



## COVID-19 Update, 7/8

July 8, 2020 | [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19)

### Status Update as of 7/8 from ADH Website:

[View the ADH COVID-19 Dashboard here.](#)

- Confirmed cumulative cases in Arkansas - 25,246
- Active cases - 5,545
- Recovered patients - 19,396
- New cases since 7/7- 734
- Deaths - 305
- Patients in the hospital - 358
- Patients on ventilators - 79

### Scam Artists Pose as Contact Tracers to Steal Arkansans' Identities

Scam artists have found an opportunity by using the important task of contact tracing to steal money and the identity of Arkansans. In trying to stop the spread of COVID-19, the Arkansas Department of Health is using contact tracing to identify people who have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. One way bad actors are impersonating contact tracers is by sending text messages containing a link and claiming that by clicking on the link, the recipient will be contacted about a positive test, but in actuality, the link gives the scam artist direct access to the phone holder's personal information.

When a patient is confirmed to have COVID-19, the Arkansas Health Department provides staff to assist the patient with identifying all individuals with whom they made close contact during the 48-hours preceding the positive COVID-19 test. Those identified by the patient through the contact tracing process are then notified by public health staff of the positive case, are asked to enroll in the Department of Health's Situational Awareness Response Assistance (SARA) system for email updates, and they are asked to quarantine.

Attorney General Rutledge released the following tips to avoid falling victim to the contact tracing scam:

- Contact tracing will not cost money. Avoid giving personal bank account information over the phone or buying gift cards to pay scam artists for fake contact tracing attempts;

- Avoid clicking on links in emails and text messages unless you signed up to receive the messages;
- If you receive an unsolicited email or text message from a potential contact tracer, verify its authenticity by contacting the Arkansas Department of Health at <https://ADH.CoronaVirus@arkansas.gov> or call (800) 803-7847.

To file a complaint about potential contact tracing scams reach out to the Attorney General's office at (800) 482-8982, email [oag@arkansasag.gov](mailto:oag@arkansasag.gov) or visit [ArkansasAG.gov](http://ArkansasAG.gov). Consumers are encouraged to visit the Arkansas Department of Health's [COVID-19 Contact Tracing program website](#) for additional information about contact tracing.

## CMS Provider Relief Fund Medicaid and CHIP Distribution Information

A webcast covering the Medicaid and CHIP distribution is scheduled for TODAY, Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at 3 PM CST. You are encouraged to [pre-register for the webcast](#) to reserve a spot.

### Application Instructions

[Medicaid and CHIP Provider Distribution Instructions](#) and the [Medicaid and CHIP Provider Distribution Application Form](#) are available at [hhs.gov/providerrelief](http://hhs.gov/providerrelief). Download and review these documents to help you complete the process through the [Enhanced Provider Relief Fund Payment Portal](#). Applications must be submitted by July 20, 2020.

### Additional Information

For additional information, please call the Provider Support Line at (866) 569-3522; for TTY, dial 711. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday. Service staff members are available to provide real-time technical assistance, as well as service and payment support.

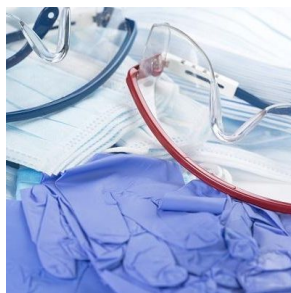
## COVID-19: The Physicians' Perspective Survey

The Physicians' Foundation is launching a survey to learn how COVID-19 is affecting the practice plans and perspectives of our fellow doctors. Results of this survey will be shared with you, policy makers, legislators, the public, and the media to ensure the physicians' voice is heard.

This survey is just 10 questions and can be completed in less than 5 minutes. Please take a few minutes and answer the questions so that we can better serve you in the coming months.

[Take the survey here.](#)

### PPE



View our updated information on personal protective equipment at [ARKMED.org/ppe](http://ARKMED.org/ppe) or visit [arkansasready.com/ppe](http://arkansasready.com/ppe) for Arkansas PPE

### Telemedicine



View the latest information from insurance carriers, HIPAA, and other sources on telemedicine during the COVID-19 crisis at

### Financial Resources



We've compiled all of the financial resources that you may need for your clinic or practice during the COVID-19 crisis at <https://www.arkmed.org>

vendors.

[ARKMED.org/telemedicine](https://www.arkmed.org/telemedicine) [g/financial-assistance-during-covid-19/](https://www.arkmed.org/financial-assistance-during-covid-19/).

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[Join our COVID-19 Mailing List](#)

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## Got Questions? Let Us Help.

The Arkansas Medical Society is here to serve our physician members and their medical teams. On our website, we have a place that you can send us questions or share what you're experiencing. Visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19) and click on the Got Questions box. We will respond to your question as soon as possible. Thank you for your hard work and together we will make it through this crisis.

For more AMS COVID-19 Resources, visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19).

Arkansas Medical  
Society [ARKMED.org](https://www.arkmed.org)

