

**MOST WORSHIPFUL UNION GRAND LODGE
FLORIDA, BELIZE, CENTRAL AMERICA & JURISDICTION, INC.
PRINCE HALL AFFILIATED**



150th Grand Session COVID-19 Medical Policy Proposal

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18TH MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER**

Policy Proposal Presenter



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Presentation Overview



- ▶ The Need for a COVID-19 Policy for the 150th Grand Session
- ▶ Current World-Wide and Florida Statistics/Trends
- ▶ Current New York Statistics/Trends
- ▶ Policy – Education
- ▶ Policy – Pre-Screening of Individuals
- ▶ Policy – Best Practices (Hand Washing / Social Distancing)

The Need for COVID-19 Policy



- ▶ Protection of the Order
- ▶ Safety and longevity of the Order
- ▶ Protection of the Grand Lodge from legal liability
- ▶ Help to prevent the spread of the Novel COVID-19
- ▶ Lack of Federal Oversight / Leadership
- ▶ Health considerations
- ▶ Education of our people
- ▶ Good policy aligns everyone

Current Statistics

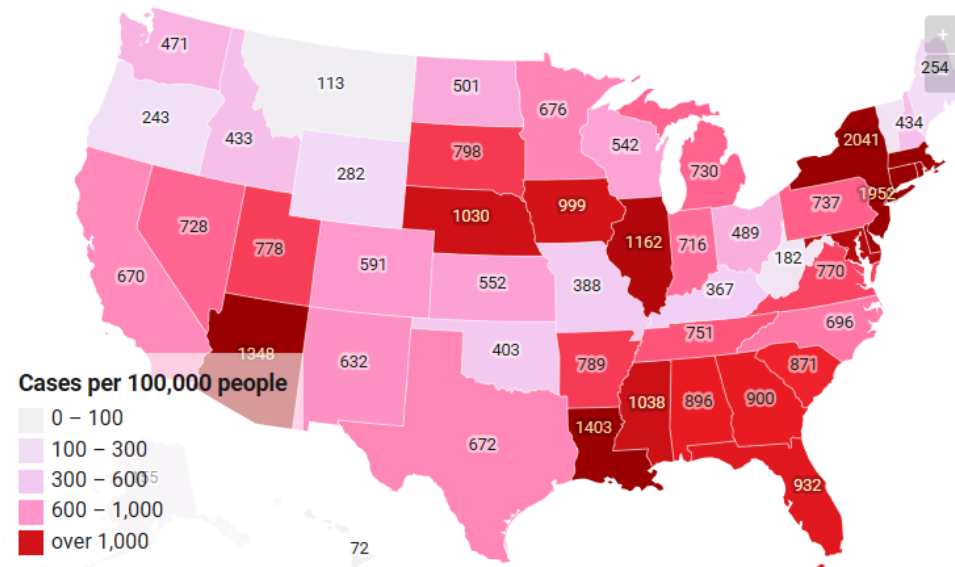


World-Wide



<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/us-map>

Florida



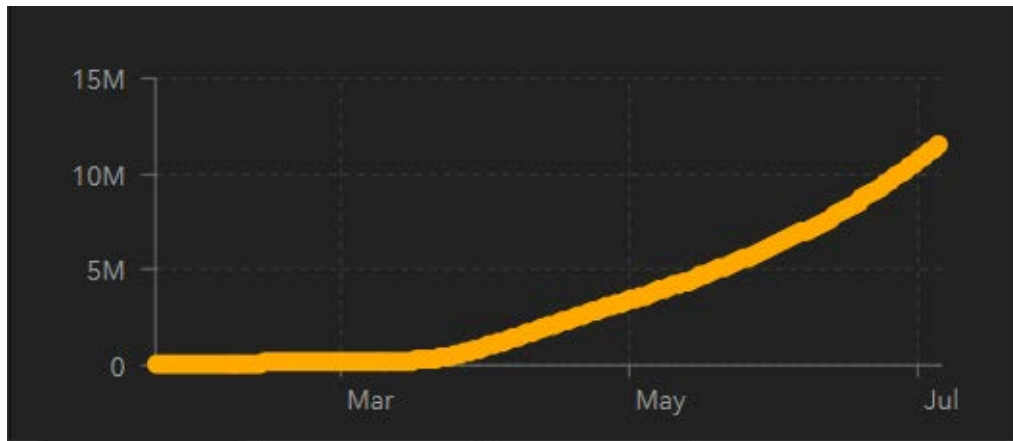
<https://time.com/5800901/coronavirus-map/>

