Jurisdiction Response to COVID-19

COVID-19, a novel (new) coronavirus, is a rapidly-evolving global pandemic. Though it has been declared a national emergency, local and state government officials and public health departments, in consultation with federal officials, have been tasked with making decisions based on local conditions.

Click here to view consolidated information and see how motor vehicle administrations are handling driver licensing and vehicle registration. This document will be updated with the most current information on our homepage.

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) – Event Announcements

The health and safety of our employees, members, and those who attend an AAMVA event remains our top priority. As we continue to monitor the rapidly changing situation we will be updating this announcement with any changes to conferences, events, and meetings. At present, the following are canceled:

- Workshop & Law Institute (March 18-19, 2020)
- License Plate Standard Working Group Meeting (April 1-2, 2020)
- NDR Working Group Meeting (April 15-16, 2020)
- CDL Driver History Working Group Meeting (April 8-9, 2020)
- AAMVA Board of Directors Meeting (April 28-29, 2020)
- Industry Advisory Board Meeting (April 28, 2020)
- State-to-State Governance Committee Meeting (April 30, 2020)
- AAMVA Leadership Academy (May 4-7, 2020)

This list will be updated with the most current information on our homepage. For questions, please contact Dianne Graham or (571) 265-5573 or Samara Fetner or (703) 254-7020.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Extends REAL ID to October 1, 2021

The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has announced that it is extending the REAL ID Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-13) until October 1, 2021. DHS will accompany the announcement with a notice of the new deadline in the Federal Register in the coming days.

Separately, the United States Congress has also included language that would extend the deadline for REAL ID until September 30, 2021. The language was included as part of the enormous $2 trillion supplemental appropriations package (HR 748) designed to mitigate the effects of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
REAL ID extension language is included in Section 16006 of the legislation.

AAMVA will continue to monitor details as provided by Congress and DHS. Below are a selection of news articles regarding the postponement.

- Acting Secretary Chad Wolf Statement on the Real ID Enforcement Deadline
- U.S. Travel Applauds REAL ID Deadline Extension
- Trump Postpones Real ID Requirements Due to Virus Concerns
- Trump to Delay Deadline to Acquire Real ID Due to Coronavirus
- Travelers Get a Break: Real ID Deadline Extended to Oct. 1, 2021, Due to Coronavirus
- Real ID Driver's License Deadline of Oct. 1 Has Been Suspended
- Deadline to Get a Real ID Pushed Back at Least a Year Due to Coronavirus
- President Trump: Real ID Deadline Is Being Pushed Back
- Trump Order Makes It Crime to Stockpile Medical Supplies, Postpones Real-ID Deadline
- Update: Trump Extends Real ID Deadline by 1 Year Amid Coronavirus, Giving Relief to California DMV
- If Your Driver’s License Is Expiring or You Need a Real ID, You'll Have a Little More Time (Hawaii)
- Tester, Daines Praise Federal Postponement of Real ID Requirements (Montana)
- Secretary of State Applauds Real ID Deadline Extension (Illinois)
- Still Haven’t Gotten Your Real ID in South Carolina? You Have More Time (Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC)
- Trump Announces Postponed Deadline on Real ID Requirements Amid Coronavirus Outbreak (Oregon)
- President Trump Delays Real ID Deadline Due to COVID-19 Concerns (Kentucky)
- NH Drivers Get Real ID License Reprieve (New Hampshire)

Motor Vehicle Industry Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19, a novel (new) coronavirus, to be a global pandemic. This is a rapidly-evolving pandemic, and though early data suggested people above the age of 60 and/or with underlying medical conditions (such as diabetes, heart disease, or lung disease) were considered to be most at risk, recent data has shown 40% of hospitalized patients were between the ages of 20 and 54. By March 13, COVID-19 was declared a national emergency by President Donald Trump. FMCSA has expanded on the national emergency declaration in the United States to provide HOS relief for commercial vehicle drivers transporting emergency aid. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has encouraged many preventative measures, including social distancing and cancelling events, but local and state government officials and public health departments, in consultation with federal officials, have been tasked with making decisions based on local conditions. Many states have issued stay at home orders. Lawmakers asked DHS to delay the federal REAL ID deadline, which was granted by the federal government. In response to the emerging situation, AAMVA has cancelled its 2020 Workshop & Law Institute, restricted staff business travel, and mandated a work from home period for all employees. Below are a selection of news articles regarding the effects of coronavirus on the motor vehicle community.

