



# Pennsylvania Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## COVID-19 Update and Resources 10/2 - 10/16

### PA & Federal Updates

PA saw 17,802 new cases since October 2nd, bringing the total case count to 179,086 (includes confirmed and probable cases) in all 67 PA counties. View a breakdown of cases by region, county, gender, ethnicity, etc. [here](#).

The Wolf Administration held a press conference on October 14th to discuss a fall resurgence of COVID-19 and continued mitigation efforts in Pennsylvania as the state reported more than 1,000 newly confirmed cases for more than 10 days in a row. Secretary of Health Rachel Levine, MD, noted that data indicates an increase in test positivity rates and hospitalizations. [Learn more](#)

The weekly update from Pennsylvania's COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring Dashboard is available. It includes details on community transmission levels in each county and changes to Pa.'s COVID-19 travel recommendations. Learn more. Weekly contact tracing data is available [here](#).

The Pa. Department of Health announced rapid antigen test card distributions to CLIA-certified institutions – including long-term care facilities, primary care doctors, and many others - statewide. The tests will be used for targeted populations such as first responders, college students, and food workers. [Learn more](#)

Pa. DOH launches COVID Alert PA, the official mobile app by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) that uses the [Exposure Notification System \(ENS\)](#) provided by Apple and Google. [Learn more and download here](#). The Department's comprehensive [COVID Alert PA toolkit](#) is available for your use and contains an extensive catalog of marketing materials, including posters, social media posts, press releases, and other customizable content.

Dr. Levine announced new testing sites in Allegheny County and Dauphin County ([Learn more](#)), and in Northumberland County. [Learn more](#)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced new actions to pay for expedited COVID-19 test results. [Learn more](#)

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced a simplified process for businesses to apply for Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness for loans of \$50,000 or less. [Learn more](#)

### PA DOH Updates

#### **ADVISORY: Guidance on Reporting Point of Care SARS-CoV-2 Test Results October 8, 2020**

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued Emergency Use

Authorizations (EUA) for a number of COVID-19 point of care (POC) tests for rapid detection of SARS-CoV-2.

- These POC tests may be used by both traditional healthcare providers (e.g., hospitals, outpatient providers) and by non-traditional settings who have appropriate CLIA Certificate to conduct this testing.
- All entities conducting these POC tests are required to report these results, including positive, negative, and inconclusive/indeterminate, to public health authorities through PANEDSS.
- A number of mechanisms have been established to ensure reporters can be compliant in providing the results of POC tests. Information regarding these reporting mechanisms are detailed in the full message below.

[View full document](#)

### **ADVISORY: Point of Care Antigen Test Use and Interpretation**

October 8, 2020

- The availability and use of point of care (POC) antigen tests to detect SARS-CoV-2 is increasing.
- The main advantage of using these antigen tests is the rapid turnaround time for results; however, these tests are not as sensitive as molecular tests (i.e., PCR).
- Some sites may be new to using these POC tests and, in order to ensure accuracy of results, facilities conducting these tests should become familiar with good laboratory practices. Some laboratory best practices and suggestions for preventing errors are included in this message.
- Individuals using POC tests should understand antigen test performance characteristics in order to recognize potentially false negative or false positive results and to guide patient management.
- Assessment of the person being tested which would include the likelihood they have the disease or were exposed to COVID-19 should be considered when interpreting antigen test results and assessing the potential need for additional testing.
- The following message is being disseminated to address questions associated with antigen tests and assist with the use and interpretation of POC antigen tests.
- While some information contained in this HAN may be useful for long term care facilities, separate guidance for using antigen tests and the associated public health response in these facilities has been previously disseminated. Long term care facilities using antigen tests should refer guidance disseminated in HAN-526.

[View full document](#)

## **APPLY NOW FOR CARES ACT PROVIDER RELIEF FUND NEW PHASE!**



### **CARES Act Provider Relief Fund: New Phase of Provider Relief Fund Opens for Applications**

Providers are encouraged to apply for the latest round of Provider Relief Fund (PRF) support.

Applications will be considered regardless of whether your organization was previously eligible for, applied for, received, accepted, or rejected prior PRF payments. For this newest phase, funding will be allocated to providers based on assessed financial losses and changes in operating expenses caused by COVID-19. For more information about the Phase 3-General Distribution, please visit the [Provider Relief Fund webpage](#).

[Apply here](#) through November 6. Apply now, applications will be reviewed on first come first serve basis!

