

Recent Releases



NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATES AND INFORMATION

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The South Dakota Department of Health (SD-DOH) continues to respond to the emergence of the novel coronavirus. We are working with the CDC and our healthcare partners across the state to protect South Dakotans from COVID-19.



UPDATES

- [Governor Noem Announces South Dakota will Be First State with a Hydroxychloroquine Statewide Clinical Trial to Help Fight COVID-19](#)
- [Combat the Spread of COVID-19: Follow the Governor's Executive Order](#)
- [Public Health Emergency Orders](#)
- [South Dakota FAQs: Recommendations, testing information, healthcare readiness, effects and symptoms.](#)
- Interested in volunteering your services? Join the [State Emergency Registry of Volunteers](#) for South Dakota.
- [What is Social Distancing? Infographic](#)
- [What should I do? Infographic](#)
- [COVID-19 Testing Facts](#)
- The number of cases and countries with infections worldwide is increasing and can be found on the [WHO website](#).
- Case counts and other information about the novel coronavirus can be found on the [CDC website](#).
- Travelers returning from High Risk Countries ([See CDC Travel Advisories](#)) should self-monitor for 14 days for novel coronavirus symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, or shortness of breath) and call their medical provider to discuss their symptoms.
- [COVID-19 Symptoms and Screening App and Website](#) from Apple (in partnership with CDC and the White House).

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CLEAN HANDS OFTEN



- ✓ Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

AVOID CLOSE CONTACT



- ✓ Avoid close contact with people.
- ✓ Stay at home as much as possible, except to run essential errands or to seek medical attention.
- ✓ Put distance between yourself and other people. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus.

WEAR A CLOTH FACE COVER



- ✓ Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
- ✓ The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- ✓ Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.
- ✓ Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

COVER COUGHS & SNEEZES



- ✓ Remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- ✓ Throw used tissues in the trash.
- ✓ Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

CLEAN AND DISINFECT



- ✓ Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- ✓ If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

THE BEST WAY TO PREVENT ILLNESS IS TO AVOID BEING EXPOSED TO THIS VIRUS.

What can you do?

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - [Q&A for Consumers: Hand Sanitizers and COVID-19](#)
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Avoid close contact with other people.
- Refraining from touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Individuals at higher risk for severe COVID-19 illness, such as older adults and people who have chronic medical conditions like heart, lung or kidney disease, should [take actions](#) to reduce your risk of exposure.
- Create a family [plan](#) to prepare for COVID-19 and develop a [stay at home kit](#) with food, water, medication, and other necessary items.
- [What is Social Distancing? Infographic](#)
- [Social Distancing at Work Poster](#)
- [Recommendation Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings](#) (CDC)
- [Cloth Face Coverings: What You Need to Know](#)
- [Stop the Spread of Germs | Spanish | Nepali](#) (CDC)

Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations:

- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations](#) (CDC)
- [COVID-19: How to Clean and Disinfect](#)
- [Disinfecting Your Facility if Someone is Sick](#) (CDC)

South Dakota Travelers Returning Home: What You Should Know?

South Dakota's healthcare system is prepared to identify and treat cases of COVID-19.

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WHAT TO DO IF YOU DEVELOP SYMPTOMS

If you develop symptoms:

- Call your health care provider immediately and tell them about any recent travel or exposure.
- Individuals who are concerned that they have COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider via phone before going to a clinic or hospital to prevent spread in healthcare facilities.
- Avoid contact with other people.
- Follow the directions of your healthcare provider and public health officials.
- [Symptoms and Testing Guidance](#) (CDC)
- [Symptom Checker Algorithm](#)
- [10 Ways to Manage Respiratory Symptoms at Home](#) (CDC)
- [What To Do If You Are Sick | Spanish | Nepali](#) (CDC)

Self-Quarantine, Self-Isolation, and Self-Monitoring:

- [Self-Isolation Guidance](#)
- [Temperature Tracker](#)
- [Taking Your Temperature](#)
- [Release from Isolation Guidance](#)
- [Isolation or Quarantine: What's the Difference?](#)

COVID-19 Screening Tool

This tool can help you understand what to do next about COVID-19.

Developed With
CDC The White House FEMA

START YOUR SCREENING

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance:

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies) **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission. Visit the [CDC website](#) for more information.

Find Federally Qualified Health Centers in South Dakota - community-based primary care services in underserved areas providing care on a sliding fee scale based on ability to pay.

