

COVID-19 Minnesota Policy/Executive Order Timeline

March 6-September 17

Friday, March 6

- Minnesota Department of Health officials confirmed the state's first case of COVID-19.

Sunday, March 8

- Minnesota Department of Health officials confirmed the state's second case of COVID-19.

Monday, March 9

- The Minnesota House and Senate unanimously approved \$21 million in funding to fight COVID-19

Tuesday, March 10

- Governor Walz signs the bill into law and a third case of COVID-19 is confirmed in the state of Minnesota.

Saturday, March 13

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-01](#): Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Coordinating Minnesota's Strategy to Protect Minnesotans from COVID-19.

Sunday, March 15

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-02](#): Authorizing and Directing the Commissioner of Education to Temporarily Close Schools to Plan for a Safe Educational Environment.

Monday, March 16

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-03](#): Protecting Residents of Minnesota Veterans Homes during the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-04](#): Providing for Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-05](#): Providing for Immediate Relief to Employers and Unemployed Workers During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- The Legislature passed [SF4334](#) (Benson)/[HF3980](#) (Liebling), a bill that provided
 - \$50 million to the state public health response contingency account; and
 - \$150 million to create a health care response fund in the state treasury, which would be used to make grants and take a little longer to reach the beneficiaries.

Tuesday, March 17

- Governor Walz Signed [Executive Order 20-06](#): Providing for Emergency Relief from Regulations to Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota.

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-07](#): Providing for State Workforce Needs During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Wednesday, March 18

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-08](#) Clarifying Public Accommodations Subject to Order 20-04. This called for the shutdowns of many additional facilities including but not limited to: spas, salons, and tattoo parlors.

Thursday, March 19

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-09](#): Directing Delay of Inpatient and Outpatient Elective Surgery and Procedural Cases during COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency. This Executive Order does not go into effect until March 23rd.
- Senator Gazelka put out a statement saying that the Senate is ready to come back to session to pass legislation to respond to the COVID-19 Virus. He also questioned the constitutionality of Executive Order 20-05 in a statement.
- Chief Justice Gildea sent a letter to legislative leadership asking the legislature to create legislation that changes the deadline for a speedy trial demand and to toll statutes of limitations for the duration of the Peacetime Emergency.

Friday, March 20

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-10](#): Combatting Price Gouging During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-11](#): Securing Federal Authority to Continue Human Services Programs During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-12](#): Preserving Access to Human Services Programs During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz and MNsure announced a special 30-day enrollment period to increase health care access during COVID-19.
- Governor Walz announced that moving forward he will be doing daily 2:00pm press conferences with the Minnesota Department of Health.

Saturday, March 21

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-13](#): Authorizing National Guard Assistance to COVID-19 Response.

Monday, March 23

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-14](#): Suspending Evictions and Writs of Recovery During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-15](#): Providing Immediate Relief to Small Businesses During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-16](#): Directing Non-Hospital Entities to Inventory and Preserve Vital Medical Equipment During the Covid-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-17](#): Clarifying Application of Executive Order 20-09 to Veterinary Surgeries and Procedures.
- Governor Walz announced that he was beginning a 14 day quarantine because one of his detail personnel tested positive for COVID-19.

Wednesday, March 25

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-18](#): Continuing the Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation.
 - Extending the closures to May 1.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-19](#): Authorizing and Directing the Commissioner of Education to Implement a Distance Learning Period and Continue to Provide a Safe Learning Environment for Minnesota's Students.
 - Extending distant learning to May 4.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-20](#): Directing Minnesotans to Stay at Home.
 - This executive order asks Minnesotans to stay at home beginning Friday, March 27th at 11:59pm through Friday, April 10, 2020.
 - Senate Majority Leader Gazelka put out a statement saying that he has "grave concerns" about Executive Order 20-20.

Thursday, March 26

- The Minnesota House and Senate met to pass [HF4351/SF4451](#) \$330 million in COVID-19 aid.
 - \$200 million for the "COVID Minnesota Fund" in the state treasury
 - \$72.5 million for human service spending initiatives to address issues like homelessness, emergency childcare grants, and financial/food assistance.
 - \$57.7 million to DHS to implement action in the Governor's [Executive Order 20-12](#).
 - \$10 million for the Small Business Loan Guarantee Program.
 - The four members of the New Republican Caucus were the only members to vote against the COVID-19 package.

