

COVID-19 Resource Guide

Dear Neighbors,

I wanted to reach out to provide important information on the ever-changing public health emergency surrounding the COVID-19 virus.

As your state representative, one of the things I can do to serve you is to help you sort through the clutter of information so that you can make the best decisions for your family.

Below are some of the essential and reliable resources to which you can turn for updates as well as some key places you can contact for help. You can always contact my office if you have any questions and my staff and I will work to connect you with the right resources.

We're all built tough in the Northwoods. I know we'll get through this--together.



**State
Representative
Mary Felzkowski**

Contact my Office

Phone: 608-266-7694

Email: Rep.Felzkowski@legis.wi.gov

Follow my Facebook page for updates: @RepFelzkowski

Website: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/35/felzkowski/covid-19-information/>

If Your Job Has Been Impacted

- **Official information from the state of Wisconsin** – Visit <https://evers.wi.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>. This is the site where official notices and orders are posted.
- **Unemployment Benefits** -- To begin the process of filing for unemployment, start at <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben/> and then click on “Apply for Benefits Online”. You will also see an option called “Handbook for Claimants”. This handbook will answer almost any question you may have.
- **For those seeking new or temporary work** – You can view what work is available in various occupations right from your home. Go to <http://wisconsinjobcenter.org/lookforjobs/in-demand.htm> to begin.
- **Local Resources** – You can call the North Central Wisconsin Job Center Help Desk at 888-258-9966.

If You Are at Higher Risk for Severe Illness

Based on quickly developing information, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) believes certain people may be at a higher risk for severe illness developed from COVID-19.

- **The CDC believes those at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 include:**
 - People aged 65 years and older
 - People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility
 - People with underlying medical conditions, which could include the following:
 - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - People who are immunocompromised including cancer treatment
 - People of any age with severe obesity or certain underlying medical conditions, such as those with diabetes or liver disease might be at risk
 - It's recommend that people who are pregnant be monitored

The amount of information available can be overwhelming. I want to provide you three trusted websites to receive accurate and up-to-date information.

- The Center for Disease Control <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- The Department of Health Services <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm>
- Federal Agencies Clearinghouse <https://www.coronavirus.gov>

If Your Business Has Been Impacted

- **Small Business 20/20** – Businesses with 20 or fewer employees may be eligible for up to \$2,000 over two months to cover costs such as rent, payroll, and utility bills to provide relief for fixed monthly expenses. Small businesses must apply for the grant through a local Community Development Financial Institution.
- **SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program** – Businesses with 500 or fewer employees may qualify for up to a \$2 million loan with interest rates of 3.75% for for-profit and 2.75% for nonprofits and payments for up to 30 years.
 - Loans can be used for working capital to keep business open and cover fixed costs and bills.
 - When filing out an application, SBA staff recommend saving your information, as the website has kicked individuals off while completing the application.
- Find more loan and grant information at <https://wedc.org/programs-and-resources/covid-19-response/>.
- If possible, nonessential businesses are encouraged to have employees work from home and maintain minimal basic operations such as payroll and security for your business.

Many questions have been raised about what businesses qualify as essential. DHS Emergency Order #12 outlines essential businesses as well as provisions for “manufacture, distribution, and supply chain for critical products and industries.” If you are unsure if your business is essential, WEDC recommends reviewing this provision before contacting them. Read the order at <https://evers.wi.gov/Documents/COVID19/EMO12-SaferAtHome.pdf>.

If You're Wondering How You Can Help

- **Donate Blood**—Right now, Red Cross inventory is at critical levels. Their sites are taking extra precautions to make sure giving blood is safe. If healthy, please consider giving blood by calling 1-800-RedCross or going to redcrossblood.org to find a blood donation location in your zip code.
- **Help Local Businesses**- My office has compiled a list of all the restaurants in our district that are currently offering delivery, carry out, or both. Please help our local small businesses weather the storm by buying a meal out when you can. Head to my website for the list.
- **Take Care Of Your Neighbors**- Offer to pick up groceries or prescriptions for elderly neighbors who should be staying home.