



DOCUMENT PURPOSE: PFPC will share key resources for people, non-profits, businesses across the food system. If you have a resource to add, please forward to Qiyam Ansari at qiyam@pittsburghfoodpolicy.org

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GENERAL: GET CONNECTED!

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

- Sign up for [Allegheny County's Alert System](#) for up to date information. Visit [Allegheny County's website](#) for resources, guidelines, and to stay up to date about COVID-19
- **Connect to Feeding Task Forces:** Coordination of emergency food providers - please contact sarah@pittsburghfoodpolicy.org for more information
- **Connect to the Pittsburgh Food Policy Council (PFPC)**
 - PFPC Member Meetings - please check the calendar on our website
 - Sign up for our e-Newsletter [here](#) to receive these updates

- Follow us on Twitter (@Burghfoodpolicy) and/or Facebook

PENNSYLVANIA

- [General guidance from PA Governor Tom Wolf](#): ““Even in a pandemic, grocery stores and food banks are life-sustaining and accessible; food production and distribution are continuing.”
- Sign up to receive updates from the **Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture** at RA-agpolicyoffice@pa.gov or visit their website at agriculture.pa.gov/COVID

FUNDING RE: COVID-19

Service Providers, Non-Profits, Emergency Response

- [Pittsburgh Foundation Emergency Fund](#) (\$10million total) available to emergency service providers and nonprofit organizations serving on the front lines of recovery
- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Grant Reimbursements. PEMA Recovery invites any organization/person to [sign-up for the Public Assistance Grant reimbursement program](#) if you need to cover costs for ‘emergency protective measures’ for others (food, shelter, etc)
- 2020 CDBG Programs: City of Pittsburgh grants to support nonprofit and public service activities. Both [Public Service and Neighborhood Economic Development grants](#) are administered by the Community Development Division in the Office of Management and Budget.
 - Please read the requirements carefully before beginning your application. For more information email community.development@pittsburghpa.gov or call 412-255-2211.

For Small Businesses/Growers

- [Pennsylvania COVID-19 Working Capital Access \(CWCA\) Program](#), Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority Loans up to \$100,000 for small businesses including agricultural producers, to provide working capital for operations.
- **American Farmer Trust** Farmer Relief Fund. Information and eligibility guidelines linked [HERE](#)
- **Food Animal Concerns Trust**. Providing mini grants to livestock and poultry farmers experiencing hardship due to COVID-19. Apply [here](#).
- The **James Beard Foundation** has created a [Food and Beverage Industry Relief Fund](#) to assist food and beverage businesses with less than 500 employees.
- **SBA loans** for small businesses
 - Economic Injury Disaster Loans ([EIDL](#))
- [Amazon Neighborhood Small Business Relief Fund](#) To be eligible for a grant, recipients must have fewer than 50 employees or less than \$7 million in annual revenue.
- Payment-free, and interest-only periods via [Honeycomb Relief Loan Program](#) for small businesses impacted by COVID-19

- \$250k in funding [Emergency Agriculture Assistance Grants](#) to support farms, processors, and other small food businesses in Pennsylvania's food supply chain impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.
- Specialty Crops Producers are eligible for funding via USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). Information from PA Dept. of Agriculture [HERE](#) and application [HERE](#).

For Schools

- [Coronavirus Grant Request](#) offering emergency grants to support local school districts and nonprofit organizations in their efforts to ensure kids get the nutritious food they need
- If your child is normally able to obtain meals at school for free, your child will qualify for Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (*note, this is true even if your family does not individually qualify). More information [HERE](#).

General Funds

- [Ioby](#) will double donations dollar-for-dollar on any crowdfund related to COVID-19
- [COVID-19 Bridge Loans Program](#), **Hebrew Free Loan Association**. The Bridge Loan Program provides interest-free loans on a nonsectarian basis for up to \$5,000 to residents in the Pittsburgh area who are facing financial challenges caused by the coronavirus outbreak
- For Black, Indigenous, People of Color [this funding/resource](#) document prepared by Soul Fire Farm, Black Farmer Fund, and Northeast Farmers of Color
- Additional list of updated funding opportunities available [HERE](#)
- Descripción de fondos/préstamos disponibles (en [español](#))
- Compilation of COVID-19 philanthropic response and recovery funds that [focus on the food and agriculture system](#)
- [Compilation](#) of COVID-19 response and recovery funds; specific to PA and some to Philadelphia

FOOD ACCESS & FOOD SECURITY

PA Department of Agriculture: COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) [Prevention Practices](#) for Food Banks, Food Pantries and Community Feeding.

Finding Free Food

- [Food Assistance Locator](#) from the **Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank** has increased free food distributions--FoodShare, and Grab & Go meals for kids.
 - The Food Bank also created a [resource page](#) that is updated frequently
- [412 Food Rescue](#) is working with retail, restaurant and nonprofit partners to distribute fresh food
- [PA 211](#) is available statewide, and is focused on connecting people who are struggling to meet their basic needs.

- Pennsylvanians can dial 211, or text their zip code to 898-211 in order to connect to 211 resource navigators or visit pa211sw.org

Guidance for Food Distribution/Nutrition Programs

- National [waivers for nutrition programs](#) from **USDA Food & Nutrition Service**
- [Pennsylvania-specific waivers](#) for food sites and social benefit eligibility
 - USDA email address where stakeholders can voice ideas, questions, and concerns as they relate to nutrition programs: feedingkids@usda.gov.
 - Contacts for FNS's Mid-Atlantic Regional Office can be found here: www.fns.usda.gov/fns-regional-offices.
- **WIC**
 - PA Department of Health COVID-19 Guidance for [WIC Clinics](#)
 - Food Research and Action Center's COVID-19 Fact Sheet on [WIC Flexibilities](#)
- P-EBT and CR-SNAP are not yet available in PA, but this [FAQ](#) offers guidance

VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS NEEDED

Donations

- [Bartender Emergency Assistance Program](#)
- Funds for [lost employment](#):
 - For [artists](#);
 - [Restaurant workers](#);
 - Virtual tip jar for the [service industry](#), and more.
- Hebrew Free Loan Association is offering financial assistance to families impacted by COVID-19. Donate [here](#).