Current Statistics



World-Wide

- ▶ Total Cases = 11,590,195
- ▶ Total Deaths = 537,429

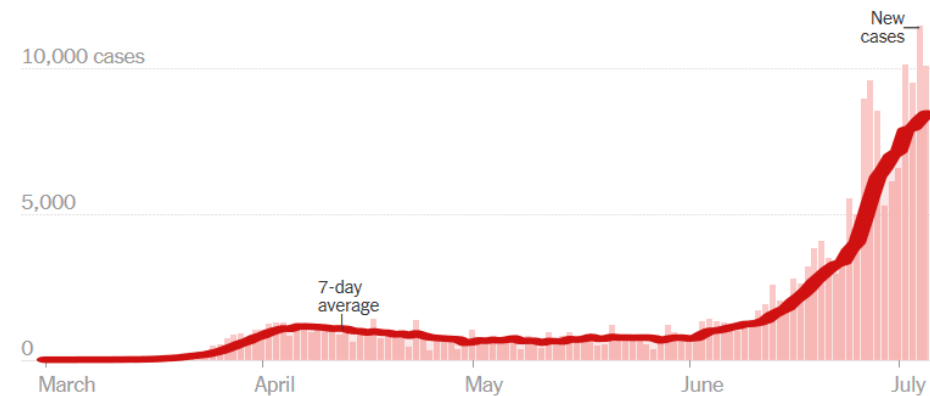


<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

Florida

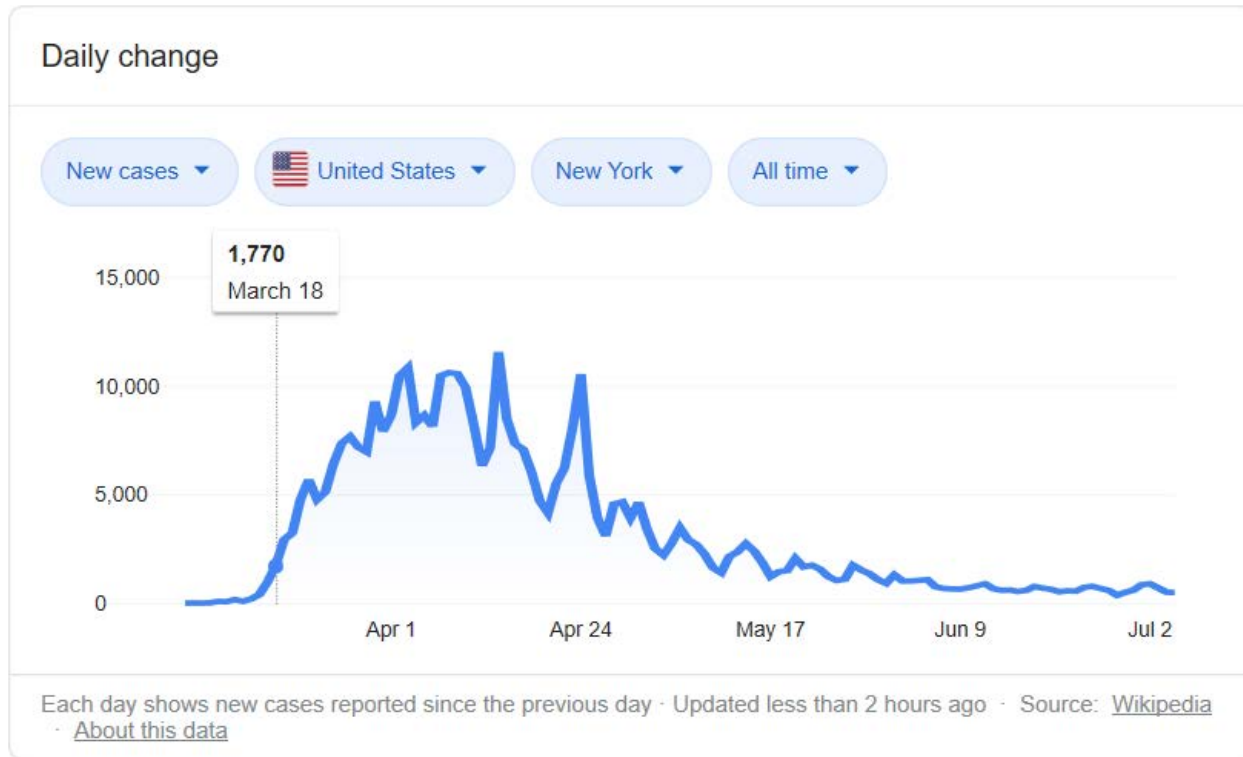
- ▶ Total Cases = 206,439
- ▶ Total Deaths = 3,777