Friday, March 27

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-21](#): Clarifying Application of Executive Order 20-07 to Allow for Coverage of Employees of Constitutional Officers.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-22](#): Authorizing the State Auditor to Temporarily Suspend Reporting Requirements During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-23](#): Authorizing Minnesota Health-Related Licensing Boards to Modify Requirements During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-24](#): emergency relief for motor carriers, specifically for moving the food supply to market.
- Governor Walz Executive Order 20-20 Directing Minnesotans to Stay at Home goes into place tonight at 11:59pm

Tuesday, March 31

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-25](#): Authorizing Peace Officers, Firefighters, and Security-Related Licensing Boards to Modify Requirements During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-26](#): Ensuring Continuing Operations of the Medical Cannabis Program during the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Wednesday, April 1

- The Senate announced the formation of a COVID-19 Response Working Group. This group comprises 11 senators and is chaired by Senator Majority Leader Gazelka.

Friday, April 3

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-27](#): Providing Emergency Relief from Regulations to Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota.
- Governor Walz unveiled the [State of Minnesota COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

Monday, April 6

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-28](#): Allowing Out-of-State Mental Health Providers to Render Telehealth Aid and Permitting Certain Licensing Boards to Provide License and Registration Relief During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-29](#): Amending Executive Order 20-05 to Expedite State Unemployment Insurance Benefits During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Tuesday, April 7

- The House and Senate both met on the Floor following social distancing guidelines. Members participated by phone from the Capitol parking lots, their homes, and their offices.
- Both bodies passed [HF 4537\(Wolgamott\)/SF4458 \(Howe\)](#)
 - The bill makes first responders presumptively eligible for workers' compensation benefits under certain conditions. To receive compensation, the employee's condition would have to be confirmed by a positive laboratory test or the diagnosis of a physician, physician's assistant or nurse, based upon the employee's symptoms.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-30](#): Providing National Guard Assistance for Spring Flood Response and Protection.

Wednesday, April 8

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-31](#): Providing for Relief from Regulations to Certain Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-32](#): Ensuring that Healthcare Providers Can Respond Quickly and Safely During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-33](#): Extending Stay at Home Order and Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation.

Friday, April 10

- The Department of Health released information about the [Minnesota COVID-19 Model](#).
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-34](#): Protecting Minnesota's First Responders by Directing the Commissioner of Health to Share Information with the Department of Public Safety, 911 Dispatchers, and First Responders.

Monday, April 13

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-35](#): Extending the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency Declared in Executive Order 20-01.

Wednesday, April 15

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-36](#): Directing Salary Reductions for Certain Officials.

Thursday, April 16

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-37](#): Extending the Relief from Regulations for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota Declared in Executive Order 20-06.

Friday, April 17

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-38](#): Allowing for Safe Outdoor Recreation.
- The Governor signed [SF4489](#), the takeout wine and beer bill, into law.

Wednesday, April 22

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-39](#): Providing Administrative Flexibility to the Department of Human Rights.
- Governor Walz announced a [statewide COVID-19 testing strategy](#). The goals are to test all symptomatic people, isolate confirmed cases, and expand contact tracing tools.

Thursday, April 23

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-40](#): Allowing Workers in Certain Non-Critical Sectors to Return to Safe Workplaces.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-41](#): Authorizing and Directing the Commissioner of Education to Extend the Distance Learning Period and Continue to Provide a Safe Learning Environment for Minnesota's Students.

Friday, April 24

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-42](#): Ensuring that Emergency Economic Relief Does Not Prevent Eligibility for Essential Human Services Programs During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-43](#): Allowing Shareholders Flexibility to Hold Remote Meetings and Avoid Gatherings During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-44](#): Providing for Emergency Relief from Regulations to Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-45](#): Providing for Emergency Relief from Regulations to Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota.

Saturday, April 25

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-46](#): Authorizing Out-of-State Healthcare Professionals to Render Aid in Minnesota during the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Tuesday, April 28

- Vice President Pence visited the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He was joined by Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Dr. Hahn, Governor Walz, and Representative Hagedorn.

Wednesday, April 29

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-47](#): Clarifying Application of Executive Order 20-33 to Homeless Encampments.

Thursday, April 30

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-48](#): Extending and Modifying Stay at Home Order, Continuing Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation, and Allowing Additional Workers in Certain Non-Critical Sectors to Return to Safe Workplaces.
 - The previous Stay at Home order was set to end on Monday, May 4th.
- The Senate passed an omnibus tax bill, [SF 3843](#), aimed at aid to small businesses, farmers, and school districts affected by COVID-19.

Friday, May 1

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-49](#): Allowing Commercial Food Trucks to Operate at Highway Rest Areas in Minnesota During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Monday, May 4

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-50](#): Ensuring the Protection of Emergency Government Support and Consumers' Financial Security from Consumer Garnishment Actions During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Tuesday, May 5

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-51](#): Requiring Facilities to Prioritize Surgeries and Procedures and Provide Safe Environment during COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency

Monday, May 11

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-52](#): Authorizing Students in Critical Sectors to Return to Safe Higher Education Institutions for Completion of a Postsecondary Credential.