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COMMUNITY GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

Guidance from the CDC is available for:

- Households
- People at Higher risk
- Older Adults
- Retirement Communities and Independent Living
- Businesses
- Schools and childcare centers
- Colleges and Universities
- Community and faith-based organizations
- Large events
- Law enforcement
- Correctional & Detention Facilities

**Local COVID-19
transmission in
your community?**

**CLICK HERE
for Mitigation
Strategies**



Guidance available in multiple languages:

- [Stop the Spread of Germs | Spanish | Nepali](#) (CDC)
- [What To Do If You Are Sick | Spanish | Nepali](#) (CDC)
- [COVID-19 Information in 10 Different Languages](#) (Multi-Cultural Center of Sioux Falls)
 - [Videos](#) (Dakota News Now)

Behavioral Health

- For Parents
 - [Talking to Children About COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) A Parent Resource](#) (NASP)
 - [Helping Children Cope with Stress during the 2019-nCoV Outbreak](#) (WHO)
 - [Coronavirus Explained! \(for kids\) - \(CDC video\)](#)
 - [Helping Children Cope During and After a Disaster: A Resource for Parents and Caregivers](#) (CDC)
- For Adults
 - [Taking Care of Your Behavioral Health: Tips for Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation](#) (SAMHSA)
 - [Handling COVID-19 Anxiety & Stress](#) (CDC)
 - [Strategies for Self-Care and Resilience](#) (HHS)
 - [Coping With Stress During Infectious Disease Outbreaks](#) (SAMHSA)

Communities

- [Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) (CDC)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations](#) (CDC)
- [Talking with Children About Coronavirus Disease](#) (CDC)
- [South Dakota Community Mitigation Guidance](#)

Retirement and Independent Living Facilities

- [Plan, Prepare, and Respond](#) (CDC)
- [Interim Guidance on Preventing the Spread of COVID-19](#) (CDC)
- [Preparedness Checklist for Nursing Homes and other Long-Term Care Settings](#) (CDC)

Schools

- [CDC Guidance: Considerations for School Closure](#)
- [Presentation for Schools](#)

All Businesses and Employers

- [Workplace and Employer Resources & Recommendations](#)
- [Families First Coronavirus Response Act: What does it mean for employers?](#) A summary of how some of the key provisions like Emergency Family and Medical Leave (FLMA) Expansion Act and Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act impact employers.
- [Employee Screening Questions and Guidelines](#): questions to ask employees reporting to work and guidance to help reduce the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19.
 - [COVID-19 Daily Screening Log](#): a resource for employers to track symptoms of employees reporting to work.
 - [Symptom Checker Algorithm](#)
- [COVID-19: Critical Infrastructure Workers Guidance for Staying Protected at Work](#)
- [Social Distancing at Work Poster](#)

Food Safety

- [COVID-19 Guidance for Food and Beverage Establishments in South Dakota](#)
- [Food Safety and COVID-19 \(SDSU Extension\)](#)
- [Shopping for Food During the COVID-19 Pandemic - Information for Consumers](#) (FDA)

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INFORMATION FOR MEDICAL PROVIDERS

- [Office for Civil Rights \(OCR\) Announces Notification of Enforcement Discretion for Telehealth Remote Communications During the COVID-19 Nationwide Public Health Emergency](#)

- Medical providers who are concerned a patient may be infected with COVID-19 should:
 - Mask the patient
 - Isolate the Patient in a private room or separate area, and
 - Contact with SD-DOH (800-592-1861) immediately for consultation and guidance
- Clinicians are strongly encouraged to test for other infectious causes of respiratory illness, such as influenza and RSV. **Note:** Asymptomatic patients are **not eligible** for testing at the SD Public Health Laboratory. High-priority specimens for testing include:

Clinical Features

Fever OR Cough OR Shortness of Breath

Fever OR Cough OR Sore Throat OR Shortness of Breath

Risk Exposure

-Individuals who are hospitalized
OR
-Persons in institutional settings (long-term care facilities, assisted living centers, etc.)