COVID-19 | NATIONAL NEWS COVERAGE

- Senate Oks Historic $2.2 Trillion Coronavirus Rescue Package
REGISTER ONLINE!

OUR WEBINARS

MARCH

31 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature

APRIL

1 | U.S. Passport Verification Service Overview

3 | Understanding the Purpose of the New SPEXS WebUI Reporting Portal

14 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Understanding the Administrative Features

16 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 1

21 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – How to Correct Title and Brand Data on the Central Site

23 | NMVTIS Suspense Resolution for Online States (AMIE Version) – Part 2

28 | NMVTIS State Web Interface (SWI) – Instant Title Verification Using the VIN Search Feature

REGISTER ONLINE!

OPEN RFPs

APRIL

3 | AAMVA RFP FY20-22411 2020 ExpressRoute Connectivity

COVID-19 | REGION 1 NEWS COVERAGE

- Canada Issues HOS Exemption for Coronavirus Relief
- CVSA Postpones Roadcheck Due to Coronavirus Crisis
- FHWA Urges State Transportation Officials to Keep Rest Areas Open
- How Car Companies Are Helping to Produce Medical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Experts Offer Best Practices for Coronavirus Response
- When the World Stops Moving
- FMCSA Gives Commercial Drivers Extension on Expiring CDLs, Medical Cards
- Lack of Traffic Bottlenecks Helps Speed Freight
- How COVID-19 Could Change Our Approach to Mobility
- Elaine Chao, Jim Mullen Honor Truckers, Update Industry Stakeholders
- FMCSA Releases Notice of Enforcement Discretion Determination
- Truckers Brave Coronavirus Outbreak to Deliver Goods: ‘If We Stop, the World Stops’
- Truck Drivers, Logistics Personnel Deemed ‘Essential’ in Security Memo
- DOT Issues Guidance on Drug and Alcohol Testing During COVID-19 Pandemic
- Despite Setbacks, Coronavirus Could Hasten the Adoption of Autonomous Vehicles and Delivery Robots
- How COVID-19 Is Changing Insurance Transactions in B.C. (British Columbia)
- Licence Renewals and Payment Deferrals Now Available During Pandemic (British Columbia)
- DMV Closes Branch Offices, Extends Deadlines (Connecticut)
- Delaware DMV Goes to Appointment-Only Policy for Its Lobbies
- Maine Motor Vehicle-Related Expirations Extended
- MVA Branches Close Statewide Amid Coronavirus Pandemic (Maryland)
- Mass. RMV Issues Extensions on Inspections, Commercial Licenses to Help With Social Distancing (Massachusetts)
- Registry of Motor Vehicles Transitions to Appointment-Only Reservation System & Suspension Hearing by Phone (Massachusetts)
- Executive Order Closes Department of Motor Vehicles (New York)
- New Yorkers Still Have to Get Cars Inspected Despite Coronavirus DMV Shutdown
- Driving Test Centres Close in Ontario as Coronavirus Cases Continue to Rise
- DMV Begins Screening Visitors Before Allowing Entry (Rhode Island)
- In-Person Customer Service Centers at the Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, and Department of Transportation Will Be Closed Effective Wednesday, March 25 (Washington, DC)

COVID-19 | REGION 2 NEWS COVERAGE

- More Changes to Alabama Drivers License Services
- Georgia DDS Offering Extension for Driver’s License Renewal
- Louisiana Closes Office of Motor Vehicles Locations; Suspends Late Fees
- Governor Cooper Orders Increased Access to Childcare, DMV Clarifications (North Carolina)
- Additional Drivers Services Division Updates Announced for Tennessee
- DMV Answers Questions Regarding Closures, Credential Extensions (Virginia)
- SCDMV Offices in Region Are Cutting Hours Due to Coronavirus (South Carolina)

