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State Senator
**LINDSEY M.
WILLIAMS**
Your District 38 Update



Town Hall for Small Business Owners and Community Leaders

As Minority Chair of the Community, Economic, and Recreational Development Committee, I'm pleased to host Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary Dennis Davin for a Zoom Town Hall on May 22 at 1 PM. We'll be taking questions from small business owners and community leaders about the impacts of Coronavirus and what the state can do to help.

Register in advance for this meeting: www.SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/DCEDtownhall.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Town Hall for Small Business Owners and Community Leaders

Friday, May 22 @ 1 PM



Senator Lindsey M. Williams
Minority Chair, Community,
Economic, and Recreational
Development Committee



Secretary Dennis Davin,
Department of Community and
Economic Development

Register at
SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/DCEDTownHall

Shredding Event Rescheduling

Unfortunately, we had to reschedule our Free Shredding Event originally scheduled for Saturday, May 16th due to the difficulty of complying with social distancing protocols. The good news is we have a new date, Saturday, August 15th at the Shaler Library. More details to come!



Allegheny County Moves to Yellow Phase of Reopening Today, May 15th!

Governor Wolf began the process of reopening Pennsylvania on May 8th by moving 24 counties to the yellow phase of his plan. On May 15, he added 13 more counties, including Allegheny, Butler, Washington and Westmoreland. The Administration is using a data tool created by their partner, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) called Risk-Based Decision Support Tool. This tool looks at the impacts of risk factors, such as reported number of COVID cases per population of an area; ICU and medical/surgical bed capacity; population density; population over age 60; and reopening contact risk, such as the number of workers employed in a currently closed industry sector. This has allowed for the continued mitigation of COVID cases.

The following chart explains Governor Wolf's Reopening Phases. There is no specific timeline for a county to move from one phase to the next as it is dependent on the risk factors. You can find more details at <https://www.governor.pa.gov/plan-for-pennsylvania/>.

COVID-19 REOPENING PHASES

	WORK & CONGREGATE SETTINGS	SOCIAL SETTINGS
RED PHASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LIFE-SUSTAINING BUSINESSES ONLY • RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE FOR PRISON + CONGREGATE CARE • SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION • MOST CHILD CARE CLOSED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAY AT HOME ORDERED • LARGE GATHERINGS PROHIBITED • RESTAURANTS/BARS LIMITED TO CARRY-OUT + DELIVERY • ONLY TRAVEL FOR LIFE-SUSTAINING PURPOSES
YELLOW PHASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TELEWORK MUST CONTINUE WHERE FEASIBLE • BUSINESSES WITH IN-PERSON OPERATIONS MUST FOLLOW SAFETY ORDERS • CHILD CARE OPEN WITH WORKER + BUILDING SAFETY ORDERS • RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE FOR PRISON + CONGREGATE CARE • SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAY AT HOME RESTRICTIONS LIFTED IN FAVOR OF AGGRESSIVE MITIGATION • LARGE GATHERINGS PROHIBITED • IN-PERSON RETAIL ALLOWED CURBSIDE/DELIVERY PREFERRED • INDOOR RECREATION, HEALTH AND WELLNESS FACILITIES (SUCH AS GYMS, SPAS), AND ALL ENTERTAINMENT (SUCH AS CASINOS, THEATERS) REMAIN CLOSED • RESTAURANTS/BARS LIMITED TO CARRY-OUT + DELIVERY
GREEN PHASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL BUSINESSES MUST FOLLOW CDC AND PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GUIDELINES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGGRESSIVE MITIGATION ORDERS LIFTED • INDIVIDUALS MUST FOLLOW CDC AND PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GUIDELINES

Unemployment Update

Over the last eight weeks, Pennsylvania has paid out almost \$7 billion in jobless benefits,

including more than \$2.14 billion in federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation benefits.

FEDERAL CARES ACT

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND DO ABOUT THE FEDERAL CARES ACT

The federal CARES Act was signed into law March 27, 2020. The Act provides enhanced Unemployment Compensation (UC) benefits and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) for Pennsylvanians. This new law provides:

Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) - Additional Benefits: An additional \$600 per week, on top of regular benefits, to all UC recipients

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) - Self-Employed, Contractors
Expanded eligibility for individuals who have traditionally been ineligible for UC benefits (e.g., self-employed workers, independent contractors)

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) - For UC Benefit Exhaustees: An additional 13 weeks of UC benefits, beyond the regular 26 weeks already provided, for a total of 39 weeks of coverage.



