

Updated 4/17/20

FDHA has received many requests for information regarding resources available in the wake of COVID-19. Below is information you may find helpful. This document will be updated as new information emerges.

EMPLOYEES

NEW! DEO Re-employment Assistance Office – The following enhancements have been made to the reemployment system:

- 100 new servers were installed and a dormant back up system was activated;
- The Governor reassigned 2500 employees from other state agencies to help take benefit calls;
- The state has contracted with additional call centers to provide additional help in filing claims; and
- DEO accepts paper applications which are available at local job assistance offices and FedEx Offices.

Note: DEO processed more than 520,000 unemployment claims between March 15 and April 5, easily eclipsing the 326,000 claims made at the same time last year.

NEW! Additional Ways to Access Reemployment Assistance

- Mobile-Friendly Site to Apply for Reemployment Assistance at www.FloridaJobs.org/RAApplication
- Visit www.FloridaJobs.org/COVID-19 to use the online Reemployment Assistance application or to download the paper application. You may access in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Creole](#) For a paper application, mail it to DEO and a representative will call when the application is processed. You may click [here](#) for information on how to file your claim online.

NEW! DOH Resource Pool – The Department of Health has established a mechanism for health care workers who are un-employed, furloughed or interested in volunteering to provide healthcare to areas impacted by COVID-19. You may register in a resource pool to be called upon when hospitals or long-term care facilities need assistance. You may register or receive additional information [here](#). Please note Dentistry is listed last in the portion to select a profession.

Florida Available Unemployment Benefits - The benefits available to an individual vary based on criteria used to assign the benefits. The amount of benefits also varies per individual. A rough estimate of expected benefits would be half of an individual's previous full-time wages, up to a maximum of \$275 per week. Typically, Reemployment Assistance lasts up to 12 weeks or until employment is found. Once a new full-time job is found, there is no more need for reemployment assistance, so the benefits stop. However, working part-time or temporarily does not necessarily end the benefits

U.S. Stimulus Package Payments to Citizens. Direct payments will be distributed based on the adjusted gross income reported on an individual or couple's 2018 and 2019 tax returns, broken down as follows:

- Most adults who make less than an adjusted gross income of \$75,000 annually will receive a \$1,200 one-time payment. Payments will go out to individuals whose income is as much as \$99,000, but those bringing in more than \$75,000 won't receive the full amount.
- Married couples without children will receive a total of \$2,400 if their joint income is less than \$150,000 annually. Payments will go out to couples whose income is as much as \$198,000, but those bringing in more than \$150,000 won't receive the full amount.
- Households with children will also receive \$500 for each child if the parent's or parents' income qualifies for these payments and if the child is under age 17.
- Taxpayers who have filed as "head of household" in the past will receive the full \$1,200 if their income is less than \$112,500. Payments will go out to heads of household whose income is as much as \$136,500, but those bringing in more than \$112,500 won't receive the full amount.

- The amount of the direct payments for individuals making more than \$75,000 and couples making more than \$150,000 will decrease \$5 per every \$100 an individual makes over \$75,000. An individual with an income of \$85,000, for example, would receive a \$700 payment.
- Those who did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019 will need to [complete a separate online form](#) to receive the direct payment. Individuals must also have a Social Security number to qualify for a direct payment.

Federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) – This Act requires companies that employ less than 500 employees to pay 80 hours of sick leave and up to 12 weeks of family leave for employees who are required to stay home because of 6 specific Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)-related reasons. This March 20th [GT Alert](#) discusses an employer’s requirements to pay the emergency sick leave and family leave to employees. The FFCRA also provides a 100% tax credit to a company for these sick and family leave payments to employees, so that there should be no net cost in making these payments.

IRS Tax Filing and Payment Extensions FAQs – You may access [FAQs posted by the IRS](#) to provide additional information on the tax return filing and tax payment deadline relief recently announced.

Department of Revenue Issue Orders on Property & Sales Tax Payment - The emergency orders address extensions on paying sales tax and property tax payment:

- Sales Tax - [emergency order](#) and [press release](#)
- Property Tax - [emergency order](#) and [press release](#)

U.S. Department of Labor Information on Wages - The Wage and Hour Division provides information on common issues employers and employees face when responding to COVID-19, and its effects on wages and hours worked under the Fair Labor Standards Act and job-protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

- Field Assistance Bulletin 2020-1: Temporary Non-Enforcement Period Applicable to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)([PDF](#), [TEXT](#))
- [Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Questions and Answers](#)
- [Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Employee Paid Leave Rights](#)
- [Families First Coronavirus Response Act: Employer Paid Leave Requirements](#)
- [COVID-19 and the Fair Labor Standards Act: Questions and Answers](#)
- [COVID-19 and the Family and Medical Leave Act: Questions and Answers](#)
- [WHO Response to COVID-19](#)

FLORIDA GOVERNOR AND AGENCY ORDERS

NEW! To receive updates about the state’s response to the coronavirus, text **FLCOVID19 to 888777**.

NEW! Latest Order from Gov. DeSantis waives the requirement that provides that unemployment be recertified every two weeks to continue receiving benefits. You may access the order [here](#). The Governor on 4/16/20 replaced the current DEO director with DMS Secretary Jonathan Sattler, who has previous experience with the CONNECT system.

[Click to review all Executive Orders by Governor DeSantis](#)

HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY INFORMATION

Volunteers Sought for Testing Centers - The State Emergency Operations Center is seeking to identify resources available in the local healthcare infrastructure that can be redirected to support the response when Florida begins experiencing medical surge. Please complete the COVID-19 Healthcare Provider Resource Availability Survey. You may access the survey [here](#).

CDC Provides Guidance for Dental Settings – On March 27th, the following guidance was issued: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/dental-settings.html>. The guidance provides interim infection prevention and control for Dental Settings during the COVID-19 Response.