COVID-19 | REGION 3 NEWS COVERAGE

Iowa DOT: License Appointments Mandatory
Gov. Kelly Orders 60-Day Extension on Tag and License Renewals (Kansas)
Driver’s License Offices Eliminate Walk-In Services; To Be Closed Two Weeks Starting March 23 (Kansas)
Some Michigan Driver’s Licenses Will Expire During COVID-19 Closures, Late Fees Waived
Self-Isolation Due to Coronavirus Means 20 per Cent Fewer Traffic Collisions (Manitoba)
Drivers Licenses and Plate Renewals Extended for Two Months (Missouri)
Everything From DMV to Paying Taxes Changes as Scotts Bluff County Restricts Access at Administration Building (Nebraska)
NDDOT Shifts Services to Operate Virtually and Online (North Dakota)
Here’s All the Things You Can Do Without Stepping Inside a BMV (Ohio)
South Dakota Vehicle Title and Registration Renewals Extended

COVID-19 | REGION 4 NEWS COVERAGE

MVD Limiting All In-Person Appointments Amid Coronavirus Outbreak (Arizona)
DMV Field Offices and the COVID-19 Outbreak - Essential Services Will Continue by Mail, Online, Kiosks (California)
Renewals for Expiring Driver’s Licenses, State IDs to Be Waived (Hawaii)
90-Day Extension Offered by Nevada DMV on Expiring Documents
MVD Closes Field Offices Across New Mexico
Oregon Extends Grace Period for CDL Medical Certificates
Amid DMV Closures During Outbreak, 6 Offices Remain Open for Commercial Drivers (Oregon)
DMV Asks Public to Process Vehicle Renewals Online to Prevent Spread of COVID-19 (Utah)
Fewer Drivers Means Fewer Accidents, Almost No Collisions Since Social Distancing Started (Washington)
Gov. Gordon Enacts Driver’s License, ID Grace Period in Response to COVID-19 (Wyoming)

Visit cdc.gov for more information on COVID-19, guidance, press releases, press kits, and more.

REGION 1 NEWS

Not Getting Better: Many Have Embraced Vision Zero in Canada, so Why Aren’t We Achieving More? (Ontario)
On June 27, 2013, Travis Croken was doing what he did most days — riding his bike. A committed cyclist, Croken had taken part in competitive events, but this ride was routine, a daily commute from home to work in downtown Ottawa. He followed bike paths for most of the trip but ducked down busy Queen Street for the last short stretch. And that is where everything changed. Read more at ottawacitizen.com.

Rhode Island DOT Official Garners NHTSA Award
Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) Law Enforcement Highway Safety Training Coordinator Richard Sullivan has received the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) Lifetime Achievement Award...Officials said Sullivan, who previously served as Providence Chief of Police, has been RIDOT’s Law Enforcement Highway Safety Training Coordinator since 2006, primarily serving as the law enforcement liaison between RIDOT and the state’s law enforcement agencies for training and enforcement efforts involving impaired driving, speeding, distracted driving, occupant protection, child passenger safety, and pedestrian and bicycle safety. Read more at transportationtodaynews.com.
Tesla, Drivers, Regulators All to Blame for Fatal Crash, Says Safety Board (Florida)
The National Transportation Safety Board says two drivers, Tesla and lax regulation of new partially automated driving systems are to blame for a fatal 2019 crash in Florida involving a Tesla on Autopilot. The NTSB, in a report issued last Thursday, said the design of the Autopilot system contributed to the crash because it allowed the Tesla driver to avoid paying attention. Tesla also failed to limit where Autopilot can be used, allowing drivers to activate it in areas it wasn’t designed for, the report said. Read more at insurancejournal.com.

