



PETERSBURG BOROUGH | PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER  
EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER UNIFIED COMMAND

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

Date: August 20, 2020  
From: Petersburg Emergency Operations Center (EOC)  
Contact: Sandy Dixson, Acting Petersburg Borough EOC Incident Commander  
Phil Hofstetter, Petersburg Medical Center Incident Commander

**FOR IMMEDIATE 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 at [eoc@petersburgak.gov](mailto:eoc@petersburgak.gov).

	Cumulative	Active	Recovered	Deceased
<b>Resident</b>	7	0	6	1
<b>Non-resident</b>	7	1	6	0

For current information about local case counts visit: [www.psgcovidinfo.net](http://www.psgcovidinfo.net)

**REGISTER ON THE TRAVEL PORTAL BEFORE YOU GO**

For both Alaska residents and non-residents, creating an account on the **Alaska Travel Portal** <https://www.alaska.covidsecureapp.com/> prior to traveling into Alaska will decrease your wait time at the airport. The portal will also guide you through the new travel guidelines according to your situation. Registering before travel so you know what to expect is highly recommended.

**MOST NEW IN STATE CASES NOT TRAVEL RELATED**

According to the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services most new cases in Alaskans are acquired from other Alaskans who have not traveled. Transmission between Alaskans at social gatherings, within families, at community events, churches and bars has significantly contributed to the rise in cases. Alaskans should avoid gatherings, wear face coverings in public, keep six feet of distance from non-household members and practice good hand hygiene to slow transmission of COVID-19.

**TRAVEL GREETERS NEEDED**

The Petersburg Borough is seeking several Temporary Travel Greeters as soon as possible. Interested parties should contact Sandy Dixson at (907)518-0119. Temporary Travel Greeters assist with public health outreach by helping incoming travelers to register in the State Travel Portal and complete forms, screen/process travel documentation and follow Mandate 10 guidelines. Worksites include but are not

limited to the Petersburg Airport and may include other travel arrival sites. Work shifts will be based on the arrival times of travelers into the Petersburg community. \$25 per hour. Details at [https://www.ci.petersburg.ak.us/index.asp?SEC=E9D4F968-9398-46DD-923D-A11FBADEE39F&DE=CBF646D6-ED77-4BDC-93D2-48F99B2DBE11&Type=B\\_JOB](https://www.ci.petersburg.ak.us/index.asp?SEC=E9D4F968-9398-46DD-923D-A11FBADEE39F&DE=CBF646D6-ED77-4BDC-93D2-48F99B2DBE11&Type=B_JOB)

### **CONNECT WITH COVID EXPERTS**

Stay informed about COVID-19 in Alaska with Alaska Health and Social Services, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), and other experts through Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes). These video conferences connect Alaska's COVID-19 experts with specific audiences on specific topics. Find a session for educators, healthcare providers, the general public, and more. Register at [bit.ly/2E7D7Zp](http://bit.ly/2E7D7Zp)

### **ABSENTEE VOTING IN OCT 6 LOCAL ELECTION**

If you have health concerns about going to the polls on Election Day, or simply prefer the convenience of voting by mail, you can apply for an absentee-by-mail ballot. Absentee ballots and Absentee Ballots by Electronic Submission Application may be requested to be sent by mail by contacting Debbie Thompson ([dthompson@petersburgak.gov](mailto:dthompson@petersburgak.gov)/772-5405), calling the Finance Office front desk (772-4425), or stopping by the Finance Office. Absentee in-person voting for the October 6, 2020 municipal election will be held M-F in the Municipal Building Training Room from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. beginning on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. Absentee in-person voting will close at noon Monday, October 5, 2020.

### **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

Governor Mike Dunleavy has authorized the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development to begin the FEMA application process and utilize state UI Trust Funds that will result in a \$300 weekly increase in unemployment benefits.

### **IRS – ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENT – CHILDREN**

IRS has reopened registration for individuals who receive Social Security, SSI, Veterans Affairs or Railroad Retirement who did not receive \$500 per child payments earlier this year. For those who receive Social Security, SSI, RRB or VA benefits and have not used the Non-Filers tool to provide information on their child, they should register online by Sept. 30 using the Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here tool, available exclusively on [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov). Remember, anyone who filed or plans to file either a 2018 or 2019 tax return should file the tax return and not use this tool. For those unable to access the Non-Filers tool, they may submit a simplified paper return following the procedures described in this FAQ on [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

### **QUESTIONS ABOUT SYMPTOMS OR TEST RESULTS? CALL THE HOTLINE**

Anybody can get tested who has ANY of the following symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, a decreased appetite, diminished sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle or joint aches, nausea, rash, rigors, a runny nose, a sore throat, sputum production. Anyone with any symptoms is encouraged to call PMC's 24-hour **COVID-19 hotline (907) 772-5788**. Experienced nurses are answering the calls.