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COVID-19 Updates

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News Articles

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Governor Cuomo Announces $65 Million NY Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive

Funding from Federal CARES Act will Support New Childcare Health and Safety Protocols and Assist Closed Programs with Reopening

Mid-Hudson Region Enters Phase Three of Reopening Today
Long Island to Enter Phase Three Tomorrow
1.2 Percent of Yesterday's COVID-19 Tests were Positive
Hospitalizations Drop to 1,104 Statewide

Confirms 597 Additional Coronavirus Cases in New York State - Bringing Statewide Total to 389,085; New Cases in 37 Counties

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that $65 million in federal CARES Act funding is available for child care providers statewide through the New York Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive program.

The funding available includes:

- $20 million to assist childcare program with reopening and expansion of capacity by providing

materials to support a more socially distant model, and for supplies and activities associated with reopening and expansion. This may include partitions, short term rental of space, etc.

- $45 million in childcare Reopening and Expansion Incentive funds to pay for 50% of the cost of a newly opened classroom (maximum grant amount of $6,000) as an incentivize to open the classroom. The temporary funds will phase out over the second and third months as more parents bring their children back into childcare.

Throughout the pandemic, 65 percent of OCFS-licensed and -registered child care programs remained open, many serving families of essential workers. The funding being made available today will help to bring closed programs back to operation to serve families returning to the workplace.

"New York went from one of the highest infection rates in the country to one of the lowest because we made decisions based on science - not politics," Governor Cuomo said. "We're seeing in other states what happens when you just reopen with no regard for metrics or data - it's bad for public health and for the economy, and states that reopened in a rush are now seeing a boomerang. We do about 60,000 tests per day - more than any state or country on a per capita basis and approximately 1 percent of tests are coming back positive. We do this testing religiously, and we watch the rate and calibrate our reopening by that rate. The Hudson Valley moves to phase 3 today and Long Island will go to phase 3 tomorrow.

"As we move further into the reopening and more parents go back to work, we're also making sure child care programs across the state have the support they need to reopen safely," Governor Cuomo continued. "By providing support for expanded classrooms that allow for more social distancing and other resources, we can help keep staff and children safe."

To be eligible for reopening funds, child care programs must have either been closed as of June 15 and have a plan to reopen within two weeks of applying or currently operating below their licensed capacity and would like to expand. The grants will be pro-rated as programs reach capacity. Programs must submit a detailed plan for use of funds and must remain open at least through the end of the year.

The maximum awards for the $20 million in Reopening and Restructuring Incentives depend on the size of the program and range from $300 to $1,600 one-time grants. Child care programs may apply to OCFS through July 15.

The governor also updated New Yorkers on the state's progress during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The number of new cases, percentage of tests that were positive and many other helpful data points are always available at forward.ny.gov.

Today's data is summarized briefly below:

- Patient Hospitalization - 1,104 (down -18 from the day before)
- Number ICU - 302 (down -28 from the day before)
- Number ICU that are intubated - 204 (down -24 from the day before)
- Total Discharges - 69,769 (up +59 from the day before)
- Deaths - 27

- Total Deaths - 24,766

Of the 48,709 tests conducted in New York State yesterday, 597, or 1.2 percent, were positive. Each region's percentage of positive tests over the last three days is as follows:

Region	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
New York City	1.20%	1.10%	1.40%
Capital Region	0.40%	0.70%	1.30%
Central New York	0.90%	0.70%	1.80%
Finger Lakes	0.40%	0.70%	1.10%
Long Island	1.00%	0.90%	1.10%
Hudson Valley	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Mohawk Valley	1.00%	1.40%	0.50%
North Country	0.20%	0.10%	0.40%
Southern Tier	0.30%	0.30%	0.20%
Western New York	0.80%	1.00%	1.30%

The Governor also confirmed 597 additional cases of novel coronavirus, bringing the statewide total to 389,085 confirmed cases in New York State. Of the 389,085 total individuals who tested positive for the virus, the geographic breakdown is as follows:

County	Total Positive	New Positive
Albany	2,062	2
Allegany	58	0
Broome	671	1
Cattaraugus	118	3
Cayuga	108	0
Chautauqua	116	0
Chemung	139	0
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

County	Total Positive	New Positive
Chenango	141	1
Clinton	100	0
Columbia	454	2
Cortland	44	0
Delaware	91	1
Dutchess	4,150	5
Erie	7,073	38
Essex	41	0
Franklin	28	1
Fulton	244	0
Genesee	229	4
Greene	256	0
Hamilton	6	0
Herkimer	137	0
Jefferson	84	0
Lewis	24	1
Livingston	125	1
Madison	347	0
Monroe	3,540	28
Montgomery	109	1
Nassau	41,544	31
Niagara	1195	2
NYC	21,3056	315
Oneida	1,421	5
Onondaga	2,702	27

County	Total Positive	New Positive
Ontario	242	0
Orange	10,666	12
Orleans	277	1
Oswego	179	6
Otsego	83	0
Putnam	1,305	0
Rensselaer	533	5
Rockland	13,529	15
Saratoga	538	3
Schenectady	770	9
Schoharie	57	0
Schuyler	12	0
Seneca	64	0
St. Lawrence	217	0
Steuben	263	0
Suffolk	41,056	46
Sullivan	1,440	2
Tioga	141	1
Tompkins	175	0
Ulster	1,757	1
Warren	262	0
Washington	244	0
Wayne	145	2
Westchester	34,581	24
Wyoming	93	0

County	Total Positive	New Positive
Yates	43	1