Wednesday, May 13

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-53](#): Extending the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency Declared in Executive Order 20-01.
 - This extends the Peacetime Emergency Order to June 12.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-54](#): Protecting Workers from Unsafe Working Conditions and Retaliation During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-55](#): Protecting the Rights and Health of At-Risk Populations during the COVID19 Peacetime Emergency.

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-56](#): Safely Reopening Minnesota's Economy and Ensuring Safe Non-Work Activities during the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- The Minnesota department of Health released a new version of the [COVID-19 Minnesota Model](#).

Thursday, May 14

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-57](#): Authorizing and Directing the Commissioner of Education to Allow for a Safe and Effective Summer Learning Environment for Minnesota's Students.

Friday, May 15

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-58](#): Authorizing the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to Hold Remote Meetings as Necessary to Protect Health and Safety.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-59](#): Extending the Relief from Regulations for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota Declared in Executive Orders 20-06 and 20-37.

Monday, May 18

- Executive Order 20-56 went into effect; Minnesota's Stay at Home order was lifted.

Wednesday, May 20

- Governor Walz announced the various phases of his [Stay Safe MN Plan](#).
- Commissioner Myron Frans announced that the Walz Administration would be implementing state employee contracts despite lack of a joint agreement in the legislature.

Thursday, May 21

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-60](#): Extending the Relief from Regulations for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota Declared in Executive Orders 20-24 and 20-44.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-61](#): Extending the Relief from Regulations for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota Declared in Executive Order 20-45.

Saturday, May 23

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-63](#): Amending Executive Order 20-56 to Allow Worship, Weddings, and Funerals to Proceed as Safely as Possible during the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Thursday, May 28

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-64](#): Activating the Minnesota National Guard and Declaring a Peacetime Emergency to Provide Safety and Protection to the People of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Surrounding Communities.

Friday, May 29

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-65](#): Implementing a Temporary Nighttime Curfew in the Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-66](#): Providing for Emergency Relief from Regulations to Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota.

Saturday, May 30

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-67](#): Implementing and Coordinating Cooperative Firefighting, Health, and Peace Officer Assistance.

Sunday, May 31

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-68](#): Extending the Temporary Nighttime Curfew in the Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul.

Monday, June 1

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-69](#): Extending the Temporary Nighttime Curfew in the Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul.
- Stay Safe Minnesota Phase Two began allowing:
 - Outdoor dining at restaurants and bars with reservations of four or fewer and limited capacity.
 - Personal care services to be allowed at 25% capacity of fire code as maximum capacity.
 - Camping ground and charter boats allowed with social distancing.

Tuesday, June 2

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-70](#): Authorizing use of State Right of Way for Outdoor Dining During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Wednesday, June 3

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-71](#): Extending the Temporary Nighttime Curfew in the Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-72](#): Activating the Minnesota National Guard and Declaring a Peacetime Emergency to Provide Safety and Protection to the People of Clay County and Surrounding Communities.

Friday, June 5

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-73](#): Clarifying Executive Order 20-14 Suspending Evictions and Writs of Recovery During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-74](#): Continuing to Safely Reopen Minnesota's Economy and Ensure Safe NonWork Activities during the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Wednesday, June 10

- Stay Safe Minnesota Phase Three is set to begin allowing for:

- Restaurants can open at 50% capacity in doors.
- Personal Care (Hair salons, Nail salons, Barber Shops) businesses can operate at 50% capacity.
- Places of Worship can operate at 50% capacity, 250 people maximum.
- Gyms and Fitness Centers can operate at 25% capacity.
- Entertainment venues (Movie theaters, bowling alleys, arcades, museums) can operate at 25% capacity.
- Pools can open at 50% capacity.
- Governor Walz signed the [Proclamation for Special Session 2020](#) summoning legislators to return to the Capitol to convene in Special Session Friday, June 12, 2020 at 12:00pm.

Friday, June 12

- The Governor signed [Executive Order 20-75](#): Extending the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency Declared in Executive Order 20-01.
 - The Senate voted to end the Governor's Peacetime Emergency Declaration, the House did not. The Governor's Peacetime Emergency Declaration remains intact.

Friday, June 19

- The Governor signed [Executive Order 20-76](#): Extending the Relief from Regulations for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota Declared in Executive Orders 20-24, 20-44, and 20-60.

Saturday, June 20

- The Legislature adjourned after a brief Special Session.

