



COVID-19 Briefing for DHS Providers and Partners

Department of Human Services
May 15, 2020

Please submit questions via WebEx chat

Agenda

- I. Welcome and DHS Operational Status
- II. Updated FY21 Local Budget Timeline
- III. Federal Relief Updates
- IV. ESA Operational Status
- V. Human Services Data
- VI. FSA Operational Status
- VII. Question and Answer

DHS Operational Status (5/15/20)

Stay at Home Order Extended through June 8

DHS continues to deliver essential services:

- Low Barrier and Emergency Shelters – Open, extended hours
- Call Center – Open
- ESA Service Centers – Limited Services, varied by site
- Outreach – Limited Services
- Day Centers – DDSC limited, Zoe's Doors & Sasha Bruce open
- Virginia Williams Family Resource Center – Open, intake via telephone / Shelter Hotline
- FRSP case management, HPP, and ERAP: via telephone

Updated: FY21 Budget Timeline

- May 18: Mayor Releases FY21 Budget
- May 20: DCFPI/DHS Budget Briefing
- May 21: CNHED Budget Briefing
- May 22: Public Witnesses Provide Testimony for DHS, CFSA, and DDS
- May 26: Government Witnesses Provide Testimony for DHS, CFSA, and DDS

Federal Relief Updates

- Last week, the District announced how it proposes to spend CARES Act Funding for
 - Emergency Solutions Grant (\$4.6 million)
 - Community Development Block Grant (\$9.1 million)
 - Housing Opportunity for People with Aids (HOPWA) (\$1.6 million)

ESA: SNAP Updates

- SNAP Online Purchasing program launched on Wednesday, 5/13
- amazon.com/snap-ebt
- Emergency Allotments for May

THE SNAP ONLINE PURCHASING PROGRAM

LAUNCHING WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Effective Wednesday, May 13, 2020, District residents participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) may use their benefits to make authorized food purchases online at Amazon.com

HOW IT WORKS:



1. Add a SNAP EBT card to an Amazon account at **Amazon.com/snap-ebt** (Amazon account required to participate in the online program)



2. Shop online at Amazon.com using your EBT card (authorized food items labeled "SNAP EBT eligible")






3. Purchases are delivered at home! (minimum purchase amount required)

For more information, visit,
DHS.DC.GOV/SNAPINFO.

 GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

ESA: P-EBT Update

- DC is close to implementing Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program
- P-EBT is a new temporary federal food benefit for families who have one or more children who receive free or reduced-price school meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) at their school.

WHO	WHAT	HOW
		
Eligible households that have a child who receives free or reduced-price meals.	P-EBT benefits are intended to cover breakfast and lunch for five days a week.	P-EBT benefits can be used to purchase food and work like SNAP benefits.

ESA Operational Status

- Following Service Centers open only for pick up & drop off:
 - Taylor Street located at **1207 Taylor Street NW**
 - H Street located at **645 H Street NE**
 - Congress Heights located at **4049 South Capitol Street SW**
 - Anacostia Service Center & Fort Davis are temporarily closed
- DHS Call Center: **(202) 727-5355** open Monday through Friday, 7:30am-4:45pm
- EBT Cards Mailing
 - 5-7 days for EBT cards to arrive, call DHS Call Center for address updates
 - EBT Call Center: 888-304-9167; card activation requires head of household DOB & last 4 of SSN
 - Only H Street EBT Card Distribution Center open under modified hours:
 - Mond: 7:30am-4:45pm; Wed: 7:30am-12pm; Fri: 7:30am-4:45pm

Human Services Data – COVID-19

As of May 14 at 5pm:

- Number of individuals in shelter who have tested positive: 272
- Number of individuals in remote quarantine: 327
- Of individuals in remote quarantine, number of individuals from shelter: 326
- Total Number of Lives Lost Among Individuals in the Homeless Service System: 15

Updated Daily:

<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/page/human-services-agency-covid-19-case-data>

FSA: Unaccompanied Adults (1 of 3)

- Opening new PEP-V site for medically vulnerable residents experiencing homelessness
- Update on District's Isolation and Quarantine Sites

