NEWS RELEASE

Covid-19 Response Update for March 17, 2020

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020

There were no new cases were reported today (3/17). However, the Governor expects numbers to increase as more testing becomes available later this week.

The Governor announced he is directing the Commerce Department to waive the one-week waiting period and the work-related reporting requirement for unemployment benefits for the

next 30 days.

To avoid large crowds, applicants can apply online or over the phone, rather than in-person.

Website to apply: **https://www.ezarc.adws.arkansas.gov/**

Below is a release from the Department of Workforce Services regarding unemployment insurance:

https://www.dws.arkansas.gov/src/files/Notice_to_Individuals_Inquiring_About_the_Availability_19_Pandemic.pdf

The Governor has directed all 3 casinos in the state to cease operations for 2 weeks.

As a reminder, the Arkansas Department of Health has activated a call center to answer questions from health care providers and the public about the novel coronavirus. During normal business hours (8:00 am – 4:30 pm), urgent and non-urgent calls, please call 1-800-803-7847 or email ADH.CoronaVirus@arkansas.gov. After normal business hours, urgent calls needing immediate response, please call 501-661-2136.

2020 Covid-19_infographic_2020-03-17.pdf

COVID-19:

STATE RESPONSE UPDATE FROM THE ARKANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19 IN ARKANSAS	22
PERSONS UNDER INVESTIGATION (PUI)	41
PAST PUIs WITH NEGATIVE TEST RESULTS	197
PEOPLE BEING MONITORED BY ADH WITH DAILY CHECK-IN AND GUIDANCE BECAUSE OF AN IDENTIFIED RISK	310

➡ NO NEW CASES REPORTED ON TUESDAY.

➡ GOVERNOR DIRECTS ALL 3 CASINOS IN THE STATE TO CEASE OPERATIONS FOR 2 WEEKS.

➡ ONE-WEEK WAITING PERIOD AND WORK REPORTING REQUIREMENT WAIVED FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

➡ ARKANSANS CAN FILE FOR UNEMPLOYMENT ONLINE AT WWW.EZARC.ADWS.ARKANSAS.GOV OR CALL THEIR NEAREST WORKFORCE CENTER.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020

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