-Healthcare workers and first responders

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SD GUIDANCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- Guidance on specimen collection and testing, infection control practices, and other considerations are available at:
 - SD-HAN 20-007: [Guidance on Evaluating Persons for COVID-19 Infection](#) (Updates SD-HAN 20-003)
 - SD-HAN 20-006: [Healthcare Facility Checklist](#)
 - SD-HAN 20-005: [CDC COCA Call](#)
 - SD-HAN 20-004: [Webinar for Healthcare](#)
 - SD-HAN 20-003: [Evaluating Persons for COVID-19](#)
 - SD-HAN 20-002: [Monitoring and Movement Guidance on Novel Coronavirus](#)
 - CDC Clinician Call: [What Clinicians Need to Know to Prepare for COVID-19](#)
 - CDC HAN 427: [Updated and Interim Guidance on Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#)
 - CMS: [Prioritization of Survey Activities](#) (3/23/20)
 - CMS: [Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in nursing homes](#) (Revised 3/13/20)
 - CMS: [COVID-19 Emergency Declaration - Healthcare Providers Fact Sheet](#) (3/13/20)
- [Archived COVID-19 Conference Calls](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2 Laboratory Requisition and PUI Evaluation Form](#) (Updated 3/26/20)
 - [SD Public Health Lab Specimen Guidance](#)
 - [Order Medical Shipping Supplies](#)
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) optimization strategies:** Provides options for extended use, reprocessing, and reuse of the various PPE components given current shortages of PPE being reported in many areas of the country.
- **Public Health reminder:** CDC urges healthcare facilities and clinicians to delay and reschedule elective ambulatory visits, surgeries and admissions, and routine dental and eye care to preserve staff, personal protective equipment, and patient care supplies, ensure staff and patient safety, and expand available hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Cleaning and Disinfecting 3M Powered Air Purifying Respirators following Potential Exposure to Coronaviruses](#)
- [South Dakota Public Health Lab website](#)
- [Symptom Checker Algorithm](#)
- SD-DOH would like to remind medical providers, hospitals, and laboratories that cases of COVID-19, caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, are considered immediately **reportable** in South Dakota (under Coronavirus Respiratory syndromes).

Emergency Management Assistance Compact

On March 23, 2020, Governor Noem issued [Executive Order 2020-07](#) which recognizes the licenses of medical professionals licensed in another state in accordance with the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. The following professions licensed in other states have the authority to practice in SD based on an active license in another state. They do not need to gain another license in SD. It is recommended that if you are utilizing the services of one of the professionals licensed in other states that you verify the licensure status of that individual. Please contact the board office with any questions that you have during this Coronavirus Pandemic.

- Physicians and Surgeons ([SDCL 36-4](#))
- Physicians Assistants ([SDCL 36-4A](#))
- Advance Life Support Personnel ([SDCL 36-4B](#))
- Respiratory Care Practitioners ([SDCL 36-4C](#))
- Registered and Practical Nurses ([SDCL 36-9](#))
- Certified Nurse Practitioners And Certified Nurse Midwives ([SDCL 36-9A](#))
- Medical Assistants ([SDCL 36-9B](#))
- Physical Therapists ([SDCL 36-10](#))
- Dietetics and Nutrition ([SDCL 36-10B](#))
- Pharmacies and Pharmacists ([SDCL 36-11](#))
- Social Workers ([SDCL 36-26](#))
- Psychologists ([SDCL 36-27A](#))
- Occupational Therapists ([SDCL 36-31](#))
- Professional Counselors ([SDCL 36-32](#))

- Marriage and Family Therapists ([SDCL 36-33](#))
- Addiction and Prevention Professionals ([SDCL 36-34](#))
- Speech-Language Pathologists ([SDCL 36-37](#))
- Basic Life Support ([SDCL 34-11](#))

Important LISTSERVs for Healthcare Providers

The Department of Health maintains a variety of LISTSERVs that provide useful information on COVID-19, including current guidance and scheduled calls.

- [Health Alert Network](#)
- [Laboratory LISTSERV](#)
- [Epi LISTSERV](#)
- [Healthcare-associated Infections LISTSERV](#)
- [Office of Licensure and Certification LISTSERV](#)

ATTENTION RETIRED OR INACTIVE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS:

Governor Noem is reaching out to our state's licensed medical professionals (physicians, nurses, EMTs, etc.) who are willing to volunteer their services during this COVID-19 pandemic through the Department of Health's Statewide Emergency Registry of Volunteers in South Dakota (SERV SD). SERV SD coordinates the pre-registration of medical and health care professionals who may be willing to volunteer in the event of an emergency.

Whether you work in a health field or not, active or retired, if you have an interest in assisting your community or state during the COVID-19 pandemic, we invite you to join SERV SD. SERV SD will create a database of medical and health care volunteers who can be mobilized immediately in response to an emergency. **Participation in a deployment opportunity is optional. You may decide at the time a call is made to volunteer if you are willing and able to respond.**

Registering with SERV SD is easy. Go to <https://volunteers.sd.gov/>.

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CDC GUIDANCE FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

CDC issued guidance to healthcare facilities in the event that illness is identified.

- [Evaluating and reporting persons under investigation](#)
 - [Evaluating PUIs and Asymptomatic Close Contacts](#)
- [Healthcare infection control guidance](#)
- [Clinical care guidance](#)
- [Home care guidance](#)
- [Guidance for EMS](#)
- [Healthcare personnel with potential exposure guidance](#)
- [Inpatient Obstetrics Care](#)
- [Disposition of patients with novel coronavirus](#)
- [Collection and testing of postmortem samples](#)

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