



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Health

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COVID-19 Update **193 New Cases, Deadline Extended for Virtual Learning Centers Funding**

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports 193 new COVID-19 cases and one additional death since the last report on Tuesday, Oct. 13. Cumberland County's case count is now 6,331 with 95 deaths.

Cumberland County currently has 191 cases per 10,000 residents with 6.3% of those tested returning positive for COVID-19. The daily average of positive cases in Cumberland County is 44.7.

According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) COVID-19 dashboard, of the deaths in Cumberland County:

- 82% were age 65 and older
- 69% were male
- 56% were African American
- 75% were hospitalized
- 88% had at least one comorbidity
- 51% lived in a congregate living setting

Deadline Extended for Organizations to Apply for Virtual Learning Centers

The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners allocated \$250,000 for organizations to operate virtual learning centers for students in grades K-8. A Request for Proposals is on the [County's website](#). The submission deadline is now Oct. 21 at 4 p.m. The funding is available because of Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars the County received. Visit co.cumberland.nc.us, click on the "[RFP for Virtual Learning Centers](#)" graphic for instructions.

In September, the N.C. General Assembly passed House Bill 1105 that allows for community-based organizations to provide remote learning facilities for school age children during the state of emergency. A remote learning facility is defined as "a building or space used to house school-age children during the school year for the purpose of facilitating online or remote learning."

NCDHHS Announces Applications Open for New Rent and Utility Assistance Program

Governor Roy Cooper announced that the NCDHHS is accepting applications for the N.C. Housing Opportunities and Prevention of Evictions (HOPE) Program, which will assist eligible low- and moderate-income renters experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. The new program seeks to promote housing

stability during the ongoing pandemic by providing rent and utility assistance to prevent evictions and utility disconnections.

Renters who need rent or utility assistance can apply online at nc211.org/hope. Applicants who cannot access the online application can also call 2-1-1 and speak with a program representative, who will assist the caller through the application on the phone. Callers can reach 2-1-1 Monday-Friday between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Staying Updated

Cumberland County has made it easy for you to stay updated on the latest information about COVID-19. You can visit our [COVID-19 webpage](#), which has a list of [COVID-19-related closures and service changes](#). The county is also sharing important information on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.