October / November 2020

### Provider Relief Fund

**NEW funding available!** Healthcare providers can now apply for additional payments from the Phase 3 General Distribution

Provider Relief Fund offers financial support to healthcare providers who have experienced lost revenues and/or expenses attributable to COVID-19.

**Up to \$20 billion**  
in payments to be distributed in the Phase 3 General Distribution

[Click here to apply!](#)  
Applications open Oct. 5, 2020



**Application & Payment**  
Nov. 6, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. ET is the deadline to submit both your Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and all financial information.  
Please submit your application quickly to expedite payment process

**Eligibility**  
Apply for Phase 3 if you experienced a decrease in operating income attributable to COVID-19  
You are eligible to apply whether you were eligible for, applied for, received, accepted, or rejected prior PRF payment

Payment is based on:  

- Assessed revenue losses and expenses attributable to COVID-19
- 2% of annual patient care revenue (if not previously received)
- Prior Provider Relief Fund distributions

**You may be eligible if you are a:**

- Behavioral health provider
- Dental provider
- Home and community-based services
- Primary care or specialty practice
- And many others

[See if you're eligible](#)

Recipients must attest to [terms & conditions](#) within 90 days of payment  
Distributions do not need to be repaid if providers comply with terms & conditions

**Download:**

- [Step-by-step provider guide](#)
- [Application instructions](#)
- [Sample application form](#)
- [HHS.gov/providerrelief](https://www.hrsa.gov/providerrelief)

For additional information, please call (888) 969-3322

**HRSA**  
HEALTH RESOURCES & SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

## Updates from AAP

Visit the COVID-19 [web page on AAP.org](#) to find updated resources such as clinical guidance, practice management resources, including tele-health and coding, educational resources for clinicians and families, data reports, a discussion board, and details on AAP advocacy efforts. For questions or comments related to the pandemic, email [COVID-19@aap.org](mailto:COVID-19@aap.org).

- The American Academy of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital Association Weekly Report-** 77,073 new child cases reported from 9/24-10/8 (608,718 to 685,791), a 13% increase in child cases over 2 weeks. [Learn more](#)
- AAP Resources**
  - Special Amazon Business Account Available for Members** - AAP has partnered with Amazon to offer a special business account so AAP members can purchase PPE quickly and easily. Members will get premier access to Amazon's wide product selection, competitive prices, and special access to COVID-19 supplies. In addition, members receive free shipping on orders over \$25. Find more information [here](#).
- AAP Updated Clinical Guidance**
  - [Family Presence Policies for Pediatric Inpatient Settings During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#): Guidance on family presence policies developed to support family-centered care for all children and particularly for children with special health care needs, including those with disabilities, medical complexity, and serious illness. (10/12/2020)
  - [Newborn Screening During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#): Guidance recommending that pediatricians continue to follow federal and state guidelines on newborn bloodspot screening, newborn hearing screening, and critical congenital heart disease screening. (Updated 10/6/2020)
  - [Frequently Asked Questions: Interfacility Transport of the Critically Ill Neonatal or Pediatric Patient with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19](#): Guidance for both ground and air patient movements that balances infection control with transport safety to reduce risks for medical staff and patients. (Updated 10/6/2020)
  - Updated Guidance: [Guidance on the Use of Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) for Pediatric Care in Ambulatory Care Settings During the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic](#) (Updated 9/30/2020)
- AAP News**
  - Study: Working in child care not linked to COVID-19 risk early in pandemic** by Melissa Jenco, News Content Editor on October 14, 2020

- [Read more](#)
- **How to handle requests for medical clearance, mask exemptions during COVID-19** by James P. Scibilia, M.D., FAAP on October 9, 2020  
[Read more](#)
- **AAP Flu Guidance & Resources**
  - A new [web page](#), Preparing for Flu Season, is now available. The page provides information and resources to help practices maximize influenza vaccination rates while keeping patients, families, and practice teams safe during the pandemic and includes a link to a recording of the Preparing Your Practice for the 2020-21 Influenza Season: A Virtual Townhall webinar.
- **New Resources for Families on Healthychildren.org**
  - [Should Your Child be Tested for COVID-19?](#)
  - [Having a Baby While Positive For COVID-19: FAQs](#)
- **Interactive Town Hall Series on COVID-19-** The AAP now hosts a bi-weekly series of virtual town halls linking members with leading experts to discuss emerging issues related to caring for patients and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **Session #: October 22, 2020 at 7:00 pm CT COVID-19 Town Hall Session: COVID-19 and Kids – What’s the Latest?** Join us for our next COVID-19 Town Hall session on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 7:00 pm CT. Get answers to your burning questions about COVID-19 in kids from AAP members with infectious disease, public health, and primary care expertise. Participants are encouraged to submit questions when they register, as well as during the live event.
    - Register [here](#).

