

In response to **COVID 19/CORONAVIRUS**

**BASIC NEEDS INFORMATION\***

**\*PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL INFORMATION BELOW IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE and we will do our best to update as needed.**

Please check the [Town of Berlin](http://www.townofberlin.com/) website for information including information about t[emporary closures of town buildings and offices.](http://www.townofberlin.com/home/urgent-alerts/temporary-closure-town-offices-effective-immediately)

For community communication and emergency notifications from our Public Safety, sign up for [CODE RED.](http://www.townofberlin.com/public-safety/pages/sign-codered-notifications)

The Commonwealth has partnered with [BUOY,](https://www.buoyhealth.com/symptom-checker/?configuration=ma_covid&concern=coronavirus) an online symptom checking tool.  Follow the prompts for guidance.  As always, call your health care provider if you are concerned

To receive [Updates from the Commonwealth](https://www.mass.gov/news/massachusetts-launches-a-covid-19-text-message-notification-system-text-covidma-to-888-777-for) via text:  From your cell phone:  text “COVIDMA” to 888-777

[Commonwealth of Massachusetts COVID-19 Information](https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19)

[Governor Baker Polito Action Response](https://www.mass.gov/news/baker-polito-administration-announces-emergency-actions-to-address-covid-19)

[CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/) Center for Disease Control

[Massachusetts Department of Public Health](https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19) Up to date information about the virus from the DPH.

**Specific to COVID-19: Residents with questions should dial 2-1-1 from any landline or cellphone. Callers dialing 2-1-1 will hear an automated menu of options. Callers press 2-6 for coronavirus. Residents can also reach 2-1-1 through a live chat option on the** [**Massachusetts 2-1-1 website**](https://mass211.org/)**.**

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Or go online to

<https://mass211.org/>

[Search for local social service organizations](https://www.helpsteps.com/hs/home/#/) Enter our zip code and click on your area of need to find local service agencies. 211 is a statewide human service information and referral platform. To be connected to a person who will help you locate human service organizations like SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and other organizations to help with Housing, Medical Care, Insurance and more.

United Way Economic Relief Fund for general questions about the Covid-19 Family Support Fund, please contact [info@supportunitedway.org](mailto:info@supportunitedway.org).

**Child Care Assistance**

The Commonwealth is working to establish Emergency Child Care facilities for parents who must continue to work.  Visit the [Early Childhood Education Emergency Guidance](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/early-childhood-education-emergency-guidance) page for information.  This is a new initiative that is still being implemented.

**Food and Nutrition Assistance**

[Berlin Family Food Pantry](https://berlinfamilyfoodpantry.org/client)

23 Linden Street, Berlin, MA

Call: Fran Gill at (978) 838-2508 if you find yourself in need of long term or temporary assistance due your individual situation including: illness, unemployment or school closing. This assistance is also available to all town employees. Currently due to the closure of the Town Offices, Food Pantry volunteers are working with clients to ensure that they receive the food, hygiene products and pet food that they need.

You can also fill out a new client form at:

<https://berlinfamilyfoodpantry.org/client>

[Wheat Community Cupboard and Cafe](https://www.uwotc.org/WHEAT)

272 High St., Clinton, MA 01510 508-370-4943 [jodi.breidel@uwotc.org](mailto:jodi.breidel@uwotc.org)

Packaged hot meals will be handed out 5-6 pm Monday - Friday.

Community Cupboard pantry hours are:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 am - 1:00 pm Monday and Thursday 4:30 pm - 6:00pm

SNAP [Department of Transitional Assistance](https://www.mass.gov/orgs/department-of-transitional-assistance) - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - Worcester Office

Call: (508) 767-3100

Or go online to: <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/> to apply online for meal and food buying assistance.

[Women, Infants, & Children Nutrition Program (WIC)](https://www.mass.gov/orgs/women-infants-children-nutrition-program) The Commonwealth’s nutrition program that provides healthy foods, nutrition education, and referrals to healthcare and other services, free of charge, to Massachusetts families who qualify.

[Apply online](https://www.mass.gov/forms/apply-for-wic-online)

Call: (800) 942-1007

[Project Bread](http://www.projectbread.org/news-and-events/news/covid-19-hunger-food.html)

Food Source Hotline: Monday- Friday: 8am - 7pm, Saturday: 10am - 2pm 1-800-645-8333

**Stores**

**Market Basket** in Hudson is open normal hours:

Phone Number 978.562.6345

Monday - Saturday: 7am - 9pm

Sunday: 7am - 7pm

SENIOR SHOPPING HOURS (Age 60 and over) Beginning Thursday, March 19, 2020.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 am - 7:00 am

**Stop and Shop**

10 Technology DriveHudson, MA 01749

Store Phone:

(978) 562-4111

Senior Shopping Hours (Age 60 and over) Beginning on Thursday, March 19, 2020

6:00 am - 7:30 am

**Shaws** in Hudson

201 Washington St

Hudson, MA 01749

(978) 562-4549

7 am - 8 pm and are still offering delivery at this time (3/18/20). [Order online](https://shop.shaws.com/?utm_source=_pn=ext&utm_medium=St=Yext_Crea=_Crt=&utm_campaign=CLI=ALB_Mcmp=EcommGD_Div=SHW)

[Berlin General Store](https://m.facebook.com/berlingeneralstore/)

(978) 838-2459 19 Central Street

6 am - 2 pm Providing take out meals, sandwiches, coffee, breakfast, and more.