CONTACT



uc.pa.gov



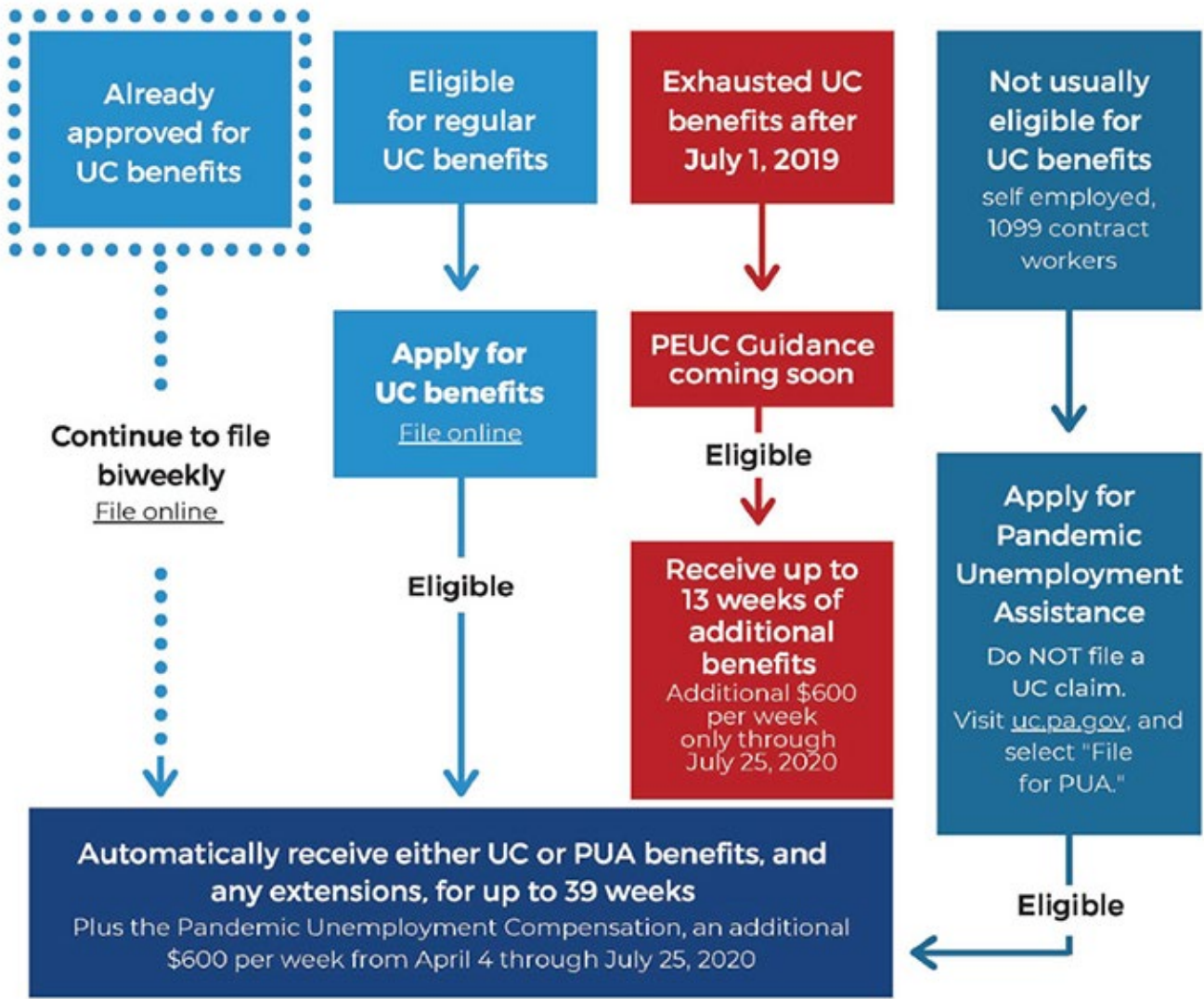
uchelp@pa.gov



877-978-1295

You can now apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), expanded eligibility for individuals who have traditionally been ineligible for unemployment benefits (e.g. self-employed workers, independent contractors, gig workers). Don't forget that for PUA, you need to file weekly certifications to receive benefits, via the [Pennsylvania's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Portal](#).

Find additional instructions on filing regular unemployment compensation benefits online [here](#).



PennDOT Update

PennDOT has announced that you can now renew your Drivers License or Photo ID card without getting a new photo. Anyone applying for renewal after May 10th can receive their new card using their existing photo. There will be no camera cards issued and the new card should be received within 15 days.

PennDOT has extended expiration dates to June 30th for licenses and ID cards that have expired since March 16th. Noncommercial and ID customers can renew online or by mail. Commercial drivers must renew by mail.