FSA: Unaccompanied Adults (2 of 3)

- Shelter Capacity/Census in low barrier shelters
- Plan for Hypothermia Rec Centers

FSA: Unaccompanied Adults (3 of 3)

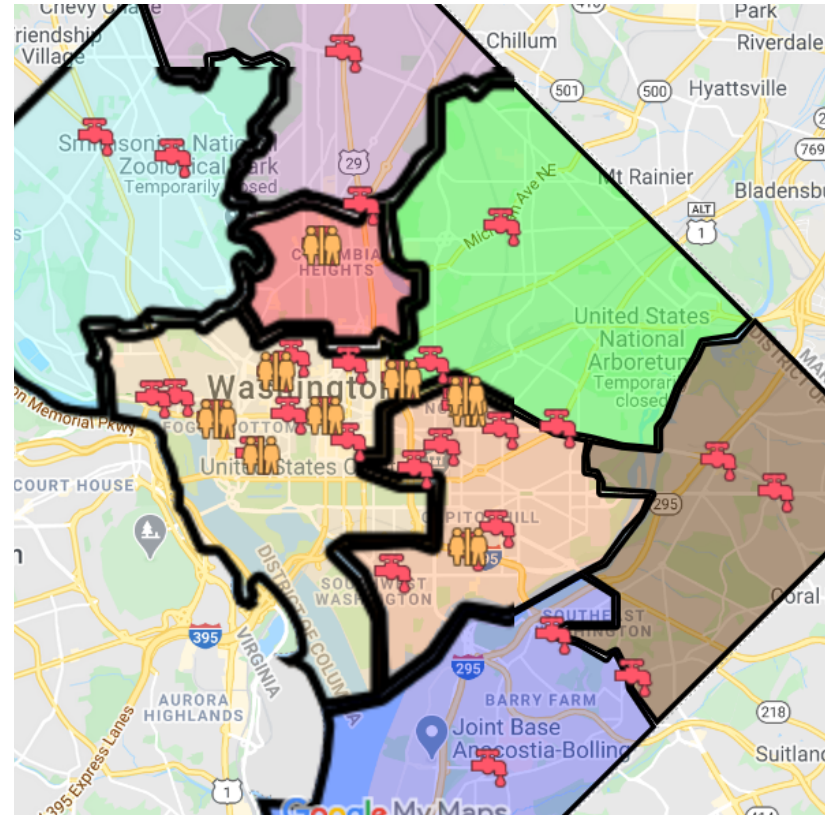


ABBOT ID NOW Machines

- Results in around 15 min
- Each instrument can do 10-15 tests a day
- Testing will be conducted by the on-site medical staff
- The Public Health Lab (PHL) must approve where machines are placed according to specific requirements

FSA: Unsheltered Individuals

- Safety Update
- Showers, laundry, charging stations
- Handwashing Stations and Porta Potties



FSA: Families and Youth

- **FRSP** - No new notice of cessation will be issued for families in FRSP for the month of May
- **ERAP** – Online application up and running. District residents can access scheduling app at dhs.dc.gov under ERAP page
- **VWFRC** - continued to provide shelter placement via telephone screening
- **SHELTER:** in cases where families choose to stay with their support system, families are being connected to Prevention Program
 - We continue to explore optimal use of the limited shelter beds to sustain year-round access to shelter for families

ReOpen DC

- DHS leadership and partners participating in Reopen DC Advisory Group Committees
- Will be phased process, not a single event
- During Phase 1, we anticipate no changes to CoC operations. Shelters will continue to operate 24-7, DHS will continue management of ISAQ & PEP-V, case management will remain remote where feasible, etc.
- We will be working with partners in the weeks ahead to consider what subsequent phase might look like.



Question & Answer

DHS modified operations:

<https://dhs.dc.gov/page/dhs-modified-operations-during-covid-19>

Web portal for homeless service providers:

<https://dhs.dc.gov/page/resources-homeless-service-providers>

Central inbox for requests and inquiries: dhs.covid19@dc.gov

Share tips, experiences, and photos to post:

dora.taylor-lowel@dc.gov