



# Utah Department of Corrections

*Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update*

November 3, 2020

*Dear Incarcerated Individual,*

As a nation we are seeing the strain that COVID-19 has taken on all of us, especially on those incarcerated.

Utah is currently in the midst of a surge of confirmed COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. As we see this surge in our communities, it's not altogether surprising to see more outbreaks in our correctional facilities.

We have now confirmed a second outbreak at the Utah State Prison (USP) in Draper, and our first outbreak at the Central Utah Correctional Facility (CUCF) in Gunnison.

At CUCF there are currently 14 confirmed cases in Hickory and 6 confirmed cases in Gale.

In regards to the second outbreak at the Utah State Prison in Draper, testing continues with focused attention on areas of outbreak. At this time, there are now 65 confirmed cases in Promontory, 56 cases in Oquirrh 5, and six cases in Lone Peak.

The good news, nearly all confirmed cases in Wasatch outbreak in A-Block and B-block have been designated recovered. The majority of those with COVID-19 in those housing units were either asymptomatic or exhibited minor symptoms. However, I want you to know that we are not deemphasizing the severity of this virus as there were still several individuals who required greater care, and three individuals who were hospitalized.

This is why we continue to operate under strict COVID-19 restrictions. We must do all that we can to prevent and slow the spread of this virus.

I hope you know that we care about you tremendously, and

our officers and medical staff are working hard to ensure your safety and health.

There are a lot of moving pieces as we work through isolation and quarantine procedures, and we truly appreciate your patience through this process. We are coordinating closely with state and local health officials. Your care is our top priority.

We anticipate that you will continue to have access to phones, but would add that access may be more limited depending on your housing location. On that note, other services such as mail and commissary may be slightly delayed as well, especially in areas where we have confirmed outbreaks.

Transparency and communication remain a critical part of our response to COVID-19. If you would like your family to be able to receive medical updates directly from a health provider, please ask your case manager or custody staff for the Authorization to Formally Discuss Health Information Form. This form is good for 90 days.

Thank you again for your patience, and we will continue to provide updates over the coming weeks.

Mike Haddon  
*Executive Director*  
*Utah Department of Corrections*



## Get your address approved before release

*Where do you plan to live after release? If you will be on parole, has your address been approved?*

### There are two ways to submit an address request to be reviewed:

1. The most efficient way is to have a family member or community support contact go to the Utah Department of Corrections public website at: [Corrections.utah.gov](https://corrections.utah.gov) > Probationers & Parolees > Address Verification Form

<https://corrections.utah.gov/index.php/offender-resources/address-verification-form>

2. The second way is to fill out a paper address verification form, which you can obtain from your correctional case manager, or a Release and Reentry team member. It is important to fill out the form completely with contact details for your family member or community support contact for address approval.

If an address is not approved before your release day, you may be placed on a waiting list to transition through a community correctional center (CCC) until a bed is available or an address is approved. This could result in your parole date being pulled, or rescinded, and reinstated once a release address is approved or CCC space is available.

### When can you submit an address for verification?

You can submit an address at anytime; however, we encourage you to submit an address for verification when a release date is in place, and within 6 months of that date. Please be mindful that our Release and Reentry team will likely not

reach out to you or your family member for verification until approximately three months before your release date.

### Additional information:

Family members and friends can additionally obtain other pertinent information regarding reentry resources, community supervision, and other general information through our public website:

[Corrections.utah.gov](https://corrections.utah.gov) > Family & Friends of Inmates -or- Probationers & Parolees

<https://corrections.utah.gov>

You should receive a Medicaid application form on release day with a point of contact at Utah Health Policy Project. Due to coronavirus measures inside the Utah State Prison, Utah Health Policy Project is not able to come on site until these measures are lifted.

The State of Utah Drivers License Division has temporarily suspended issuing state identifications inside the Utah State Prison prior to release due to recent coronavirus measures, but we hope to have this resources available again in the near future.

There are several reentry resources available through the Release and Reentry team prior to release. This information and prescheduled appointments with your AP&P agent are provided in the release packet you will receive on the day of release.

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## Get your medical clearance signed

In order for your family to be able to receive medical updates directly from a health provider, you must fill out an Authorization to Formally Discuss Health Information Form, which can be obtained from your case manager.

You will need to fill out the form, and have your caseworker notarize it and then submit it to the Clinical Services Bureau.

A designated staff member at the Bureau will make contact with the the person you've designated to verify information and set up a passcode to be used when contacting the Bureau.

Please remember that each authorization is good for only 90 days, and will need to be renewed through the same process when it expires.

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## Utilize the faith hotline

Our Chaplains are eager to provide support during these uncertain times. We encourage you to utilize the Faith Hotline, where you can contact a Utah Department of Corrections'

chaplain by phone for free. The call may not go to a direct person, but leave a detailed message and they will follow up with you. Just call 801-576-RELI (or 7354).