## COVID-19 Resources

### [Where and who should get tested for COVID](#)

Click here for info and sites [www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/guidance/getting-tested-for-covid-19](http://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/guidance/getting-tested-for-covid-19)

[CVS Free testing sites](#)

[Rite Aid Free Testing Sites](#)

### [Community Resources Connect](#)

Click here and go down to COVID-19 info for COVID specific info as well as info in your zip code. [communityresourceconnects.org](http://communityresourceconnects.org)

### [PA 211: Housing, Food and Other Community Resources Across PA](#)

If you need to connect with resources in your community, but don't know where to look, PA 211 is a great place to start. From help with a utilities bill, to housing assistance, after-school programs for kids, and more, you can dial 211 or text your zip code to 898-211 to talk with a resource specialist for free.

<https://www.pa211.org/>

### [Khan Academy](#)

Free educational videos on all topics from K-12. Learn at your own pace.

[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

### [PA Crisis Text Line](#)

For Mental health crisis at this time individuals can text **PA to 741-741 (crisis text line)**

## Webinars

**Next Let's Talk Pediatric Community Forum-  
October 28, 2020**



PA AAP will take a pause on our COVID-19 related bi-weekly Let's Talk Pediatric Community Forum webinar series to provide a 3-part series on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Part of this series will be included in our upcoming Virtual Leadership Meeting- CME Portion. We will also be offering some upcoming afternoon vaccine webinars. More information and registrations to come!

### **Upcoming PA AAP Webinar and Learning Opportunity Dates:**

**October 28 from 8 - 9 PM | "Let's Talk: Implicit Bias" | Angelique Redus-McCoy, MD, FAAP**

**November 18 from 12:15 - 1:15 PM | "Let's Talk: From Vaccine to Vaccination" | Gary S. Marshall, MD, FAAP**

**November 18 from 7 - 9 PM | Fall Leadership Meeting CME Portion- "Implicit Bias" | Marcee White, MD, FAAP ; Danielle Dooley, MD, FAAP ; Jaquelyn Douge, MD, MPH, FAAP**

**December 3 from 12:15 - 1:15 PM | "Let's Talk: Addressing Disparities in Immunization" | Kristen Feemster, MD, MPH, MSHP, FAAP ; Johanna Vidal-Phelan, MD, MBA, FAAP**

**December 8 from 8 - 9 PM | "Let's Talk: Prioritizing Health Equity in Clinical Practice" | Katie Mcpeak, MD, FAAP**

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### **Recorded 10/14/20**

**"Continuing to Support Mental Health During COVID-19"**

Justin Schreiber, DO, MPH, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

### **Recorded 9/23/20**

**"COVID-19 Update: Ask the Infectious Disease Experts"**

Swathi Gowtham, MD; Susan Coffin, MD, MPH, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

### **Recorded 9/9/20**

**"Rising to the Challenge: Implementing Effective Flu Vaccine Delivery During the Pandemic"**

Susan J. Kressly, MD, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

### **Recorded 8/26/20**

**"Supporting Intimate Partner Violence Survivors and Their Children During the COVID-19 Pandemic"**

Maya Ragavan, MD, MPH, MS; Elizabeth Miller, MD, PhD; Rebecca Garcia, MS

[View Recording](#)

### **Recorded 8/12/20**

**"Developing a COVID-19 Vaccine at Warp Speed"**

Paul A Offit, MD, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

### **Recorded 7/22/20**

**"Considerations for the Reopening of Schools"**

Rachel Levine, MD, FAAP, David Rubin, MD, MSCE

[View Recording](#)

**Recorded 7/15/20**

**“Telehealth & Pediatrics 201: Beyond the Basics”**

Susan J. Kressly, MD, FAAP

[View Recording](#)

You can find the full list of recorded webinars [here](#)

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Please visit our website at [www.paaap.org](http://www.paaap.org) for more resources and information on COVID-19 for Pennsylvania pediatric providers. We are doing our best to maintain up-to-date information as it becomes available.

**PA AAP (COVID-19)**

Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics | 484-446-3000

