



FEMA

March 25, 2020

Contact: Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Division

Advisory

Federal Partners Continue Providing Resources for COVID-19 Response Efforts

The federal government continues to take aggressive and proactive steps to address the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The health and safety of the American people is our top priority.

We are halfway through [15 Days to Slow the Spread](#). Do your part to flatten the curve:

- Stay home as much as possible.
- If you need to go out, practice social distancing.

Under the direction of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, FEMA, HHS and our federal partners are working with state, local, tribal and territorial governments to execute a whole of government response to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and protect the public.

On March 22, President Trump directed the Secretary of Defense to allow the states of California, New York and Washington use of the National Guard in a Title 32 status to support state and local emergency assistance efforts. This allows the governors to activate the National Guard to support their disaster response efforts, on a fully reimbursable basis and under their respective command and control, if that becomes necessary. To date, more than 9,000 National Guard troops have activated to help with testing and other response efforts. Additional states can request this assistance and those requests will be considered.

On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of Stafford Act. The President's action cuts red tape and bureaucracy and avoids governors needing to request individual emergency declarations. In addition, the states of New York, Washington, California, Iowa and Louisiana were approved for major disaster declarations to assist with additional needs identified in these states.

11 states and 4 tribes have issued full stay-at-home orders; in addition, 5 states have issued partial or localized orders.

Medical supplies are en route to states, including respirators, surgical masks and gowns, face shields, coveralls and gloves, with quantities already delivered to Washington, New York and California. We anticipate additional supplies will be delivered within the next 24 hours. The U.S. Navy hospital ship Mercy is en route to Los Angeles to provide additional hospital beds and medical staff and is expected to arrive by March 27. The U.S. Navy hospital ship Comfort is scheduled to arrive in New York on April 7. FEMA issued a \$350 million Mission Assignment to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for construction of alternate care facilities in New York. Four sites have been selected.

Please see attached for updated information on the federal response efforts, Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS), Ventilator Guidance, Defense Production Act, Disinformation and Rumor Control, How to Help for volunteers and the private sector, and information on the Strategic National Stockpile.

If you have any questions, please contact the National Business Emergency Operations Center at NBEOC@max.gov.

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- [FEMA COVID Advisory 3.25.20.pdf](#)