



**Michael Watson**  
SECRETARY OF STATE



## COVID-19 Tips, Resources and Relief Efforts

*Thursday, August 20, 2020*

### COVID-19

#### COVID-19 Cases in Mississippi

As of Thursday, August 20, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reported **894 new COVID-19 cases**, bringing the **total number of COVID-19 cases in our state to 75,449** and the **total number of deaths to 2,190**.

[Click here for COVID-19 guidance and prevention tips.](#)

[Click here to view a map of COVID-19 cases.](#)

#### Attendance Limit for College Stadiums

Governor Reeves recently issued social distancing measures for college and university outdoor stadiums, as well as game day events. Under Executive Order 1519, bowl seating is limited to 25% of seating capacity while maintaining six feet distance between individuals not in the same household. Additional social distancing measures include:



- Everyone over the age of six must wear masks as they enter/exit and throughout the stadium unless seated. Masks are strongly encouraged while seated.
- Game day events such as tailgating and rallies outside the stadiums are prohibited.
- Individuals allowed on the sidelines are limited to those essential for the game.
- Concession stands are open, though grab-n-go food and drink options are strongly encouraged.

- All transactions should be contactless and touchless, such as mobile ticketing and cashless concessions.

**Executive Order 1519 will remain in effect until Monday, August 31, at 8 a.m.**

[Click here to read Executive Order 1519.](#)



## **COVID-19 Testing for Teachers**

Governor Reeves announced two new COVID-19 initiatives regarding the health and well-being of students and teachers as they return to school. The first initiative expands COVID-19 testing for all Mississippi teachers, including those without symptoms. Teachers will have three options for testing across Mississippi:

- MSDH's Jackson site at the University of Mississippi Medical Center
- Community sites across the state
- Rotating testing teams at their home county health department
  - Testing teams will rotate every two weeks at county health departments, where teachers can drive up and get tested.

[Click here to locate free COVID-19 testing sites for K-12 teachers/staff.](#)

## **Emergency Telehealth Coverage**

The second initiative enables schools without school nurses or school-based clinics to access telehealth services. Telehealth services are traditionally delivered by an enrolled Mississippi Medicaid provider located at a distant site to a beneficiary located at an originating site, such as a clinic. Under this expansion of school-based emergency telehealth coverage, schools are approved as temporary telehealth originating site providers on the condition that services are facilitated by a telepresenter acting within their scope of practice and license and/or certification.

## Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL)

Small businesses and non-profits impacted by the pandemic can still apply for a COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). The loan is designed to provide economic relief to businesses that are currently experiencing a temporary loss of revenue. EIDL proceeds can be used to cover a wide array of working capital and normal operating expenses, such as continuation to health care benefits, rent, utilities, and fixed debt payments. Eligible small businesses, private-nonprofits and agricultural businesses may apply for an EIDL on SBA's website.



[Click here to apply for an EIDL.](#)

## Executive Orders

### [Executive Order 1519](#)

Executive Order 1519 issues social distancing measures for college and university outdoor stadiums, as well as game day events.

### [Executive Order 1518](#)

Executive Order 1518 allows attendance at K-12 outdoor and indoor organized extracurricular events with limitations to follow.

### [Executive Order 1517](#)

Executive Order 1517 delays the start of the 2020-2021 academic year for grades 7-12 for Bolivar, Coahoma, Forrest, George, Hinds, Panola, Sunflower, and Washington Counties until Monday, August 17, 2020.

### [Executive Order 1516](#)

Executive Order 1516 issues a statewide mask mandate until Monday, August 31, 2020.

[Click here to view all Executive Orders.](#)

## Emergency Contact Information

Office of the Governor of Mississippi  
Tate Reeves

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[governor@govreeves.ms.gov](mailto:governor@govreeves.ms.gov)

Mississippi State Department of Health

(877) 978-6453

Mississippi Emergency  
Management Agency

(601) 933-6362

Centers for Disease Control and  
Prevention

(800) 232-4636

Mississippi Department of Employment  
Security

(601) 855-3133

1-888-844-3577 (*toll-free*)

1-888-772-0061 (*toll-free*)