



# Rhode Island Department of Health

3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 | [www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov)

For: Immediate release

Date: March 16, 2020

Contact: Joseph Wendelken (401-378-0704)

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<https://www.abc6.com/>

NBC10

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CBS12

<https://www.wpri.com/coronavirus/>

Certified Deaf Interpreter: Arkady Belozovky; ASL Interpreter: Heather Anderson; Tina Nelson

## **State Services, Public Meetings Moving to Online and Phone Only; Rhode Islanders Encouraged to Avoid DMV**

Governor Gina M. Raimondo and Director of Health Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH today announced that customer-facing services at the Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Labor and Training (DLT), and HealthSource RI will be moving to online and telephone-only services until further notice. This includes all new applications, renewals, or changes in benefits. Individuals who need to drop off paper applications will be able to do so without speaking with a customer service representative.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) announced earlier today that licensing road tests will be cancelled through the end of the week. In addition, beginning tomorrow, all DMV satellite offices will be closed. (Closures of the satellite locations in Westerly and Warren has previously been announced).

The Cranston DMV will also be suspending personal driver license and registration services through the end of the week. To ensure customers are not penalized for the actions we are taking to further protect health and safety, the DMV will be extending any driver licenses and registrations scheduled to expire by 30 days. Through the end of this week, the Cranston DMV will be providing only the following limited services: dealer appointments, adjudications, and commercial drivers licenses. Rhode Islanders are encouraged not to go to the DMV this week unless absolutely necessary.

Beginning next Monday, March 23, the DMV will begin taking clients for all services by appointment only. Please check the DMV website to confirm an appointment before visiting the DMV next week.

Finally, this afternoon the Governor will sign an Executive Order allowing all Rhode Island public entities to conduct meetings online or over the phone and extending the timeline for public records requests. The Attorney General's Office worked with the Governor's team and other stakeholders on identifying these appropriate temporary measures for both the Open Meetings Act and the Access to Public Records Act to ensure that government can continue to operate as openly and transparently as possible. The Attorney General's Office will continue to serve as a resource for guidance and advice regarding these statutes going forward.