



*This is being sent to all employees, please share with those who don't have easy access to email.*

**Date: November 6, 2020**

While we may have gotten into a rhythm of learning to live with COVID-19, the presence of the virus continues to creep into our consciousness. Many of you have asked what the DOT is doing as we continue to journey through this pandemic together. Therefore we've decided to revive our regular updates to not only keep you safe, but also informed.

**WHAT WE KNOW**

Statewide, Iowa had 3,417 new positive cases of COVID-19 yesterday. As of 8:30 a.m. this morning, a total of 143,956 Iowans have tested positive since the start of the pandemic. Of those 99,179 have recovered.

Below is a look at our positive cases at the Iowa DOT as of 4 p.m. yesterday:

LOCATION	POSITIVE CASES (PAST 14 DAYS)	TOTAL SINCE 3/1/20
District 1	5	19
District 2	3	9
District 3	4	15
District 4	6	8
District 5	2	8
District 6	8	18
Ames Complex	4	20
Motor Vehicle Division	7	14
Motor Vehicle Enforcement	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>114</b>

The chart above is updated by 4 p.m. each day and can be found [online](#).

## WHAT WE ARE DOING

### Conference Attendance

In the past, many of you have attended large in-state conferences hosted by our partners. Due to the uncertainty of being able to adhere to safety protocols, such as social distancing, attendance at these conferences will not be approved at this time. We are hopeful that organizers will provide opportunities to participate in a virtual format. Attendance at smaller meetings and other in-person contacts will be considered, providing safety protocols have been established and are able to be followed. Please work with your supervisor to determine if attendance at an in-state event is permitted.

## Employee Town Halls

This week we held the first Employee COVID-19 Town Halls. The purpose of these town halls is to present clear, current, and consistent information regarding the DOT's response to the pandemic, as well as give you an opportunity to ask questions or share ideas you may have to improve safety and communication with regards to COVID-19. If you missed this week's events you have three additional opportunities to participate. To access the town halls, click on the link for your preferred session below. As a reminder all sessions will be recorded and made available to employees following the final town hall.

[November 12: 10-11 a.m.](#)

[Add to my calendar](#)

[November 17: 9-10 a.m.](#)

[Add to my calendar](#)

[November 17: 1-2 p.m.](#)

[Add to my calendar](#)

## KEEPING YOU SAFE

As a reminder, if you are feeling sick please stay home. If you believe that you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or are being tested for the virus, please contact your supervisor immediately. They will work with Employee Services to determine the next steps. If the DOT is notified of a positive case we follow these steps to keep the rest of our DOT family safe:

1. The employee is required to self-isolate for 14 days from the time they show symptoms or test positive, if asymptomatic.
2. Employee Services will conduct contact tracing.
3. Employees who came within 6 ft of the positive employee will be contacted and asked to self-isolate only if either party were not wearing face protection when the exposure occurred.
4. Affected areas will be cleaned and disinfected, these areas will be closed until this disinfection occurs.
5. A note will be sent to everyone in the district or complex notifying them of the positive case

We will continue to keep you informed on what the Iowa DOT is doing to respond. As a reminder, the best source of DOT specific pandemic related information is our COVID-19 websites available at [iowadot.gov/covid-19](http://iowadot.gov/covid-19) (outside the DOT network) or [dotnet/covid-19/](http://dotnet/covid-19/) (inside the DOT network).

Stay safe in all you do!