



EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL
**NEIGHBORHOOD
LEGAL SERVICES, INC.**

COVID-19 Resources

Unemployment Benefits

Apply for New York State unemployment online:
<https://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm>

Or by phone 888-581-5812

Apply immediately - the mandatory 7 day waiting period has been waived

Extended eligibility for individuals who have traditionally been ineligible for UI benefits (self-employed, contractors etc)

An additional \$600 per week, on top of the regular benefits and an additional 13 week of UI benefits beyond the regular 26 weeks

For questions about how unemployment will impact other services you may be receiving, call Neighborhood Legal Services

If you are filing a new unemployment insurance claim via phone or web, the day you should file is based on the first letter of your last name:

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
8a-7:30p	8a-7:30p	8a-7:30p	8a-6p	8a-7:30p	7:30a-8p
A—F	G—N	O—Z			
				Missed your filing day? File on Thu, Fri or Sat.	

Important: Filing later in the week will not delay your payments or affect the date of your claim, since all claims are effective on the Monday of the week in which they are filed.

Snap Benefits

Apply for SNAP online: <https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/>

Or call your local Department of Social Services to request a paper application, most offices are by appointment only.

Apply for HEAP online: <https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/>

Or contact your local Department of Social Services to request a paper application, most offices are by appointment only.

Having issues with the Department of Social Services or need help with benefits, contact Neighborhood Legal Services for assistance.



Housing Issues

Courts will not hear eviction cases and no one will be put out of their homes until further notice. What this means is your landlord can not put you out. You still owe your landlord rent for each month you live in your rented home.

If your landlord does try to evict you or put you out, first call 911. Neighborhood Legal Services can also help you.

If you are living with unsafe housing conditions or you are without water, heat or electricity, you can call Neighborhood Legal Services for help.

If you have a mortgage payment and are not able to make your payment, contact your lender. You may have options. Foreclosures are currently suspended.



Call us for assistance or questions

Erie County: 716-847-0650 Niagara County: 716-284-8831

Wyoming, Genesee and Orleans Counties: 585-343-5450

Family Law Updates

All Temporary Orders of Protection are extended 90 days.

Courts will hear cases involving:

- urgent Juvenile Delinquency proceedings,
- Child Protective Proceedings where there is an imminent risk of harm to the child,
- Family Offense matters,
- emergency support matters,
- urgent guardianships,
- urgent adoptions,
- applications for orders of protection, and
- any other matters deemed essential by the Court

All non-emergency court cases are adjourned until after April 30, 2020.

You will receive a notice from the court about your next court date



You can file non-emergency cases by mail. Call Neighborhood Legal Services for assistance or visit <http://ww2.nycourts.gov/forms/familycourt/index.shtml> for forms

Social Security Administration (SSA) Updates

Anyone currently on Social Security benefits should continue to receive the income either by check or direct deposit.

Most business can be accomplished on <http://www.ssa.gov/onlineservices>. You may also call your local office's General Information line.

SSA will take applications for benefits and assist people already receiving benefits. SSA is prioritizing the critical claims first.

Some overpayments may be suspended, contact Neighborhood Legal Services for more information.

Health Insurance updates



New York State of Health Marketplace has re-opened for people to apply for health insurance impacted by COVID-19. Need help, call Neighborhood Legal Services to speak with a Navigator

COVID-19 testing is free for all eligible New Yorkers as ordered by a health care provider

Mental health services, call the state's hotline at 1-844-863-9314 to schedule a free appointment

If you or someone you know is having issues with home health care services, nursing home or rehab services during the pandemic, call Neighborhood Legal Services

Economic Impact Payments

Eligible taxpayers who filed tax returns for either 2019 or 2018 will automatically receive an economic impact payment of up to \$1,200 for individuals or \$2,400 for married couples. Parents also receive \$500 for each qualifying child.

People who typically do not file a tax return may need to file a simple tax return to receive an economic impact payment. Social Security recipients who are not typically required to file a tax return do not need to take an action, and will receive their payment directly to their bank account.

[IRS.gov/coronavirus](https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus) will soon provide information instructing people in these groups on how to file a 2019 tax return with simple, but necessary, information including their filing status, number of dependents and direct deposit bank account information.

Questions about how this payment may impact other services you receive, call Neighborhood Legal Services



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