You can access driver and vehicle online services at www.dmv.pa.gov 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This includes driver's license, photo ID and vehicle registration renewals; driver-history services; changes of address; driver license and vehicle registration restoration letters; ability to pay driver license or vehicle insurance restoration fee; and driver license and photo ID duplicates. There are no additional fees for using online services.

Frequently Asked Questions

Driver and Vehicle Services

What if my driver's license, photo ID card, learner's permit or camera card is scheduled to expire?

Driver licenses, photo ID cards, learner's permits and camera cards scheduled to expire from March 16, 2020 through May 31, 2020 now have an extended expiration date of **June 30, 2020.**

Driver licenses and photo ID cards may also be renewed online anytime at [DMV.pa.gov](https://dmv.pa.gov).

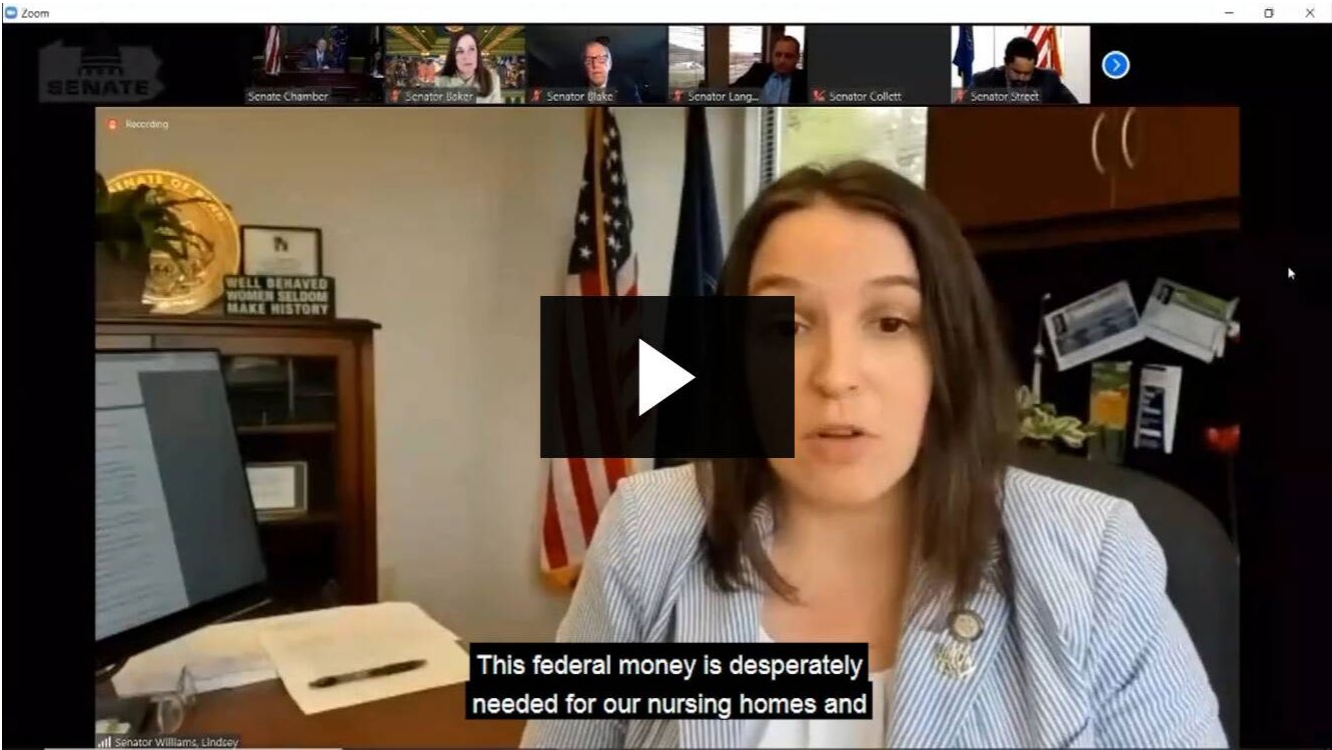


PennDOT.gov/pages/coronavirus.aspx

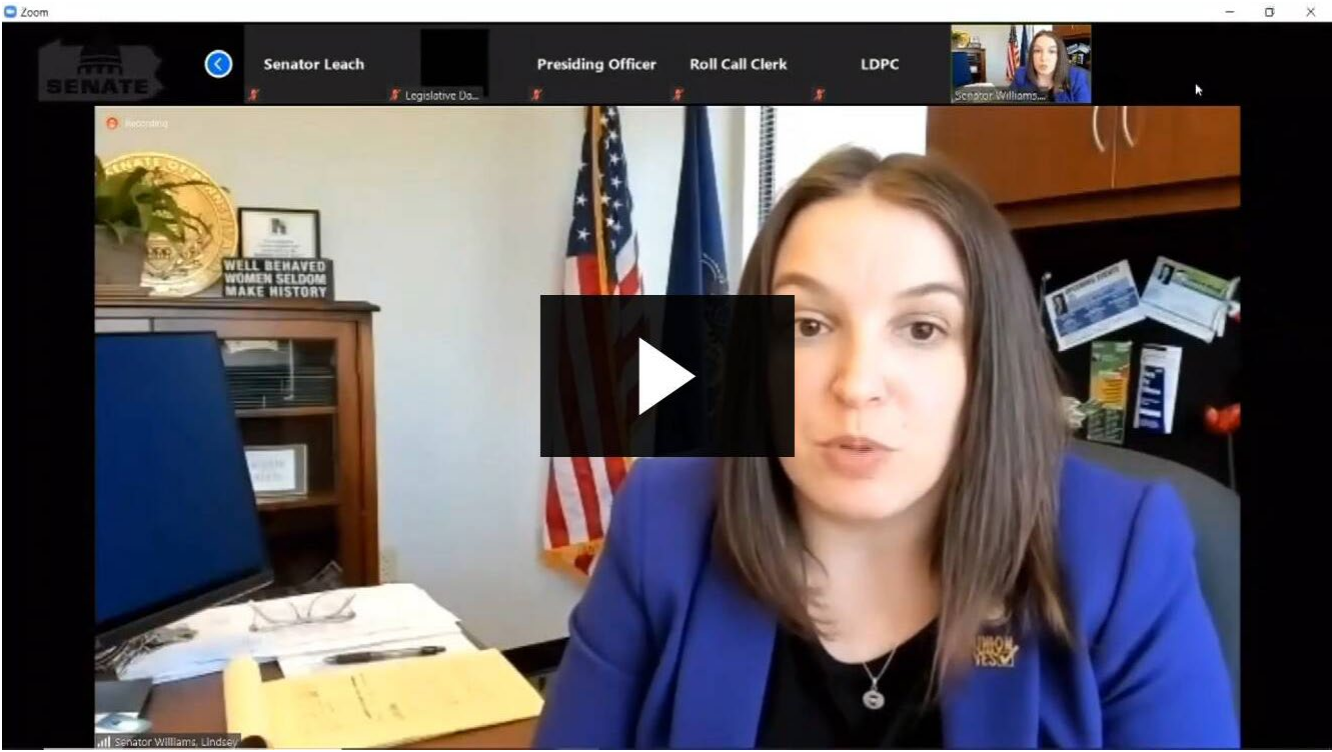
Legislative Update

This week, Senator Williams fought for increased funding for EMS Companies across the Commonwealth and whistleblower protections for employees working for businesses granted waivers to the Governor's Business Closure Order.

During session on Tuesday, the General Assembly passed legislation allowing for \$31 million dollars in grant funding for Volunteer Fire and EMS Companies; however, of the \$31 Million dollars, only \$4.6 Million of the funds would be dedicated to EMS Companies. Senator Williams offered an amendment in Appropriations, through Senator Hughes, that would have increased the total amount of grant funds available, as well as allocated \$8 Million specifically to EMS Companies. Unfortunately, the Amendment was voted down along party lines.