New reported cases by day in Florida



<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/florida-coronavirus-cases.html#map>

Current Statistics – New York



Wikipedia - Images

- Initially a US Hot Spot
- Shut down / quarantine
- Daily briefing by Governor
- Mandated safe practices
- Phased reopening
- Flattened the curve
- Impeccable results stemming from good policy

COVID-19 Policy - Education



Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Know the symptoms of COVID-19, which can include the following:

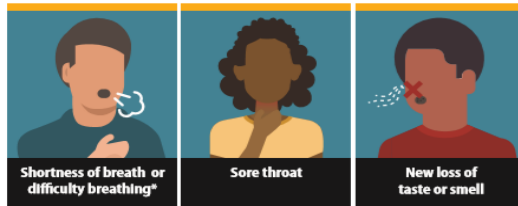


Cough

Fever

Chills

Muscle pain



Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing*

Sore throat

New loss of taste or smell

Symptoms can range from mild to severe illness, and appear 2-14 days after you are exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

***Seek medical care immediately if someone has emergency warning signs of COVID-19.**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.



- ▶ Symptoms of COVID-19
 - ▶ Cough
 - ▶ Fever
 - ▶ Chills
 - ▶ Muscle Pain
 - ▶ Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing
 - ▶ Sore throat
 - ▶ Loss of taste or smell

COVID-19 Policy - Education



What you should know about COVID-19 to protect yourself and others



Know about COVID-19

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person.
- The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.
- COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe illness.



Know how COVID-19 is spread

- You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet or two arm lengths) with a person who has COVID-19. COVID-19 is primarily spread from person to person.
- You can become infected from respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.
- You may also be able to get it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.



Protect yourself and others from COVID-19

- There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Stay home as much as possible and avoid close contact with others.
- Wear a cloth face covering that covers your nose and mouth in public settings.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



Practice social distancing

- Buy groceries and medicine, go to the doctor, and complete banking activities online when possible.
- If you must go in person, stay at least 6 feet away from others and disinfect items you must touch.
- Get deliveries and takeout, and limit in-person contact as much as possible.



Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.
- Separate yourself from other people and pets in your home.
- There is no specific treatment for COVID-19, but you can seek medical care to help relieve your symptoms.
- If you need medical attention, call ahead.



Know your risk for severe illness

- Everyone is at risk of getting COVID-19.
- Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more severe illness.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

► Topics concerning COVID-19

- Know about COVID-19
- Know how COVID-19 is spread
- Protect yourself and others from COVID-19
- Practice social distancing
- Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick
- Know your risk for severe illness

COVID-19 Policy - Education



Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

Accessible version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have COVID-19, follow the steps below to care for yourself and to help protect other people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care.

- **Stay home.** Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and are able to recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.
- **Take care of yourself.** Get rest and stay hydrated. Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.
- **Stay in touch with your doctor.** Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, or if you think it is an emergency.
- **Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.**



Separate yourself from other people and pets in your home.

- **As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people and pets in your home.** Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available. If you need to be around other people or animals in or outside of the home, wear a cloth face covering.
- **See COVID-19 and Animals if you have questions about pets:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#COVID-19animals>
- **Additional guidance is available for those living in close quarters:** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/living-in-close-quarters.html>) and **shared housing** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/shared-housing/index.html>).



Monitor your symptoms.

- **Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath but other symptoms may be present as well.**
- **Follow care instructions from your health care provider and local health department.** Your local health authorities will give instructions on checking your symptoms and reporting information.



When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention

Look for **emergency warning signs*** for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Bluish lips or face
- Inability to wake or stay awake

*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor.

- **Call ahead.** Many medical visits for routine care are being postponed or done by phone or telemedicine.
- **If you have a medical appointment that cannot be postponed, call your doctor's office, and tell them you have or may have COVID-19.**



If you are sick, wear a cloth covering over your nose and mouth.

