



MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA®

Governor Kay Ivey Loosens Coronavirus Restrictions

AMENDED SAFER AT HOME

Goes into effect on May 22nd at 5 p.m.
Ends on July 3rd at 5 p.m.

NEW UPDATES:

ENTERTAINMENT VENUES (SUCH AS ARCADES, THEATERS, BOWLING ALLEYS)

Open subject to social-distancing and sanitation rules and guidelines

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Open subject to social-distancing and sanitation rules and guidelines

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Open subject to social-distancing and sanitation rules and guidelines

CHILD DAY CARE FACILITIES

Open subject to social-distancing and sanitation rules and guidelines

SUMMER CAMP

Remain open with rules and guidelines available

Yesterday, Governor Kay Ivey announced an amended Safer at Home Order to be applied Statewide. The order which includes an expanded list of items to reopen will be effective Friday, May 22, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. and will expire on Friday, July 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The amended order allows entertainment venues to open subject to social-distancing and sanitation rules, as well as child daycare facilities and summer camps. Educational facilities will be allowed to reopen on June 1 for summer activities. Athletic practices will be allowed starting May 23, with competitive games allows on June 15.

[View the Order Here](#)

CMS Addresses Physician Concerns on

CARES Act Fund Distribution



Certain formulas that were previously on the HHS website led some physicians to believe they may have received more money from this fund than they were supposed to and they were worried that it will be recouped by HHS.

[View the AMA Advocacy Update Here](#)

Contract Year 2021 Medicare Advantage and Part D Final Rule

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule that implements a subset of the proposals from the February 18, 2020, proposed rule (85 FR 9002). This first final rule focuses on more immediate regulatory actions. The primary purpose of this first final rule is to implement certain changes before the contract year 2021 bid deadline (due by statute on the first Monday in June) stemming from the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (BBA of 2018) and the 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act). This final rule also codifies several existing CMS policies and implements other technical changes.

[Click Here for More Information](#)



Serological Testing for SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies

The American Medical Association (AMA) issued guidance ([linked here](#)) to help physicians and the public understand potential uses and limitations of antibody testing, and warn against determining immunity or discontinuing physical distancing based on antibody testing.

Final Days to Complete the COVID-19 Physician Impact Survey

Please, take a few minutes and complete the survey right now. By doing so, you are helping better inform and shape the Medical Association's advocacy efforts on COVID-19 related topics such as practice finance issues, loan and grant assistance programs, use of and experiences with telemedicine, and reimbursement issues.

[Participate in the Survey Here.](#)

COVID-19 QUESTIONS? GET ANSWERS & EARN CME.

As providers, physicians and members of the health care team want to do whatever they can to ensure the health and well-being of their patients. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the practice of medicine is facing challenges in delivering the best care amid government mandates and ever-changing public perceptions of the situation. At the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, we want to help by offering online COVID-19 CME courses (free for members).



Courses include:

- **PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS IN THE COVID-19 ERA**
- **PPE FOR PHYSICIANS: NEW, USED AND REFRESHED**
- **AN INFECTIOUS DISEASE DOCTOR'S SYMPTOMS OF COVID AND THOUGHTS ABOUT THE PANDEMIC**

Credits

The Medical Foundation of Alabama designates this enduring material for a maximum of .25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[®]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama through the joint providership of the Medical Foundation of Alabama and the Medical Association of the State of Alabama. The Medical Foundation of Alabama is accredited by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

[HTTPS://WWW.ALAMEDICAL.ORG/COVID19](https://www.alamedical.org/covid19)



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