The General Assembly also passed legislation allowing several businesses to reopen under business waivers to the Governor’s Business Closure Order. While the legislation requires businesses to comply with CDC guidelines and Secretary Levine’s Order for in-person business operations, the legislation fails to include a mechanism to enforce such guidelines and orders. Senator Williams offered an amendment on the floor that would empower employees to speak up if their employers fail to comply with these necessary health and safety measures and protect them from any retaliation. Unfortunately, this Amendment was also voted down along party lines.



Smile of the Week

Our 2020 graduating seniors aren't having the end to their senior years that they expected, but they're still giving back. This week, Shaler Seniors held a food drive for the North Hills Community Outreach, Bread of Life Food Pantry, and Christ Lutheran Church. In just a few hours, they filled FIVE trucks with food! https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2020/05/11/shaler-area-high-school-senior-class-food-collection/?fbclid=IwAR1Tigc9_728knXtJybG23K9K6ncq5y3mxUrnSLQYO1DUd6l4EapnByKRjl

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have by phone at 412-364-0469 or by email at SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com. My staff will return your call/email within 24 hours (Monday-Friday).



Senator Lindsey Williams

District Office

5000 McKnight Road
Suite 405
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Phone: 412-364-0469
Fax: 412-364-0928

Harrisburg Office

366 Capitol Building
Senate Box 203038
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3038
Phone: 717-787-6538
Fax: 717-787-8625

