



Michael Watson
SECRETARY OF STATE



COVID-19 Tips, Resources and Relief Efforts

Monday, November 16, 2020

COVID-19

COVID-19 Cases in Mississippi

As of Monday, November 16, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reported **589 new COVID-19 cases and 2 new COVID-19 related deaths**, bringing the **total number of COVID-19 cases in our state to 134,898** and the **total number of deaths to 3,545**.

State Health Officer Dr. Thomas Dobbs and State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers hosted an hour-long forum on Facebook to address COVID-19 concerns, answer questions from the public, and debunk widespread rumors. The discussion included a variety of topics, including sporting events, a potential COVID-19 vaccine, and enforcement authority regarding mask mandates.

[Click here to watch the MSDH "COVID and You" forum.](#)

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

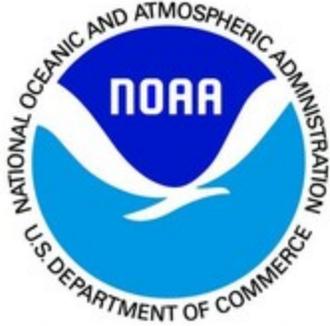
"Safe Recovery" Executive Order Extended

After state health data showed a significant increase in the daily number of COVID-19 cases, Governor Reeves extended the "Safe Recovery" Executive Order, initially set to expire Wednesday, November 11. **The "Safe Recovery" Order will now remain in effect until 5 p.m. on Friday, December 11.**

The Governor also amended the list of counties with additional COVID-19 safety measures, including mask requirements, to only include **Benton, Carroll, Covington, DeSoto, Forrest, Harrison, Humphreys, Jackson, Lamar, Lauderdale, Leflore, Lee, Marshall, Rankin, and Yalobusha Counties.**



[Click here to read the "Safe Recovery" Order.](#)



Financial Assistance for Commercial and Charter Fishermen

Commercial and charter fishermen who suffered significant losses due to the pandemic can apply for financial assistance through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Applications are available on the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources' (MDMR) [website](#).

To be eligible for this program, you must meet the following criteria:

- Resident of Mississippi
- At least 18 years of age
- Participated in the Mississippi saltwater fishing industry in one of the following sectors for at least one year:
 - Commercial fisherman
 - Dealer/processor
 - Charter For Hire captain
- Possess the appropriate MDMR resident license for the 2019 – 2020 fishing year (May 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020, for commercial fishermen and January 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020, for charter captains)
- Experienced greater than 35% loss in revenue for 2020
- Participant must not be debarred, not on the government “do not pay list”, and in good standing with the Federal and State Government.
- Participant cannot have previously been made whole by other CARES Act funds.

Applications close Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020, at 11:59 p.m., and no late applications will be considered. The funding allocation has been structured so that all applications submitted before the deadline will be considered.

[Click here to learn more about the program.](#)

[Click here to apply.](#)

TODAY: Deadline for Mississippi Agricultural Stabilization Act Applications



Today is the deadline for agriculture producers to apply for Mississippi Agriculture Stabilization Act ("MASA"). MASA is a self-certified application program for assistance due to the negative effects of the pandemic on Mississippi agriculture producers. The program has three separate funds within it: the Poultry Farmer Stabilization Grant Fund (\$3 million), the Sweet Potato Farm Sustainment Grant Program Fund (\$500,000), and the Mississippi Supplemental CFAP Grant Program Fund (\$9.5 million).

Allowable reimbursable COVID-related farm expenses include the following:

- costs to feed/care for livestock that would not have been spent but for COVID (e.g., cattle were not sold due to lack of demand, so extra feed was purchased by the farmer);
- costs associated with cancellations; additional supplies; additional hardware/software;
- project costs;
- training;
- overtime to cover for another employee in quarantine;
- PPE;
- Other expenses as noted on the program's [website](#).

All applications must be submitted online. If application requests exceed available funding, funds will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Again, **the deadline to apply is today, November 16, 2020.**

[Click here to apply.](#)

Recent Executive Orders

[Executive Order 1530](#)

Executive Order 1530 extends the Safe Recovery Order until 5 p.m. on Friday, December 11, and amends the list of counties with additional COVID-19 safety measures, including mask requirements, to only include Benton, Carroll, Covington, DeSoto, Forrest, Harrison, Humphreys,

Jackson, Lamar, Lauderdale, Leflore, Lee,
Marshall, Rankin, and Yalobusha
Counties.

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

Emergency Contact Information

Office of the Governor of Mississippi <i>Tate Reeves</i>	(601) 359-3150 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 (<i>toll-free</i>) 1-888-772-0061 (<i>toll-free</i>)