

NARA Notice 2020-164: COVID-19 Cancellations Extended Through December 31; Additional Policies Under Review



Notice

To: All Employees.

Attention supervisors: If you have employees who do not have access to a computer, please ensure that those employees receive a copy of this notice. This includes employees on LWOP or paid leave.

This notice extends the suspension of in-person public programs throughout our nationwide system to better protect our staff and help to limit the spread of COVID-19.

In-person public programs, special events, and facility rentals at all National Archives and Records Administration facilities are cancelled through December 31, 2020. Some virtual events, such as our annual online Genealogy Fair, that require substantial on-site support will also be canceled or rescheduled.

The National Archives is committed to protecting the health and safety of visitors, customers, contractors, and employees during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. As a Federal Government agency, we will only open our facilities when our assessment aligns with the criteria and requirements laid out by the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Personnel Management, as detailed in M-20-23, "[Aligning Federal Agency Operations with the National Guidelines for Opening Up America Again](#)."

This blanket cancellation of in-person public programs, special events, and facility rentals does not apply to research rooms and museums, and we are not precluding the possibility that we would reopen some of these functions before December 31.

We are working to develop policies and procedures to support the opening of our research rooms and museums on a case-by-case basis once local conditions allow and with changes intended to protect the health and safety of our visitors, researchers, contractors, and employees. This includes the development of baseline requirements and plans tailored to each location. As the planning proceeds, we intend to include some limited reopenings, as conditions allow, to test and refine our plans.

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We will provide more details, when they are available, concerning the resumption of in-person public programs and special events as well as our plans to reopen individual research rooms or museums on Archives.gov, the ICN, and over our social media channels.

[David Ferriero](#)

Archivist of the United States

If you have questions about this notice, contact:

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