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Below please find the Murphy office update on COVID-19. As always, if you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our Hartford or Washington, D.C. offices.

Here's what you need to know today, April 23rd:

- After hearing from small businesses in Connecticut about the lack of transparency regarding federal loans, Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal today [sent a letter](#) to the U.S. Department of Treasury and Small Business Administration (SBA) urging the agencies to give detailed data about the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Emergency Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program, including the types of businesses, lenders, and loan amounts for each program in the state of Connecticut.
- Today, Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal joined their colleagues in sending a letter to the U.S. Department of Treasury calling on the department to ensure that families who are not required to file taxes and will automatically receive their COVID-19 stimulus payment do not need to wait until next year to receive the additional \$500 payment per dependent child.
- Senators Murphy and Blumenthal [joined](#) seven of their Senate colleagues in a letter pushing the Trump administration to immediately craft, release, and implement a plan that includes robust testing for the coronavirus and expanded contact tracing. Contact tracing is a process used to limit the transmission of infectious diseases by identifying, contacting, and monitoring individuals who recently interacted with infected people.
- Governor Lamont announced that the State of Connecticut issued a request seeking organizations that want to partner with the state in its efforts to significantly scale up its daily COVID-19 testing capacity as part of its efforts to reopen the state's economy.
- The Connecticut National Guard Tuesday began setting up a 200-bed recovery site for COVID-19 patients at Kaiser Hall on the Central Connecticut State University campus in New Britain. If needed, the site will be used for patients who still require care but can be discharged from nearby hospitals, freeing up beds for patients whose symptoms are more acute.
- Congress recently passed Pandemic Unemployment Assistance for part-time and self-employed workers – as well as Pandemic Unemployment Compensation that includes an extra \$600 per week for those who are unemployed. To find more information on how these programs work and if you qualify, head to: <https://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/DOLCOVIDFAQ.pdf>.
- The U.S. Department of Education [announced](#) it's releasing \$6 billion in stimulus funding to help colleges adjust to closures and distance learning. Connecticut colleges will receive approximately \$67 million.

- Yesterday, Senator Murphy [issued](#) a statement opposing President Trump's decision to temporarily suspend immigration into the United States for 60-days during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For information on federal coronavirus relief, including help for small businesses, direct cash payments and more, visit murphy.senate.gov/coronavirus. This page provides answers to frequently asked questions and gives a summary of available programs and funding.

For the latest information about keeping you or your family safe go to cdc.gov/coronavirus. For resources and information about Connecticut's response visit ct.gov/coronavirus.

I hope you found this letter helpful. You can get the latest updates on Senator Murphy's work in the Senate by following him on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our offices in Hartford or in Washington, DC.



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