

COVID EMERGENCY GUIDELINES FOR DISCHARGED PATIENTS

TENANT ANTI-DISCRIMINATION RIGHTS

- Your landlord cannot evict you, kick you out, or ask you to leave your apartment for having COVID-19.
- Your landlord cannot evict you, kick you out, or ask you to leave your apartment for being under home-quarantine.
- Being under isolation or quarantine in a hospital or other facility does not change your tenancy – your apartment remains your primary residence.
- You will still need to pay rent during quarantine or any time in a medical facility, as is the case for any illness.
- Your landlord cannot discriminate against you, kick you out, or ask you to leave your apartment because of fears and stigma around COVID-19, including discrimination or harassment on the basis of actual or perceived race, national origin, disability, or other protected classes. If you are facing discrimination and harassment by your landlord, please visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/cchr/about/report-discrimination.page> or report it to the NYPD

HOUSING COURT AND NYCHA

- Housing court is closed and **all evictions have been suspended indefinitely**. All court dates are being rescheduled. You **do not need to go to court** until further notice, you will receive a postcard in the mail with a new date.
- There *will* be limited access to court for emergency matters such as illegal lockouts or extremely dire housing conditions like lack of heat or hot water.
- BUT, statutes of limitations have not been suspended so landlords are still filing new cases. You **do not need to go to answer a new case** until courts have reopened.
- NYCHA and other administrative hearings are also being postponed—if you have a case at 803 Atlantic Avenue, you **do not need to go to the hearing** and will receive a notice in the mail or a call from the NYCHA lawyer.
- If you live in NYCHA and your income is changing due to coronavirus, you can submit documentation of the changes on the NYCHA Self-Service Portal at <https://selfserve.nycha.info> so your rent will be adjusted.
- The HPD Client Services Center at 100 Gold Street in Manhattan is closed and hearings there are postponed indefinitely. **You do not need to go to a hearing** at 100 Gold Street. HPD will be suspending any subsidy termination actions until further notice.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, FOOD STAMPS, ETC.

- HRA offices remain open for new cash assistance or rental arrears applications. They are not taking any negative case actions for missed appointments or other program requirements, which means **you do not have to go to HRA appointments if you are sick**. Prior adverse actions can be resolved upon request. SNAP applications, recertification for current recipients, and some other actions can be completed here: <https://a069-access.nyc.gov/accesshra/>
- While offices remain open, HRA is beginning to take applications for emergency assistance and ongoing public assistance by phone.
- Patients with changes in income due to reduced hours or inability to work may be eligible for SNAP benefits.
- Social security offices are closed for in person service. People are encouraged to go online (www.socialsecurity.gov/online) or call their local office. For appointments already scheduled, they will call you instead from a private number. For scheduled hearings, they will call to discuss alternatives, including offering a telephone hearing. More information is available at www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/ , importantly, **benefits will continue to be paid**.
- Health insurance navigators are available by phone for Medicaid and private insurance applications. **Marketplace health insurance enrollment has been re-opened until April 15**. Individuals can apply for coverage through NY State of Health on-line at nystateofhealth.ny.gov, by phone at 855-355-5777, application assistance here: <https://www.nadap.org/services/ipa-navigator/>

DHS SHELTERS

- Most shelter eligibility processes remain in place. DHS has not suspended the obligations for families to prove they have no other housing options, for example.
- They are working on screening processes for clients who may be ill and on potential quarantine options where necessary.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

- NYS is waiving the 7-Day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who are out of work due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) closures or quarantines.

PAID SICK LEAVE

- The coronavirus emergency relief package, which became law on March 18th, gives many American workers paid sick leave if they need to take time off because of the

coronavirus. It provides qualifying workers two weeks of paid sick leave if they are ill, quarantined or seeking diagnosis or preventive care for coronavirus, or if caring for a sick family member. It gives 12 weeks of paid leave to people caring for children whose schools are closed or whose childcare provider is unavailable because of coronavirus.

- Most workers at small and midsize companies and non-profits can obtain the paid leave, as can government employees, as long as they have been employed at least 30 days. Those at companies with more than 500 people are excluded. Workers at places with fewer than 50 employees are included, but the Labor Department could exempt small businesses if providing leave would put them out of business.
- Employers can also decline to give leave to workers on the front lines of the crisis: health care providers and emergency responders. Part-time workers and the self-employed, including gig economy workers like Uber drivers, can also receive paid leave, assuming they pay taxes.
- People will be paid the full amount they are typically paid, up to a maximum of \$511 a day. If caring for a sick family member or a child whose school or day care is closed, they can be paid up to 2/3 of their typical pay up to \$200 per day.
- On March 18th, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed a bill guaranteeing paid leave for New Yorkers under mandatory or precautionary quarantine due to the coronavirus. It also provided for guaranteed paid sick leave for those not related to the virus. Employers with 4 or fewer employees and a net income of less than \$1 million will provide at least 5 days of unpaid sick leave each year. For more information visit <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-three-way-agreement-legislature-paid-sick-leave-bill-provide-immediate>

UTILITIES

- Coned and National Grid will not shut off service for non-payment during this time. For more information visit: https://www.coned.com/en/about-us/media-center/news/coronavirus/updates?utm_campaign=covid&utm_source=questline&utm_medium=email&utm_content=image-body and <https://www.nationalgridus.com/COVID-19>

TRANSPORTATION

- The MTA is still operating normally but has ramped up its cleaning efforts to promote the safety of all passengers.
- If you are coughing or have any cold like symptoms but have been discharged from the hospital, please wear a mask when riding the subways in order to protect yourselves and the ones around you.
- Please consider walking or riding a bicycle if available as these may be the safest ways of transportation as of now.

CONTACT NUMBERS

- DOH Corona Virus Hotline for health providers: 866-692-3641

- Department of Health 24/7 Hotline: 1-888-364-3065
- To receive regular updates on the latest developments text COVID to 692-692
- Questions about housing and tenants rights: call hotline: 883-503-0447