

(3.26.20) The following information is sent on behalf of the Brown & Weinraub healthcare team:

As NYS continues to try to identify additional hospital bed capacity, Governor Cuomo announced that an additional 12,000 healthcare workers, including retirees and students, have signed up to volunteer to work as part of the state's surge healthcare force during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This brings the total number of volunteers to more than 52,000.

The Governor also announced that more than 8,600 mental health professionals, including individuals from other states, have signed up to provide free online mental health services; appointments can be scheduled using the state's hotline at 1-844-863-9314.

Read the Governor's press release here:

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/amid-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic-governor-cuomo-announces-state-scouting-new-sites-temporary>

Although we will share information as soon as we see it, you may want to periodically check the NYS Department of Labor website which currently notes:

The federal government has not yet passed the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance or extended benefits legislation. As soon as they do, we will post qualifying information on our website.

In addition to the waiving the 7-day waiting period for filing for Unemployment Insurance, DOL Commissioner Roberta Reardon has signed an Order that limits all work search activities for all UI claimants. No activities are required during the COVID19 pandemic.

Access the DOL website here:

<https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/>

The State coronavirus site is constantly updated. Access it here:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>

A reminder that the Business Council is serving all NYS employers during this time with valuable webinars. Access the webinar schedule as well as content from past webinars here:

<https://www.bcnys.org/webinars>