

COVID-19 Information for 32BJ Members and Families in Rhode Island

*****Information is changing rapidly. Visit state agency websites for the latest updates*****

Visit www.CDC.gov for the latest information on COVID-19 and what you can do to stay safe and help to prevent the spread

General Information

- Visit <https://health.ri.gov/diseases/ncov2019/>
- Call the COVID-19 info line at (401) 222-8022 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm daily or call 2-1-1 after hours.
- Public assistance: For information on SNAP, RI Works, Child Care Assistance, EBT Cards, Rite Care, and other agency programs, call 1-855-697-4347 or visit <https://healthyrhode.ri.gov/>

School meals

- “Grab and go” meals are available for children throughout Rhode Island. Visit <https://health.ri.gov/diseases/ncov2019/about/foodsites/> for a full list of pickup locations.

Nutrition & Public Assistance

- To apply for SNAP, call the DHS Call Center at 1-855-697-4347 or apply online at <https://healthyrhode.ri.gov/>
- For food assistance, visit <https://rifoodbank.org/> or call 2-1-1.
- For WIC benefits, call your local WIC office or the RIDOH Information Line at (401) 222-5960.

Utilities

- Effective March 16, shut-offs for electric, natural gas, water, and sewer utilities have been suspended through at least April 15. Residents facing disconnection for non-payment should call their utility company directly or contact the Consumer Section of the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers at (401) 780-9700.
- Cox Communications is offering discounted Internet plans for eligible families with K-12 children. Learn more at <http://www.cox.com/c2c>.



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Tenant & Homeowner Protections

- Effective March 19, Eviction proceedings are temporarily suspended for thirty days, but tenants for whom a judge has already ordered an eviction are not protected.
- Public housing residents with questions can contact Rhode Island Legal Services at (401) 274-2652 x123. Tenants in private rental housing can call the Rhode Island Center for Justice at (401) 491-1101.

Banking Mortgage Relief

- Homeowners who fall behind on their mortgage payments should call their mortgage companies to discuss hardship forbearance.

Health

- A special enrollment period for Rhode Islanders without health insurance is now available through April 15th, 2020 to qualified individuals who are uninsured. Visit HealthSourceRI.com to enroll, or call customer support or use our web chat function between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday – Friday at 1-855-840-4774.
- **If you are feeling sick, contact your healthcare provider.** Do not go directly to a healthcare facility without calling first unless you are experiencing an emergency.
 - For assistance finding a doctor, contact: Building Service 32BJ Health Fund, phone: (800) 551-3225
- If you are struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse issues, call BHI Link's 24/7 hotline at (401) 414-LINK.
- Drive-thru testing sites are available only to patients with a referral from the Health Department.

Transportation

- Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) Reduced Fare and No Fare bus pass expiration dates are being extended through at least mid-April.
- Visit <https://www.ripta.com/covid-19> for the latest information.

Charities

- Family Service of Rhode Island (Family Service of Rhode Island) is providing coronavirus prevention kits, including antibacterial soap, disinfecting wipes, alcohol-based hand sanitizers, and other items, for families in need. Kits are available at all FSRI locations: <https://www.familyserviceri.org/locations>.
- Rhode Island Pride, a statewide organization serving the LGBTQIA+ community, is donating emergency food and toiletries supplies. Request a delivery at <https://tinyurl.com/PrideRISupplyDrive>.
- Call the state-wide social services hotline at 2-1-1 or visit uwri.org for resources from United Way of Rhode Island.

