

PETERSBURG BOROUGH & PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER UNIFIED COMMAND



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JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UNIFIED COMMAND SITUATION UPDATES

 Date: May 20, 2021
 From: Petersburg Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 Contact: Karl Hagerman, Petersburg Borough EOC Incident Commander Phil Hofstetter, Petersburg Medical Center Incident Commander

INFORMATION RELEASE

This brief responds to questions and provides an update on information from the Emergency Operations Center Unified Command (EOC) and its partner agencies. Contact the EOC with your questions or sign up to receive press releases: <u>eoc@petersburgak.gov</u>.

ANYONE 12 OR OLDER CAN GET VACCINATED

Help us continue to spread the word! Anyone 12 or older can now get a free COVID-19 vaccine. The two-shot Pfizer vaccine has been authorized for youth 12 and older. While it's true that most children with COVID have had mild cases, they can still spread the disease to people who are more vulnerable. The more people, including this group of kids, we can get vaccinated, the sooner we can stop the spread and put the pandemic behind us. If you have questions or are ready to get yourself or your child vaccinated call 772-5545 or visit www.pmcak.org

REXALL DRUGS NOW PROVIDING COVID VACCINE

The drugstore is now providing the COVID-19 vaccine for adults. Call 907-772-3265 for more information.

LOCAL FACE COVERING MANDATE & NEW CDC GUIDANCE

Petersburg still has a face covering mandate in place. The EOC requests that all residents and visitors cover their face in public settings until the local face covering mandate expires.

GET TESTED AT THE FIRST SIGN OF SYMPTOMS

Testing is free, fast and essential to curbing the spread of COVID. Who should get tested for COVID-19? People with symptoms, regardless of vaccine status, those who have had recent contact with a known positive case and people who have taken part in activities that put them at higher risk for COVID-19 because they cannot physically distance as needed to avoid exposure, such as travel,

COVID HOTLINE 907-772-5788



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attending large social or mass gatherings, or being in crowded or poorly ventilated indoor settings. If you have symptoms, call the hotline at 907-772-5788. To schedule an asymptomatic test, call 907-772-4299.

TIPS FOR HANDLING YOUR COVID-19 VACCINATION CARD

Keep your vaccination card safe between doses and afterwards. Store the original in a safe place. Take a picture of your card to keep a digital copy on your phone or email or carry a photocopy of your card. If you have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine in Alaska and need proof of vaccination, call the clinic at 907-772-4299 or the local Alaska Public Health Nurse at 907-772-4211. A new card will not be issued however a printout from the Alaska Vaccine Tracking system will be provided, 24 hour notice is requested.

VACCINATION TAX CREDIT

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) allows small and midsize employers, self-employed, and certain governmental employers, to claim refundable tax credits that reimburse them for the cost of providing paid sick and family leave to their employees due to COVID-19, including leave taken by employees to receive or recover from COVID-19 vaccinations. The ARP tax credits are available to eligible employers who pay sick and family leave for leave from April 1, 2021, through September 30, 2021. Find basic facts about the employees who take leave to receive or recover from COVID-19 vaccinations at:

https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/employer-tax-credits-for-employee-paid-leave-due-to-covid-19

EMERGENCY BROADBAND BENEFIT PROGRAM NOW OPEN

The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) program that provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying low-income households. If your household is eligible, you can receive:

- Up to a \$50/month discount on your broadband service and associated equipment rentals
- Up to a \$75/month discount if your household is on qualifying Tribal lands
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a copayment of more than \$10 but less than \$50)

Only one monthly service discount and one device discount is allowed per household.

The program will end when the fund runs out of money, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the COVID-19 health emergency, whichever is sooner. How to apply: <u>https://getemergencybroadband.org/how-to-apply/</u>

Information from GCI: <u>https://www.gci.com/internet/emergency-broadband-benefit-program</u>

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PANDEMIC-ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER (P-EBT)

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) provides nutrition benefits to students who have lost access to free or reduced-price school meals, including students who have hybrid schedules that reduce the number of days or hours they are in the school building, or who are fully remote learning (even if their school is open to some students). It never hurts to try and apply at schoolcafe.com to become eligible.

LOCAL TRAVEL GUIDELINES

	FULLY VACCINATED	NOT VACCINATED
TRAVELING FROM WITHIN ALASKA	TESTING IS RECOMMENDED But not required	TESTING IS RECOMMENDED But not required
TRAVELING FROM OUTSIDE OF ALASKA	SHOW VACCINATION RECORD CARD TESTING RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED	 FILL OUT A STATE TRAVEL FORM BEFORE YOU TRAVEL <i>WWW.ALASKA.COVIDSECUREAPP.COM</i> TESTING IS REQUIRED - SCREEN AT AIRPORT TENT UPON ARRIVAL <i>GUIDELINES AT WWW.PSGCOVIDINFO.NET</i>

For more information visit <u>https://www.psgcovidinfo.net/travel-testing</u>

