to donate plasma from select individuals who have fully recovered from COVID-19. The plasma is for possible "emergency use" therapy for select critically ill COVID-19 positive patients. COVID-19 has not been around long enough for scientists to have definitively studied the effectiveness of convalescent plasma for its treatment. But the FDA has recently allowed for "emergency use" of COVID-19 convalescent plasma as an investigational therapy. Information is available [here](#).

Grants Available for Non-Profits Who Support COVID-19 Response

North Texas Cares is a funder collaborative made up of North Texas foundations and United Ways that have come together to provide support for organizations that work with people and communities who may be most negatively affected by COVID-19. Applications from nonprofits are now being accepted on a rolling basis and will be evaluated weekly. Funding decisions will be made by each participating funder independently throughout the crisis period to facilitate the urgent need for funding in light of evolving community need. Approved requests may be funded both by individual funders as well as collectively, depending on the need. Funds will be donated directly to the grant recipients. Timelines vary by funder. Visit northtexascares.org

Needs in Our District - Donations Needed in Vickery Meadow

Several non-profits in Vickery Meadow are continuing to offer services to our vulnerable residents but have seen a decline in donations due to halted church services. If you are interest and able to help, please do. We have compiled a list of [current needs here](#).

In more great news, the Vickery Meadow Food Pantry has collected over \$38,000 in donations thanks to your generosity. I continue to be blown away by the kindness of the residents in my district. Thank you!

Access the Library Online

If you need a library card to access online resources, call 214-670-7809 or email librarycustomerservice@dallaslibrary.org from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

While the buildings are closed, you still have access to incredible library resources at dallaslibrary.org. The staff continues to add hundreds of new downloadable ebooks and audiobooks to [Overdrive](#). Plus, they've expanded the offerings in [Hoopla](#) to include audiobooks and comics in addition to the streaming movies, tv and music. Magazines are available through [Flipster](#) and [PressÂ Reader](#) has newspapers from around the country and the world.

Explore the [online databases](#). Start researching your family tree with Ancestry. Learn about your favorite music using Rock's Back Pages. Pick up a new favorite pastime with instructions from the Hobbies & Crafts Resource Center. The library has online resources to help with whatever project or new passion you've decided to tackle.

[For parents now homeschooling students, they are compiling a list of resources to help you out](#)

And, they've launched a self-directed learning program called SMART Kids at Home. Students ages 5 to 18 can complete at-home and online activities around science, math, art, reading and technology. When they complete a series, kids earn

a digital badge to track their progress. Sign up for SMART Kids at Home at dallaslibrary.beanstack.org.

Updated Restaurant List

I encourage you to support your local businesses. The Mayor & City Council office has started a new initiative called Take-Out Tuesday. Please use this [link](#) to access an evolving list of restaurants in D13 and across the City who are open for take-out and delivery. Please note there are two tabs - one just for D13 restaurants and one for restaurants across the City who have contacted our office. VisitDallas is also running a [website](#) with an ongoing list of open restaurants by neighborhood. If you would like to add a restaurant to this list, email restaurantupdates@visitdallas.com



The poster features a large white text "TAKE-OUT TUESDAYS" on a dark blue background. Below it, a green horizontal bar spans the width of the text. To the left of the bar, the text "Support local businesses and restaurants by ordering take-out or delivery every Tuesday" is written in white. To the right of the bar, there is a graphic of a green delivery scooter carrying a stack of six pizzas. At the bottom left, the website "www.dallascityhall.com" is listed in white. At the bottom right, the City of Dallas logo is shown, consisting of a stylized "D" with a leaf inside it, followed by the text "City of Dallas".

**TAKE-OUT
TUESDAYS**

**Support local businesses
and restaurants by ordering
take-out or delivery every
Tuesday**

A list* of restaurants
open for grab-n-go
can be found at
www.visitdallas.com

*list is continually updated

www.dallascityhall.com

 City of Dallas

Bored at Home?

VisitDallas created a list of virtual activities launched by many of our great cultural organizations such as the DMA, the Nasher, the Arboretum and many more! Check them out [here](#). The Dallas Theater Center is offering a virtual performance of American Mariachi for a small donation. Check it out [here](#). [Dallas Children's Theater](#)

has released fun ideas to put on a show with your kids from home!

From April 14-23, 2020, the Dallas Art Fair will present Dallas Art Fair Online, a new platform allowing collectors to digitally preview and purchase works from participating galleries before the fair's upcoming twelfth edition, which has been rescheduled to October 1-4, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Dallas Museum of Art is also offering a virtual tour of their new exhibit,[Flores Mexicanas: Women in Modern Mexican Art](#).

Extensive Resources for Business and Residents

The wonderful staff of D9 and D12 have been diligently updating an extensive resource guide for our residents and businesses. Please use this [link](#) to access all current information that has been shared with our offices. These are updated on Fridays. You may also find it in Spanish [here](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to my Council Liaison, Sarah Evans, by phone at 214-670-3816 or email at sarah.evans@dallascityhall.com.



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Councilmember District 13

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