

IN THE NEWS

Charter expands free Spectrum broadband internet & Wi-Fi offer to include educators who are new subscribers

On March 24, Charter announced it is expanding the eligibility for its 60-day free offer for Spectrum broadband internet and Wi-Fi access to include educators (K-12 teachers and college/university professors) who do not already have a Spectrum account.

A press release said, "During this unprecedented time, with the COVID-19 pandemic having forced schools, colleges and universities to close, it is more important than ever for students and educators to stay connected while they teach and learn."

Educators, who live in a Spectrum market and do not currently have broadband, can contact Spectrum at 1-844-488-8395 to sign up. A free self-installation kit will be provided to new student and educator households.

The press release added, "Now, more than ever, Americans rely on high-speed broadband in nearly every aspect of their lives, and Charter is committed to ensuring our more than 29 million customers maintain reliable access to the online resources and information they want and need."

To "ease the strain in this challenging time," on March 16, Charter committed to the following for 60 days:

- Charter is offering free Spectrum internet and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students, and now educators, who do not already have a Spectrum Internet subscription.

- Charter continues to offer Spectrum Internet Assist, a high-speed broadband program available to eligible low-income households that delivers speeds of 30 Mbps.

- Charter has opened its Wi-Fi hotspots across its footprint for public use.

- Spectrum will not terminate service for residential or small business customers who face difficult economic circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Similarly, Charter will not charge late fees for those customers facing difficult economic circumstances related to the pandemic.

- Spectrum News has opened its websites to ensure people have access to news and information.

- Charter has also donated air-time to run 1,000 COVID-19 public service announcement (PSA) spots per week. Charter will run PSAs for the American Red Cross and other relief organizations.

"As the country works collaboratively to contain this pandemic, broadband internet access will be increasingly essential to ensure that people across the country are able to learn and work remotely, that businesses can continue to serve customers, and Americans stay connected and engaged with family and friends.

"Charter's advanced communications network will ensure our customers – including government offices, first responders, health care facilities, businesses and the news media – across 41 states maintain the connectivity they rely on to help flatten the curve and protect the country."

Higgins, members call to expedite funding to health care providers

Congressman Brian Higgins, D-NY-26, and other members of New York and New Jersey's federal delegation are calling for the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary to expedite funding to health care providers in the two states.


In a bipartisan, bicameral letter, Higgins and the other 33 members of Congress write, "As health care professionals describe their hospitals as war zones and the death

toll in our states continues to rise, federal funding must be prioritized for hospitals and health care providers in states bearing the brunt of treating infected patients."

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act recently approved by Congress included \$100 billion to support the needs of hospitals and health care professionals while they battle COVID-19.

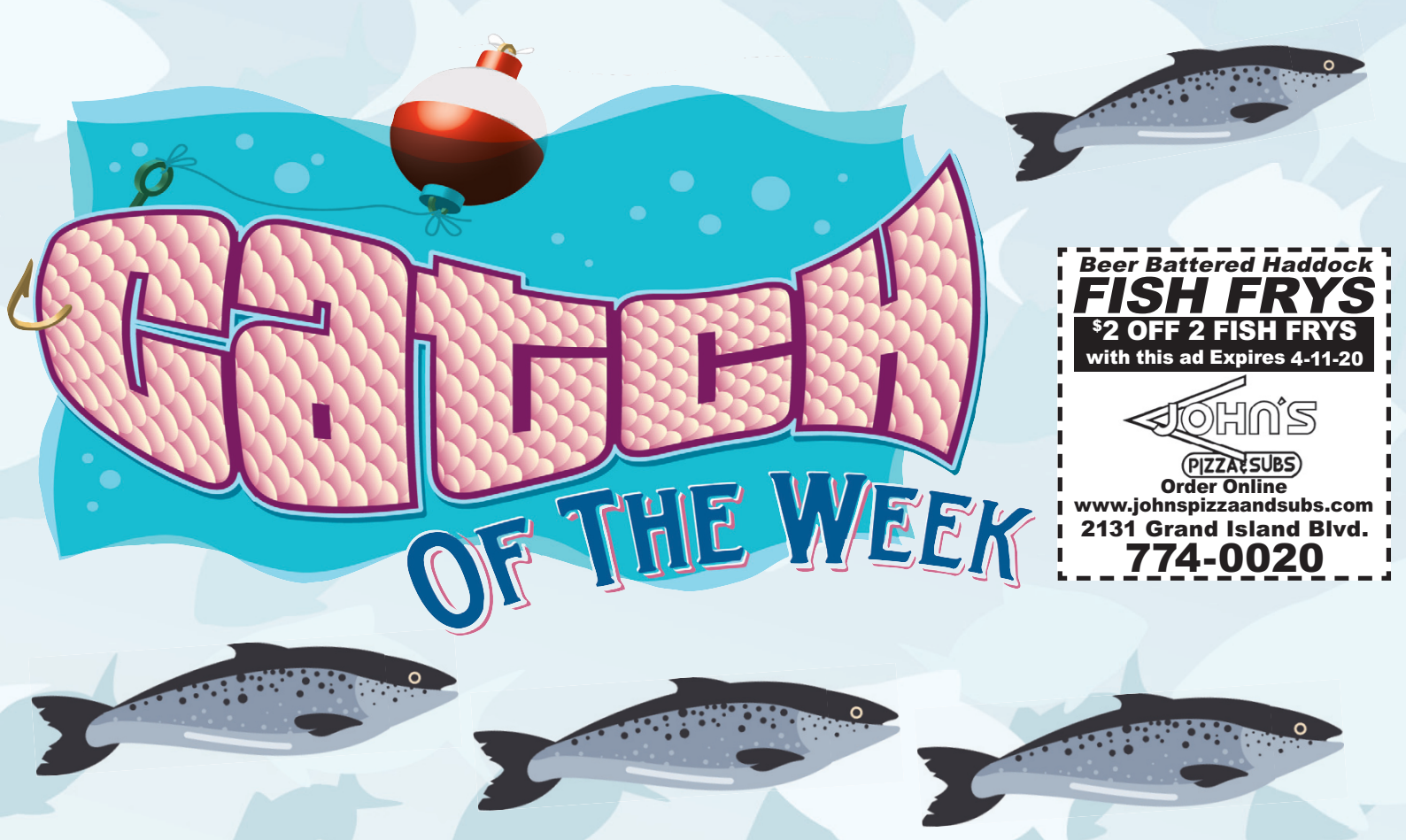
The states of New York and New Jersey have the most cases in the nation, with over 83,700 and nearly 19,000, respectively, and more than 102,700 confirmed cases combined.

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