Virginia Dept. of Motor Vehicles Warns of Fake Website
The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles issued a warning on Friday about scam websites that are imitating the DMV's website. Government offices such as the DMV are closed because of the coronavirus pandemic. It is redirecting customers to its website, but at the same time, there is scrutiny over imposter sites. "Because of the coronavirus, there will be increased attacks," Suresh Murugan, the Chief Information Security Officer at Elizabeth City State University, said. Read more at wktr.com.

Indiana Bans Holding Cellphone While Driving Starting July 1
Drivers will be banned from using handheld cellphones on Indiana roads starting in July under legislation Gov. Eric Holcomb has signed into law to combat distracted driving. Holcomb signed the measure Wednesday, making Indiana the 22nd state to prohibit drivers from holding or using a handheld mobile device while operating a moving vehicle. People violating the law after it takes effect on July 1 can be fined up to $500 and potentially lose their driver’s license if violations are repeated. Read more at fox59.com.

Arizona Grand Jury Indicts Group in Vehicle Title Fraud Case
An Arizona grand jury has indicted nine people accused of running an illegal operation that produced tens of thousands of titles for vehicles being sold in 42 states. State prosecutors say Scott Bandy, James Johnson, Mary Fialko, James Edward Fialko, Lon Chaneyfield, Ivan Valenzuela, Oscar Valenzuela, Tamela Bandy and Ashley Cwick have been charged with conspiracy, fraudulent schemes and artifices, money laundering, control of an illegal enterprise and fraudulent schemes and practices. Read more at azfamily.com.

House, in 30-32 Vote, Kills 'Too Great for Hate' Specialty License Plate Bill (Idaho)
In a stunning apparent last vote for the Idaho House this year, the House has voted 30-32 on SB 1297, Sen. Cherie Buckner-Webb's bill to create a specialty license plate with the slogan "Too Great for Hate" to benefit the Wassmuth Center's Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial. There was no debate against the bill before the vote; after it, the House immediately went at ease for a closed-door GOP caucus. Read more at idahopress.com.

MVD Reissuing Some Driver's License, ID Cards Due to Error (New Mexico)
If you recently got a new driver’s license or ID you may need a new one. The state’s Taxation and Revenue Department says cards issued by the Motor Vehicle Division between March 5 and March 22 left out street number information. They say it was caused by a programming error. MVD is mailing out corrected licenses and ID cards to all affected customers. Once you receive the new card, you should destroy the incorrect version. Read more at krqe.com.

OTHER NEWS

New Push to Fight Biggest Global Killer of Kids
As news of coronavirus (COVID-19) sweeps the planet, a recently published analysis draws attention to another global public health issue: dangerous roads. Roughly 1.35 million people die on the world’s roads each year, and another 20 to 50 million are seriously injured, according to the World Health Organization. Traffic crashes are now the leading cause of death for children and young people aged 5-29 years around the globe. Read more at forbes.com.

Waymo Open Dataset Challenge: Test Your Autonomous-Driving Skills
Waymo began life as an internal Google division before spinning off as its own company. It’s devoted to autonomous driving, and its proprietary technology is actually fairly advanced by the standards of this nascent sub-industry...Now, Waymo wants to open up its data to outside researchers. “Even as COVID-19 continues to develop, we are committed to fostering an environment of innovation and learning—one that can continue to grow and thrive in our temporarily virtual world,” the company wrote in a March 19 blog posting. Read more at insights.dice.com.

Can You Guess Which License Plates Are From Which Us State?
Out-of-state license plates are always easy to spot, as most states have their own unique designs. And no state is ever satisfied with a simple white background and black lettering, so there is plenty of variety. License plates have changed a lot over the years – different materials, shapes, and designs have come and gone with each state having their own regulations. The rules of New York do not apply to Nevada, for example. They're often used as tiny adverts for the state, too, adorned with the state name and motto. But what happens when you remove the identifying information? Is it still easy to match the state with the plate? Read more at motor1.com.