Thursday, June 25

- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor announced a plan to distribute \$853 million in relief to communities across the state impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tuesday, June 30

- The Governor signed [Executive Order 20-77](#): Continuing the Governor's Blue Ribbon Council on Information Technology.

Tuesday, July 7

- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor announced their \$56.6 million Coronavirus Relief Fund proposal for emergency child care grants.

Wednesday, July 8

- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor announced that \$12 million in CARES ACT funding will go to food shelves across the state.

Friday, July 10

- Governor Walz signed the [Proclamation for Special Session 2020](#) summoning legislators to return to the Capitol to convene in Special Session Monday, July 13, 2020 at 12:00pm.

Monday, July 13

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-78](#): Extending the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency Declared in Executive Order 20-01.

Tuesday, July 14

- Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan announced a \$100M in rental and mortgage assistance program, which will be available mid-August.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-79](#): Rescinding Emergency Executive Orders 20-14 and 20-73 Modifying the Suspension of Evictions and Writs of Recovery During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.

Friday, July 17

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-80](#): Extending the Relief from Regulations for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating in Minnesota Declared in Executive Orders 20-24, 20-44, 20-60, and 20-76.

Tuesday, July 21

- The legislature adjourned after a brief Special Session.

Wednesday, July 22

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-81](#): Requiring Minnesotans to Wear a Face Covering in Certain Settings to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19.

Wednesday, July 29

- The state of Minnesota began the distribution of more than four million masks to be distributed to businesses, their customers, and people who are unable to afford a mask or easily obtain one.
- Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan announced a proposal to use \$25.8 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to help contain the spread of COVID-19 and its effect among vulnerable populations.

Thursday, July 30

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-82](#): Authorizing and Directing the Commissioner of Education to Require School Districts and Charter Schools to Provide a Safe and Effective Learning Environment for Minnesota's Students during the 2020-21 School Year.
- Governor Walz and Lieutenant Governor Flanagan announced the [Safe Learning Plan](#) for the 2020-21 School Year. School districts will begin in one of three models: in-person, distance learning, or a hybrid model and will adapt to different models if need be. Any students and families that choose to may opt for distance learning. The Safe Learning Plan includes \$250 million in spending from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to:
 - Provide face coverings for every student, educator, and staff member;
 - Deploy a comprehensive COVID testing plan for educators and staff members;
 - Help cover operational costs, like cleaning supplies, transportation, technology needs, and Wi-Fi access; and
 - Boost student, family, and educator support.

Friday, July 31

- The Minnesota Department of Health announced that the state has processed one million COVID-19 tests.

Friday, August 7

- Governor Walz signed the [Proclamation for Special Session 2020](#) summoning legislators to return to the Capitol to convene in Special Session Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 12:00pm.

Monday, August 12

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-83](#): Extending the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency Declared in Executive Order 20-01.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-84](#): Rescinding Emergency Executive Orders 20-15, 20-16, and 20-32; Amending Emergency Executive Order 20-23.
- The legislature returned to the capitol for a brief special session and adjourned.

Tuesday, August 25

- Governor Walz announced a plan for a new COVID-19 saliva testing lab in Minnesota.
 - The lab will be located in Oakdale, Minnesota and will be able to process about 22,000 tests a day. The goal is for the lab to be open in October.
 - Tests will be delivered through three methods:
 - At home testing supervised by a Vault Test Administrator.
 - On-site testing, supervised by trained medical personnel.
 - Minnesota's semi-permanent in-person testing locations.

Wednesday, August 26

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-85](#): Authorizing and Directing Higher Education Institutions to Provide Safe and Effective Learning Environments to their Students.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-86](#): Allowing Cooperatives and Cooperative Associations Flexibility to Hold Remote Elections and Avoid Gatherings During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency.
- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-87](#): Activating the Minnesota National Guard and Declaring a Peacetime Emergency to Provide Safety and Protection to the People of Minneapolis.

Friday, August 28

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-88](#): Establishing the Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee on the Metropolitan Council's Structure and Services

Thursday, September 3

- Governor Walz [announced](#) free COVID-19 saliva tests for teachers, school staff, and child care workers.

Wednesday, September 9

- Governor Walz signed the [Proclamation for Special Session 2020](#) summoning legislators to return to the Capitol to convene in Special Session Friday, September 11, 2020 at 12:00pm.

Friday, September 11

- Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-89](#) Extending the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency Declared in Executive Order 20-01.
- The legislature returned to the capitol for a brief special session and adjourned.

Tuesday, September 15

- Governor Walz sent a [letter](#) to Presidential Campaigns urging them to comply with Minnesota's COVID-19 safety guidelines.