[Balance Rock Farm](https://www.balancerockfarm.com/) (978) 838-2024 104 Highland St. Berlin, MA 01503

Sun - Wednesday 9am to 6pm \*Thurs: Closed Friday - Saturday 9 am - 6 pm.

Meat, cheese, milk and other local products

[Lilac Hedge Farm](https://lilachedgefarm.com/):

(774)249-4675

click “Shop Now” to order from the website <https://lilachedgefarm.com/>

Home delivery orders are open till Monday night for a Wednesday delivery, or there is pickup on 23 Walnut Street every Friday.

In response to COVID-19:

For the month of March waiving the delivery fee on any order over $50, Just use promo code DELIVER

Any order over $200 will receive a FREE Ribeye Steak!

This applies to home deliveries and pickup locations. Just add the steak into your shopping cart after spending $200.

[CVS Pharmacy at Target](https://www.cvs.com/store-locator/cvs-pharmacy-address/423+Donald+Lynch+Blvd-Marlborough-MA-01752/storeid=16846?WT.mc_id=LS_GOOGLE_RX_16846) 423 Donald Lynch Blvd Marlborough, MA 01752

 508-573-1005

Pharmacy Hours

Monday, Thursday and Friday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

All CVS pharmacies are offering FREE prescription delivery during the COVID-19 crisis. (after, there will be a delivery charge or you can pick up at store)

Start here: <https://www.cvs.com/content/delivery?icid=cvs-home-covid19-banner-Rx-delivery>

CVS in Hudson has the drive through option as well.

[Walgreens in Hudson](https://www.walgreens.com/rx-settings/home-delivery-pharmacy) also offers prescription delivery and drive through pick up.

256 Washington Street, Hudson, MA 01749

978-567-9360

Mon - Fri 9am – 8pm

Sat 9am – 5pm

Sun11am – 4pm

**Unemployment Assistance**

Gov. Charlie Baker and state officials are working toward making it easier to apply for and collect unemployment.

[Commonwealth Department of Unemployment Assistance COVID-19 specific information](https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-unemployment-and-coronavirus-covid-19)

They are urging those affected to apply online: <https://uionline.detma.org/Claimant/Core/Login.ASPX>

A special fund has been set up to support Bartenders

[Bartender Emergency Assistance Fund](https://www.usbgfoundation.org/beap?fbclid=IwAR1kt1zmEHNqYJ7K3s3RiL-Kp2l3FgOlJy4ipMGqfe5n-Fsu7rsz2CqO3BA)

**Housing Assistance**

**Housing**

[Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)](https://www.mass.gov/guides/a-guide-to-obtaining-housing-assistance)  Guide to obtaining housing assistance.

[Commonwealth of Massachusetts RAFT - Residential Assistance to Families in Transition](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-residential-assistance-for-families-in-transition-raft) if your family is experiencing a sudden hardship. Homeless Prevention Resources through the Commonwealth are through:

[RECAP - Resources for Community and People.](http://www.rcapsolutions.org/)

191 May Street

Worcester, MA 01602

Phone (800) 488-1969 email: hcec@rcapsolutions.org

* Rental Assistance Fax: 508-519-0779 HCEC Fax: 508-365-6008

Rental Assistance:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30AM to 4:30PM

Tuesday and Thursdayby appointment only

* RAFT Intake/HCEC:

Tuesday & Friday

9:00AM to 11:00AM

The Worcester office is currently closed as of (3/17/20 and will reassess on Monday (3/23/20)

In order to apply for assistance to pay for your rental, you can still fill out a form online or on paper: <http://www.rcapsolutions.org/hcec-application/>

**Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.**133 Prichard Street, Fitchburg, MA (978) 342-7013

<https://www.mocinc.org/services> is our Local Community Action Agency which provides services including, but not limited to homelessness prevention, fuel assistance, emergency food assistance head start, and early education and care programs.

**Utilities Including Fuel Assistance**

[National Grid](https://www.nationalgridus.com/COVID-19) continues to operate and is available online and by [phone.](https://www.nationalgridus.com/MA-Home//Contact-Us/Call-Us)

You can continue to pay your bill [online](https://www1.nationalgridus.com/CreateAnOnlineProfile)  with them, online with your current bank, or by mail. If you are having trouble paying your bill they will not shut off your electricity or move forward with collections activities. You are encouraged to call: 1-888-211-1313 or 1-800-322-3223

The Massachusetts Heat Line: 1-800-632-8175

[Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap) Help paying your heating bill.