Offer your time, skills or resources

- The Pittsburgh Mutual Aid Spreadsheet is a way to harness volunteers. People list their name and what services they can provide (ie. grocery pick-up, spare bedroom, giving a ride). You can share/fill out a request for aid [here](#).
- PA 211 Volunteer Clearinghouse is offering to serve as a clearinghouse for volunteer information statewide. Individuals who wish to volunteer are directed to PA 211's database to seek out local volunteer opportunities. Fill out the [form](#), including the last two boxes.

Share information

- The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services is collecting information on capabilities commonwealth wide so that we can match people in need with available resources. Please take [this survey](#) to share your information and disseminate the link widely.

SCHOOL FOOD

Information for Families

- **Pittsburgh Public Schools** *Grab and Go meals are available at the [following locations](#).*
 - Meals will be distributed between 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Friday.
 - Multiple meals will be distributed both days, parents can pick up food on behalf of students, and all children 18 and under are eligible.

Information for Schools

- [PA Department of Education guidance](#) regarding all changes to school operations due to Covid-19
 - [Answers to common questions](#), including staffing, schools closure, and school food
 - Information from USDA re: [nationwide waivers](#) for school nutrition - who can receive meals, how they can be distributed
 - [See what other schools](#) around the U.S. are doing
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GARDENS, FARMS & AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS

Information Hubs for Growers/Food Businesses

- **Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture** information by sector during COVID-19: agriculture.pa.gov/covid.
 - Check out PDA [Twitter](#), PDA [Facebook](#) page or sign up for the PDA [newsletter](#)
- [Penn State Extension](#) COVID-19 page on food safety and business resources.
- The **Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture** FAQ on PA Department of Agriculture's guidance, found [here](#).
- **Community gardens** play an essential role in resilient, local food systems. In acknowledgment of this, the [Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has provided guidance](#) for the safe operation of community gardens during the Covid 19 crisis.

Guidance for Farmers Markets and On-Farm Markets

- PA has designated farmers markets as [life-sustaining](#)
- PDA issued [COVID-19 GUIDANCE: Farmers Markets & On-Farm Markets](#) with safety recommendations to protect vendors and customers

Grower Information and Tools

- Farm Resilience Resources: financial resources, workforce planning, marketing, e-learning available at <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

- Techniques, tips and information about gardening available (pests, invasive plants, how-to's, recipes) in the **Grow Pittsburgh [information hub](#)**
 - List compiled by Soul Fire Farm, Black Farmer Fund, and Northeast Farmers of Color (funding,: **[Food & Land Sovereignty Resource List for COVID-19](#)**
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SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES: FOOD RETAIL & RESTAURANTS

Guidance Re: Sanitization and Diagnosed Employee Procedures

- Applicable to all food preparation and distribution entities, food facility operators, retail/manufacturing owners. Check [HERE](#)
- **[Best practices](#) for food retail stores, restaurants and any pick-up/delivery services, from the Food & Drug Administration**

Resources/Technical Assistance for Businesses Impacted by COVID-19

- The Governor designated [this list](#) of 'essential businesses' in Pennsylvania.
 - **PA Department of Community and Economic Development [resources page](#)**
 - The Urban Redevelopment Authority [resource page](#) for businesses
 - [Financial Empowerment Centers](#)
 - The Steel Valley Authority urges business owners affected by COVID-19 to contact them at 1-866-SVA-8832 or by email sewn@steelvalley.org
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SUPPORT FOR FOOD SERVICE & RETAIL WORKERS

Information about unemployment eligibility

- [Unemployment Compensation Information For During COVID19 Shutdown](#) from Trellis Legal
- Department of [Labor and Industry](#) - updated information for workers impacted by COVID-19, including workers compensation.

Where to access unemployment benefits, other social services

- PA Office of [Unemployment Compensation](#); where to file, who should file, how to file
- PA Department of [Health and Human Services](#) for updated information re: benefits, best practices
 - [COMPASS](#) via PA Health and Human Services for online benefit applications
- [NeedAJobNow.USNLx.com](#), a job site dedicated to providing a centralized location for displaced workers to access employment opportunities from U.S. corporations with immediate hiring needs due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

Accessing Personal Protective Equipment

- For food delivery or food service organizations: ppeconnectpgh.com
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FOOD SYSTEMS & FOOD POLICY COUNCIL RESOURCES

COVID-19 Food & Drug Administration [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on food supply

There are numerous other valuable listservs with specific technical content areas:

- Farmers Markets: [Farmers Market Coalition Listserv](#)
- Community Supported Agriculture: [CSA Innovations Network](#)
- Nutrition Incentive Programs: [Wholesome Wave's National Nutrition Incentive Network](#)
- Young Farmers: [National Young Farmers Coalition](#)
- Fresh Produce Industry: [United Fresh Produce Industry Coronavirus Resource Share Group](#)
- Food Policy Councils: [Johns Hopkins Food Policy Network Listserv](#)
- General topics and questions related to community food systems: [ComFoods](#)