



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jan H. Gardner  
County Executive

# News Release

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## **COVID-19 Cases Rise Rapidly in Frederick County; County Executive Urges Compliance with Masks, Physical Distancing *Grant Programs to Support Child Care Providers, Food Service Establishments***

FREDERICK, Md. – The number of new cases of COVID-19 in Frederick County rose substantially over the past week, with more than 5,000 residents now confirmed to have contracted the virus. County Executive Jan Gardner today stressed the State mandate that everyone wear face coverings in all public settings, both inside and outside. She urged residents to consider alternatives to traditional holiday plans, as family gatherings and house parties have been demonstrated to be high-risk activities for the spread of the virus.

“We are seeing a new wave of cases, which is affecting people’s health and threatens to shut down our economy,” Executive Gardner said Monday. “We all need to do our part to slow the spread of the virus in our community.”

There have been 5,030 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Frederick County. On Sunday, 52 new cases were confirmed, the largest single-day increase since June 3. The County’s seven-day rolling average of new cases stands at 13.15 per 100,000 population.

Executive Gardner also announced two new grant opportunities to assist certain businesses affected by the health pandemic. Licensed child care providers in Frederick County can apply for a second round of grants to pay for enhanced cleaning and disinfection. Eligible providers will be contacted by Child Care Choices with directions on how to apply. Grant amounts will vary based on size and months of eligibility. The application period runs through Nov. 12.

A new \$2 million grant program has been established to support Frederick County food service establishments. Grants will be awarded in two categories. The first category includes caterers, carry-out restaurants that have no seating, bakeries, and food trucks. The second group includes restaurants without drive-thrus, franchise restaurants, and wineries, breweries, and distilleries. The amount of each grant will be determined by the number of establishments that apply. Applications will be accepted between Nov. 13-23. Businesses can sign up to be notified when the application opens by visiting [FrederickCountyMD.gov/FoodServiceGrants](http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/FoodServiceGrants).

As a reminder, under Governor Larry Hogan’s Executive Order, face coverings are required **outside** when physical distancing cannot be maintained, and **inside** at the following locales: Religious facilities; retail establishments; food service establishments when not eating or drinking; fitness centers; gaming facilities; indoor recreational establishments; personal service establishments, such as barbershops and beauty salons; indoor theaters; and in or on public transportation.

Questions and concerns about the use of face coverings in businesses can be directed to the Frederick County Health Department’s hotline, 301-600-6200, or by emailing them at [FCHDBusinessInfo@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:FCHDBusinessInfo@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

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