Our local agency is:

[New England Farm Workers Council (NEFWC)](http://www.partnersforcommunity.org/default/index.cfm/fuel-assistance/forms-documents/)

North Central Massachusetts clients and applicants (Fitchburg Office)

473 Main St., 3rd floor Fitchburg , MA 01420 (978) 342-4520

Call, do not go directly to the office at this time.

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<https://www.mocinc.org/services> is our Local Community Action Agency which provides services including, but not limited to homelessness prevention, fuel assistance, emergency food assistance head start, and early education and care programs.

[Charter](https://corporate.charter.com/newsroom/charter-to-offer-free-access-to-spectrum-broadband-and-wifi-for-60-days-for-new-K12-and-college-student-households-and-more) will offer free broadband and WiFi for homes with students for 60 days.  Installation fees will be waived. This starts on Monday, March 23, 2020.

To enroll call 1-844-488-8395.

Charter also offers [Internet Assist](https://www.spectrum.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist) for low income households. Fill out the [form](https://www.spectrum.com/content/dam/spectrum/residential/en/pdfs/spectrum-internet-assist/Nov2019_SIA_Eligibility_Form_FINAL_REV.pdf) if you qualify.  You must be eligible for the following to apply:  The National School Lunch Program (NSLP); free or reduced cost lunch  The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the NSLP Supplemental Security Income (ages 65 + only).  Please help anyone to apply who may qualify for this service

**Health**

**Health Insurance:** [Massachusetts Health Connector offers extended enrollment for uninsured individuals to ease coronavirus fears](https://www.mahealthconnector.org/massachusetts-health-connector-offers-extended-enrollment-for-uninsured-individuals-to-ease-coronavirus-fears?fbclid=IwAR17hjQg3rDtBpDSa18bFJeMf7soI1BtdM63pxp5ZojhRrZxOk-58Ojlw88)

"To ensure everyone who wants access to covered coronavirus services has it, the Massachusetts Health Connector announced today [3/11/20] that uninsured residents can apply and get into coverage through a 45-day window running until April 25."

[Online Application](https://www.mahealthconnector.org/)

**Health Information:**

[CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/) Center for Disease Control

[Massachusetts Department of Public Health](https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19) Up to date information about the virus from the DPH.

**Mental Health Information**

[CDC managing anxiety and stress](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/managing-stress-anxiety.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fcoping.html)

[National Alliance on Mental Health](https://www.nami.org/getattachment/About-NAMI/NAMI-News/2020/NAMI-Updates-on-the-Coronavirus/COVID-19-Updated-Guide-1.pdf?lang=en-US) a guide for managing mental health during this time.

**Berlin Council on Aging** continues to offer Meals on Wheels and transportation to medical appointments.

Call: (978) 838-2750 or email: [coa@townofberlin.com](mailto:coa@townofberlin.com).

**Nashoba Nursing Services and Hospice and Nashoba Associated Board of Health**

(978) 425-6675

**Veterans Health Care**

Veterans experiencing symptoms should contact our local VA facilities.  Ours closest facilities are:

[Worcester VA Clinic](https://www.va.gov/find-locations/facility/vha_631GE)  605 Lincoln Street Worcester, MA 01605-1901

**Main Number:** 508-856-0104 **Mental Health:** 413-584-4040 x2336

Or

[Lake Avenue VA Clinic](https://www.va.gov/find-locations/facility/vha_631QB)  55 North Lake Avenue7th FloorWorcester, MA 01605-2300

**Main Number:** 413-584-4040 x6600

or

[Plantation Street VA Clinic](https://www.va.gov/find-locations/facility/vha_631QA) 377 Plantation Street Biotech Building 4 Worcester, MA 01605-2300 **Main Number:** 413-584-4040 x6500

Alternatively, Veterans can sign into [My HealtheVet](https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/web/myhealthevet/secure-messaging-spotlight) to send a secure message to VA or use [telehealth options](https://telehealth.va.gov/type/home).

Crisis Helpline:  Veteran's Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255

**Support for businesses**

**Commonwealth’s Response:**

[Small Business Recovery Loan](https://files.constantcontact.com/6171773f001/1783db9c-fbfc-4d28-a5bb-017f6a40fe01.pdf)

# [COVID-19 Resources and Guidance for Businesses](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-resources-and-guidance-for-businesses" \l "emergency-order-re:-gatherings-of-more-than-25-and-restaurants-and-bars-)

**Other Responses:**

[U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Program.](https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance)

[Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation $10 million COVID19 small business loan](https://www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org/what-we-offer/emergency-loan-funds/covid-19-loan-fund)

[Small business Disaster loan](https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela)

[$20,000 Business Loan for North Central Mass.](https://www.northcentralmass.com/emergency-micro-loan-program-launches/)