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KAPOLEI AND MAKAKILO



COVID-19 Resource Guide

Updated as of Friday, October 16, 2020

Aloha Friends,

In this latest edition of the Resource Guide, I have included the following information:

- The latest on the State's Pan-Pacific Travel testing program which began Thursday, October 15, 2020;
- An upcoming webinar featuring a noted Harvard economist who will speak on economic recovery;
- The City's new 'Farm-to-Food' program which is expected to provide roughly 100,000 meals to families in need by the end of the year;
- Available options and a phone app to download for unemployed residents who do not have health insurance coverage; and
- A new COVID-19 testing lab which was just launched by the City and the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.

Please feel free to contact me at 586-8500 or via email at rephar@capitol.hawaii.gov, should you have any comments or questions. Please continue to stay safe and healthy.

Aloha,

Sharon

What You Need to Know About State's Safe Travels Program

The State began its pre-travel testing option on October 15 that allows travelers an alternative to a mandatory 14-day quarantine. Travelers ages 5 years and older, who do not want to be subject to the 14-day quarantine, must take an approved COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to departure from the final leg of travel.

If results are not received prior to arrival, travelers will be required to self-quarantine until a negative test result is reported to the Hawaii Department of Health. Only results from trusted testing and travel partners will be accepted. A complete list can be found [here](#). Negative test results may be uploaded to the Safe Travels Digital Platform, and all travelers must also complete the state's mandatory travel and health form.

The counties are also requiring subsequent post-arrival tests. The requirements vary because each county has different COVID-19 situations and priorities. Hawaii island has the strictest requirements for travelers who must also take a county-administered COVID-19 antigen test upon arrival. The tests will be administered at Ellison Onizuka International Airport at Keahole, WaimeaKohala Airport and Hilo International Airport.

Kauai County will ask travelers to voluntarily take a second test 72 hours after they arrive, while Maui County plans to ask travelers to take a second test anywhere from 48 to 72 hours after they arrive. Maui and Kauai will offer coupons or other freebies to travelers who volunteer to take a second test.

The City and County of Honolulu does not yet have the capacity for a second test but is in the process of procuring a mobile lab that would be able to conduct up to 10,000 tests a day. Once the mobile lab is up and running, the post arrival test would be conducted at the airport, administered by a third party, and paid for by the traveler.

For answers to questions on the Safe Travels Program, visit: <https://hawaiiicovid19.com/travel/faqs/>.

Economic Recovery Webinar to Feature Harvard Economist

Noted Harvard economist Edward Glaeser will be featured in a webinar lecture entitled "Recovery to Resilience: Steps Toward the Post-COVID Economy" on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 8 am. Glaeser has published dozens of papers on cities' economic growth, law, and economics. In particular, his work has focused on the determinants of city growth and the role of cities as centers of idea transmission. The webinar will also feature Makena Coffman and Sumner La Croix, UH professors and research fellows at the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization (UHERO).



To register online, click [here](#). If you have questions about the event, please email btss@hawaii.edu.

'Farm to Food' Provides Free Meals to Needy

The City has partnered with local farms, non-profits and community health clinics to launch “Farm to Food,” a program which provides free meals to disadvantaged Oahu households and provides farmers with new markets for their produce.

Farm to Food is funded with \$4.3 million in CARES Act money. The program will utilize the funds to buy and distribute local produce throughout the island. The City predicts “Food to Farm” will provide roughly 100,000 meals to families in need by the end of the year and also help Oahu's farms and ranches to survive the impacts of the pandemic.

If you are in need, click [here](#), or call (808) 768-2489 to find resources for no-cost meals.



Options For Those Without Health Insurance

The Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs Insurance Division is encouraging Hawaii residents who lost health coverage at any point this year, regardless of job loss or other reasons, to immediately check www.healthcare.gov/sep-list/ and apply for coverage. They may be eligible to enroll in healthcare coverage and possibly qualify for a tax credit that lowers their premium through HealthCare.gov.

Those who experienced life changes other than job loss may also qualify if they were affected by COVID-19. If an individual did not experience any Special Enrollment Period (SEP)-qualifying events this year, they may still sign up for health insurance for 2021 starting on November 1, 2020. Others may also be eligible for Medicaid, which is open year-round. If you have questions, call the HealthCare.gov call center at (800) 318-2596.

Free App Gives Unemployed Access to Health Insurance

A free cell phone app from Hawaii HELPS (Health Enrollment Literacy Program and Service) is now available for those who have lost their jobs and health benefits but don't meet the low income criteria to qualify for Med-QUEST or Medicaid.

The new CardTapp app offers quick and easy enrollment, and will give users an instant quote. To download the app, click [here](#) or text "get insurance" to 36260 from any mobile device.



If you have questions or need help with enrollment, please call (800) 226-3660. To find out more about available health insurance options after a job loss, go to: <http://cca.hawaii.gov/ins/health-insurance-options-after-job-loss/>.

City, UH Medical School Open COVID-19 Test Lab

The City and the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine unveiled a new COVID-19 laboratory that can conduct up to 100,000 tests per year to support the seven community health centers that care mainly for Oahu's underserved population. The lab is able to do up to 500 tests per day with a turnaround time for results of between 24 to 48 hours.

Mayor Caldwell announced that beginning Monday, Oct. 19, 2020, the public can get a free COVID-19 test at the new lab. Priority will be given to underserved populations, with or without health insurance, and first responders. Go to oneoahu.org for more information.



Department of Health: No Trick-or-Treats This Year

The Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) is advising Oahu residents to skip trick-or-treating this Halloween to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19. DOH instead suggests stay-at-home Halloween-themed activities such as a movie night, virtual costume contests and pumpkin carving events with people from the same household.



Families who want to go door-to-door in costumes should know that traditional costume masks may not be sufficient to protect them from COVID-19. They are advised to consider using a Halloween-themed cloth face mask. For more tips on having a healthy Halloween, go to: <https://hawaiicovid19.com/safe-halloween/>.

How to Properly Use Masks and Face Coverings

When used properly, face masks can effectively protect you and others around you from COVID-19. They should be worn at all times at grocery stores, retail stores, restaurants or anytime you are around people who are not members of your household.

Keep in mind the following tips:

- Make sure the mask fits to cover your nose, mouth and chin. Don't wear the mask under your nose or below your mouth. A mask is only effective if it covers both ways you breathe.
- If you adjust a mask, wash your hands before and after.
- Make sure the mask is secured with ties or ear loops to prevent slipping. Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off your mask.
- Make sure you can breathe and talk comfortably through your mask.
- Wash reusable masks after each use. Cloth face masks can be washed in your regular laundry using hot water. You can also hand wash your masks, using hot, soapy water. Scrub the mask for at least 20 seconds and dry them on high heat in the dryer or in direct sunlight. Store clean masks in a clean place when you are not using them.

Mahalo for doing your part to keep Hawaii safe!