



MIMA's Weekly Update COVID-19

Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." —Philippians 2:4

Please worship safely this Easter

Love your neighbor by staying home this Easter—have a safe and healthy holiday.



BALTIMORE
CITY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

#CORONAVIRUSBALT
coronavirus.baltimorecity.gov

Keeping you Informed

During the response period to COVID19, MIMA will be providing weekly updates and information related to public services and resources available for communities via its GovDelivery list. **To subscribe to the listserv, please contact mima@baltimorecity.gov.** The following is a list of services and resources that have been impacted by COVID-19. We encourage you to verify information with the source.

Stay-at-Home Order

Governor Hogan has issued a stay-at-home order by executive order. No Marylander should leave their home unless it is for an essential reason. The executive order includes exceptions that allow residents to continue engaging in certain essential activities, such as:

- grocery shopping,
- obtaining medical care,
- going to the pharmacy,
- taking your pet to the veterinarian,
- essential employees traveling to and from work,
- traveling to and from an educational institution for instructional materials for distance learning,
- going to a meal distribution site,
- going to a laundromat
- exercising while staying 6 feet apart, or
- caring for a family member or friend.

Residents who violate the order will be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year imprisonment, up to a \$5,000 fine, or both.

Read the full text of executive order in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

City Schools has created [this online survey](#) to better assess the food and technology needs of its students and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey is available in English, Spanish, French, Chinese and Arabic.

School and Daycare Closure

[Baltimore City Schools](#) will be closed until April 24th. The district has developed downloadable [learning packets](#) that students may complete while schools are closed due to COVID-19. Daycares have also been closed by order of Governor Hogan. Essential employees can access child care [here](#).

The Maryland National Guard is in Baltimore to provide humanitarian assistance to communities as part of the City's response to COVID-19 (coronavirus). They are helping to distribute meals, and they may work on other projects that benefit communities during this time. The Maryland National Guard is NOT here to act as police.

Food Distribution

Food sites have been activated to protect vulnerable populations, including children and families and older adults. Identification or personal information will NOT be required at food sites. This is NOT a public benefit that would be considered on the public charge test. See this map for food distribution site locations: bit.ly/38XqBp2 Mobile food sites and senior distribution sites will close on April 10 (Good Friday) and all distribution sites will close for April 12 (Easter Sunday). See this map for food banks: <https://bit.ly/2WZm6le>

Small Businesses

The Baltimore Development Corporation is coordinating with City and State agencies and the federal government to identify resources available for businesses. Let us know how you are being affected by taking this their business impact survey in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Korean](#). This information will be kept confidential. Businesses can apply for the [Emergency Injury Disaster Loan](#) program and receive a \$10,000 advance that does not have to be repaid whether or not the loan application is approved. This is the quickest relief for small businesses. In addition, the MD Department of Commerce is providing loans and grants for businesses impacted by COVID. [Read more](#). Congress recently passed the [Paycheck Protection Program](#) to provide relief to businesses affected by COVID. The Baltimore Development Corporation has put together this [fact sheet](#) outlining resources for businesses from Maryland and the federal government.



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Additional Service Updates and Resources

Health Insurance Open Enrollment

You may be eligible to enroll in a qualified health plan through Maryland Health Connection, the state's official health insurance marketplace, if you are present in the US under certain immigration statuses or if you have applied for certain lawfully present statuses. Visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov to find out if you are eligible for free or low-cost health insurance. The deadline to apply is June 15th. See [link](#) for more information.

Unemployment Insurance and Employment

For displaced workers due to COVID-19, please click [here](#) for more information. Workers and independent contractors with social security numbers can apply for unemployment [here](#). For assistance getting a job or support, please [contact](#) the Mayor's Office of Employment Development and someone will reach out to you within 2 business days.

Resources Available Regardless of Immigration Status

- UndocuScholars [Emergency Fund](#) (Application in Spanish and English) and [Resource List](#)
- [Immigrants Rising Resource List](#)
- [National Domestic Workers Alliance Coronavirus Care Fund](#) (Application in English and Spanish)
- [One Fair Wage relief for restaurant and service workers](#) (Application in English and Spanish)
- [Children of Restaurant Employees Relief Fund](#) (Application in English)

Gas and Electric

[BGE](#) is suspending service disconnections and waiving new late payment charges until May 1 and will be working with customers on a case by case basis to establish payment arrangements and identify energy assistance options. See [BGE's coronavirus website available in English and Spanish](#) for more information.

Transportation

Residential Permit Parking, Metered Parking, Street Cleaning Parking, 48 hour parking, abandoned vehicles, and peak hour parking violations have been suspended. [Read more.](#)

Payments

The City of Baltimore only accept payments (i.e. water, parking, etc.) [online](#) and by mail. Late fees will not be suspended through at least May 1st. Water services will not be cut off because of non-payment during the emergency.

All [Enoch Pratt Free Library](#) locations are closed. Its Digital Library is [open](#).

Community Action Partnership Centers (CAP Centers)

have been closed. Even with the closure, residents can continue to submit applications for assistance online. For energy assistance residents can complete an application online at dhs.maryland.gov/benefits or call 1-800-332-6347. For BH2O, the city's water discount program, residents can download a BH2O application at bmorechildren.com/community-action-partnership, email applications to BCCAPBH2O@baltimorecity.gov or mail applications to ATTN: BH2O Processing Unit P.O. Box 22586 Baltimore, MD 21203.



Want the latest information and resources for immigrant communities on the City's COVID-19 response?

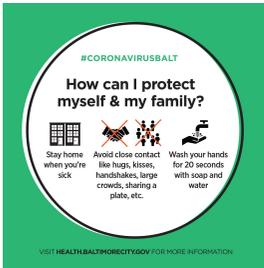
Visit the Coronavirus section of MIMA's website:

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Baltimore City Recreation and Parks will suspend all programs, events and facility services. Rec Centers will remain open as food distribution sites. In addition, the department is removing basketball rims and tennis court nets from City parks, in an effort to encourage residents to practice social distancing. Parks, trails, and open space remain accessible. However, the following are closed: all courts (basketball, tennis, and bocce), playgrounds, exercise equipment, pavilions and dog parks are limited to 5 people with the exception of Patterson Park where the limit is 10 people.

All **Senior Centers** will suspend programs. Seniors in need of delivered meals can call Maryland Access Point at 410-396-CARE (2273).

Evictions in Baltimore City are halted while schools are closed. If you receive an eviction notice during the state of emergency, call the Public Justice Center at (410) 625-9409.

Baltimore City Department of Social Services (DSS) is closed until further notice. For information call the customer call center at 443-423-6400.

Consumer Protection can provide assistance with consumer or health billing [issues](#).

If you experience discrimination or have trouble accessing services because of your race or nationality, you can report it to the **Baltimore City Office of Equity and Civil Rights**** at 410-396-3141.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services [temporarily suspended](#) in-person services at its field offices, asylum offices, and Application Support Centers (ASCs) to help slow the spread of Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). USCIS offices will reopen on April 7 unless the public closures are extended further. However, USCIS will provide emergency services for limited situations. To schedule an emergency appointment contact the USCIS Contact [Center](#).

The Baltimore Immigration Court has postponed all non-detained hearings through May 1. Detained cases will be heard as scheduled.

Volunteer Opportunities
For individuals and organizations seeking ways to help, visit the City's [coronavirus website](#).

Food and Cash Assistance
If a person needs help with Food and Cash Supplements, visit [dhs.maryland.gov](#) and click on the Food and Cash icon.

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