

**COVID-19 Alert** - For the latest information on the novel coronavirus in Kentucky, please visit [kycovid19.ky.gov](http://kycovid19.ky.gov)

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DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

# COVID-19

**COVID-19 GUIDANCE BY TOPIC**

**MEDIA AND NEWS**

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## COVID-19 Hotline (800) 722-5725

The COVID-19 hotline is a service operated by the healthcare professionals at the KY Poison Control Center who can provide advice and answer questions. Please be patient as we are handling a high volume of calls and want to give everyone the time they deserve, including patients calling with poison emergencies.

**Please note: COVID-19 is a reportable disease in Kentucky**



The Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) is responding actively to the COVID-19 situation. Our State Health Operations Center is operating at Level 1, its highest activation level. This respiratory disease was first detected in a Kentucky resident on March 6, 2020.

For the latest information and prevention updates, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2019 novel coronavirus site](#)

Healthcare providers, laboratories, and local public health professionals, visit the [COVID-19 Healthcare Providers and Laboratory Services site](#) for the most current guidance.

**TEAM KENTUCKY** COVID-19 HEALTH TIPS


### When To Seek Care

To ensure the sickest people receive care, help minimize the spread of infection and maintain resources, please follow the guidelines below when considering whether to seek medical care.

<b>Stay home</b> If you are worried-well, <b>please stay home.</b> Going to a hospital or doctor's office adds to a higher concentration of people and further overwhelms medical staff.	<b>Call for advice</b> If you are ill, but would not have sought care if not for COVID-19, do not seek care at an ER, hospital or doctor's office. If you want advice, call the <b>Kentucky state hotline (1-800-722-5725)</b> or call your <b>local healthcare provider.</b>	<b>Seek care</b> If you are sick and feel you have an emergency, please call your doctor or seek medical care. Hospitals and medical staff across the commonwealth stand ready to serve you.
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Please visit [kycovid19.ky.gov](http://kycovid19.ky.gov) for the latest updates on COVID-19 in Kentucky or call the Kentucky state hotline at 1-800-722-5725

If you have developed a fever or respiratory symptoms and believe you have had exposure to a known case or


traveled to an area with community spread, isolate yourself from others in your home and contact your healthcare provider or [local health department](#)  to describe your symptoms and any recent travel before you go to the healthcare facility.

## Hand Hygiene

Everyone can help prevent the spread of illness by washing their hands properly. Make handwashing a healthy habit. For more information, visit the [Center for Disease Control Prevention handwashing site](#).

## Community Guidance

Current recommendations for social distancing in Kentucky include:

1. If you are 60 years old or older and/or have diabetes, heart disease, lung disease, kidney failure or other chronic major medical conditions, we recommend you avoid densely populated community events and consult this [CDC guidance](#).
2. Nursing homes and other long-term care facilities are advised to restrict visitors and consult [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities](#) .
3. Working people, students, employers and schools are advised to plan actively for telework/distance learning options appropriate for their situations and support all workers/students to stay at home if they are ill.
4. Only go to the emergency department for an illness that would have taken you to the hospital **before** the COVID-19 outbreak. If you have runny nose, cough, fever or other common respiratory infection symptoms, take Tylenol- or Motrin-like products and stay home from work or school until you are fever-free. If you think you need medical care, please contact your healthcare provider for their instruction or visit an emergency department if you believe you have an emergency.

This guidance will continue to change as circumstances warrant.

## KDPH Updates

**Current as of March 15, 2020 at  
4 p.m. Eastern time**

**Kentucky Coronavirus Monitoring**

Number Tested: 254


Positive: 20

**Note:** These figures are updated daily at 4 p.m. Eastern time and reflect all cases reported to KDPH as of that time.

[Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Kentucky Residents](#) 

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Correctional Facilities](#) 

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities](#) 

[Self Isolation and Home Quarantine Guidance](#) 


[Social Distancing for COVID-19](#) 

[KY State Employees - Protocols for coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) 

[Kentucky Department of Education COVID-19](#)

## Contact Information

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 (800) 722-5725

### Mailing Address

DPH COVID-19 Hotline

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Cabinet for Health and Family Services

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