- **You should wear a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth if you must be around other people or animals, including pets (even at home).**
- **You don't need to wear the cloth face covering if you are alone.** If you can't put on a cloth face covering (because of trouble breathing for example), cover your coughs and sneezes in some other way. Try to stay at least 6 feet away from other people. This will help protect the people around you.
- **Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2 years, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is not able to remove the covering without help.**



Note: During the COVID-19 pandemic, medical grade facemasks are reserved for healthcare workers and some first responders. You may need to make a cloth face covering using a scarf or bandana.


▶ Preventing the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

- ▶ Stay home (except for medical care)
- ▶ Quarantine yourself
- ▶ Monitor your symptoms
- ▶ When to see Emergency Medical Care
- ▶ If you are sick, wear a mask over your nose and mouth (protects yourself and others)



COVID-19 Policy – Pre-Screening



			
COVID-19 Self-Assessment Questionnaire			Date:
Print Name:			
Questions	Y	N	Reaction Plan
Symptoms			
- Are you experiencing one or more of the following symptoms: - Fever = or > 100.4 F - Difficulty breathing (e.g. unable to finish sentences because of your breathing, short of breath at rest, unable to lie down because of difficulty breathing) - Chest pain - Fainted or loss of consciousness - Loss of sense of taste and smell - Difficulty managing your daily life because of breathing difficulties			If YES to any of the questions, you will not be permitted into the building. You must stay at or return home until you have been symptom free for 3 full days. If your symptoms persist, please seek medical attention and get tested for COVID-19.
Contact			
In the last 14 days, you have been in close contact with someone: - Confirmed to have COVID-19 - Who is being investigated for COVID-19 - Had lab exposure to biological material - Attended a mass gathering where COVID-19 was spread - Lived or working in a closed facility experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak			If YES to any of the questions, you should self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 if you suspect possible exposure. Please seek medical attention and get tested for COVID-19.
Temperature			
- Today your temperature = or > 100.4 degrees F.			If YES, do not enter the building. You must stay at or return home until you have been symptom free for 3 full days.
Personal Hygiene			
- You have washed your hands in the last two hours and have the required personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, hand sanitizer).			If NO, immediately wash your hands. Speak with the WM for masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer.

- ▶ Pre-Screening is **Vital**
- ▶ Screening should include:
 - ▶ Symptoms
 - ▶ Temperature
 - ▶ Contact
 - ▶ Personal Hygiene
- ▶ Contains a reaction plan (guidance)
- ▶ Can be created in Excel or Adobe
- ▶ Currently used in industry/corporate

COVID-19 Policy – Best Practices



By order of the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group

Face Covering Required Beyond This Point.

For people with a health condition prohibiting them from wearing a face covering, documentation or identification of your condition is not required.

Please Practice Social Distancing.

Some exceptions apply
Read EPG order: Paragraph 9
[HCFLGov.net/StaySafe](https://www.hcflgov.net/StaySafe) #HillsboroughCares

- ▶ CDC free Resources
- ▶ Print and laminate
- ▶ Post this sign at all entrances
- ▶ Mandate

Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.

When in public, wear a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth.

Do not touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

- ▶ CDC free Resources
- ▶ Print and laminate
- ▶ Post this sign in multiple locations
- ▶ Mandate

COVID-19 Policy – Best Practices



▶ Current Florida Statistics (07/09/20)

- ▶ Florida Cases: **223,783**
- ▶ Increase in Cases: **9,989**
- ▶ Avg. Daily New Cases: **8,197.9**
- ▶ Hospitalized: **16,758**
- ▶ Total People Tested: **2,322,389**
- ▶ One Day Increase in Tests: **51,122**
- ▶ Percent Positive: **9.6%**
- ▶ Florida Deaths: **3,889**
- ▶ Increase in Deaths: **48**

COVID-19 Policy Proposal (Next Steps)



- ▶ Align on formalities of policy
- ▶ Approval from MWGM Gulley
- ▶ Author / approve Pre-Screening Checklist
- ▶ Author / approve liability waiver
- ▶ Author / approve Grand Session COVID-19 policy
- ▶ Print, laminate, and post CDC guidance documents in Grand Lodge
- ▶ Purchase thermometers, gloves, hand sanitizer
- ▶ Mandate frequent handwashing prior to and during Grand Session
- ▶ Frequently clean (hourly) highly contact surfaces
- ▶ Communicate policy to MWGM Gulley's VIPs and any additional visitors
- ▶ Align on cleaning of Grand Lodge
- ▶ Decision to train members attending Grand Session via Video Conference
- ▶ Continue to monitor ongoing CDC COVID-19 research

Questions / Comments