ABI: 5G Connected Vehicle Boom Is Just Beginning
According to new analysis released by consulting firm ABI Research on March 10, the introduction of 5G cellular connectivity in the transportation sector is expected to create a “transformative effect” on roadways worldwide within the next 15 years. The firm projects that by 2023, vehicles will start to communicate with each other via cellular connections to increase overall road safety and traffic, with a total of 41 million 5G connected cars expected to be in operation by 2030. That number will rise to 83 million 5G connected cars by 2035, ABI added. Read more at aashtojournal.org.

Finding, Keeping, and Advancing Women in the Transportation Workforce (TRB)
The transportation industry is expecting an all-encompassing need for an increased qualified workforce. Retirements are creating countless new open positions in the public transit, highways, airports, and marine industries. A new outline released by TRB for how the public transit industry can – and already is – attracting, retaining, and advancing women is applicable to other modes of transportation as well. Read more at trb.org.
@AAMVACONNECTION has been watching the twitter feed and decided to highlight some of the tweets here. Links are provided within most of the tweets, and we have also provided a link to each tweet as well. Note that you do not have to have an account or sign in to Twitter to view the message posts, images associated with the post, and the reach of the message (retweets, favorited, etc.).

Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVACONNECTION.

Check out recent @AAMVACONNECTION Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVACONNECTION mentions!***

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**FLHSMV @FLHSMV | View the Tweet**

#ThankATrucker for working hard to keep our critical supplies moving!

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**Sue Fulton @suefulton | View the Tweet**

And the people who keep them on the road! Staffing transportation depts, Motor Vehicle depts, gas stations, rest areas... @NJ_MVC @NJDOT_info @ALANaid @NJGov

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**DeanObeidallah @DeanObeidallah | View the Tweet**

Truck Drivers Are America’s Unsung Heroes in coronavirus outbreak. While many of us are at home these women and men are driving long hours and risking their health to make sure we have medical supplies, food, etc. so we can survive. My @thedailybeast thedailybeast.com/truck-drivers...

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**VermontDMV @VTDMV | View the Tweet**

What part of #MoveOver is confusing?
Finally, some good news: it's #NationalPuppyDay! Show your furry friends some love and don't let them roam around the vehicle if you need to travel.

Today, TxDOT donated 3,500 masks & 14,000 pairs of rubber gloves to be distributed in response to the #COVID19 threat. The need for critical and protective equipment remains high and Texas is asking for your help. To volunteer supplies or your time visit http://Texas.gov
Iowa State Patrol @iowastatepatrol | View the Tweet

District 3 — Council Bluffs
Traffic is down nearly 50% on Iowa roadways...
Less traffic means you will definitely stand out going this fast.
Slow down, Phone Down, BuckleUp - No Excuses!

VA State Police @VSPPIO | View the Tweet

#FunFactFriday Did you know #VSP assisted 115,375 disabled/stranded motorists across #Virginia in 2019? We're still out there helping & serving the public today...just plz understand if we keep our distance. #FlattenTheCurve #COVID19Va #COVID19
Drive Safe Kansas - KDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet

A very good list of some things we don't always think about when it come to kids and cars - starting with keeping car doors and trunks locked and putting key fobs out of reach.
#momlife #dadlife #safety #parenting #parentingtips

Safe Kids Worldwide @safekids · Mar 26
During this uncertain time where many families are adjusting to new schedules, here are three reminders to help keep kids safer around cars while they play.
#StayAtHomeSafety #COVID19 #coronavirus salekids.org/blog/3-precaut...

Transport Topics @TransportTopics | View the Tweet

Sweet! We're rounding up stories like this here:
A driver in York PA was waiting for his delivery parked at 83 diner which is closed. This white Jeep pulled up, they walk up to his truck & handed a bag of snacks to say thank you for staying out here to help our country. let’s blow up Twitter with this pic & tell them thank you!

NDHP @NDHighwayPatrol | View the Tweet

#NDHP Troopers are still working the road! We have seen SM posts about drivers using #COVID19 to get out of citations- #BADidea. If you are stopped, you will be asked to show your driver’s license, insurance and registration through your window. #BetterIdea don’t break the law.

No #COVIDShenanigans