

## PFT COVID-19 Update 5-27-20: PA Budget- Green & Yellow- Support Personnel- links

# CORONAVIRUS



## Updates

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### Lawmakers Eyeing Short-Term Budget With Education Funding Protection.

This article from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* outlines the unique and daunting budget challenges faced by our state legislature as a result of COVID-19. Of particular interest to teachers is the effort—even in the short term—to preserve existing levels of education funding despite an expected significant state budget shortfall.

It's a promise kept for now .... on a challenge that continues to evolve. [Read the entire article here.](#)

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### Friday Announcement Expected for Some PA Counties to Move to Green.

**This just in from Governor Wolf's Office:**

On Friday, the first Pennsylvania counties move into the green phase of COVID-19 reopening. *So what does "green" mean?*

Your county has done a good job at getting cases down and increasing ICU capacity, and has a lower risk when it comes to population density and travel patterns.

**COVID-19 is still out there and is highly contagious, so continue to take safety precautions:**

-  Wear a mask around others
-  Practice social distancing
-  Avoid large gatherings

- Practice good health habits

- Continue teleworking where feasible
- Visits to prisons and hospitals can resume
- Nursing home visits remain restricted to protect residents
- Businesses open in the yellow phase can increase to 75% occupancy
- Businesses with closed physical locations can open to 50% capacity
- Construction can ramp back up to full capacity with safety measures in place
- Businesses should consider special accommodations for vulnerable personnel
- All businesses and individuals must follow CDC and [Pennsylvania Department of Health](#) guidelines

For more information: [governor.pa.gov/plan-for-pennsylvania](http://governor.pa.gov/plan-for-pennsylvania).

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## Update from World Educational Support Personnel Day on May 15, 2020

AFT made sure to make a memorable point at the third-annual conference hosted by Education International (EI), by helping to bring attention to an all-too-often overlooked segment of the education workforce. AFT supports EI's resolution fully—seen below

Education International's declaration on the [rights of educational support personnel](#) is a beginning-to-end demand for living wages and decent working conditions for PSRPs worldwide.

For example, the declaration states that support staff must benefit from high-quality, recognized professional training; be valued and respected for their contributions to education; and be protected from outsourcing.

[Read the entire AFT article here.](#)

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## Information Links That Bear Repeating:

Below please find additional links providing helpful information you can bookmark and count on as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves.

\*\* PFT Coronavirus Updates Now Every Wednesday. \*\*

Missed an update or message? [View our archive of COVID-19 Updates here.](#)

[AFT/AFTPA Coronavirus Resources & Updates for Members](#)

[AFT/PFT Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) A Negotiated, Free Benefit to Members

[Click for EAP Information Flyer](#)

[Click for Life Skills Solutions Website](#) (*login upper right*)

[National Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus Resources](#)

[PPS Coronavirus Resources and Links](#)

[PA Department of Health Coronavirus Resources](#)

[PA-Specific Resources from Senator Casey](#)

[Student Debt Relief Resources](#)



## Coronavirus Self-Checker

A guide to help you make decisions and seek appropriate medical care

[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Rumor Control](#)

[Allegheny County Health Department Rumor Control](#)

**Please keep in touch—keep sharing your ideas, your questions and your concerns.**

**In solidarity—**

**Nina Esposito-Visgitis**

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Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](https://www.actionnetwork.org). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers, please [click here](#).