

[Newsroom](#) / Instacart Unveils New Shopper Safety Measures Incl...

PRESS RELEASE

Instacart Unveils New Shopper Safety Measures Including In-App Wellness Checks, Extension Of COVID-19 Pay For All Shoppers & Bonuses For In-Store Teams

Published Apr 23, 2020



Company Announces Plans to Bring on 250,000 More Shoppers to Meet Continued Consumer Demand for Grocery Delivery in North America

Committed to Getting Back to 1-Hour & Same-Day Delivery Speeds by Adding 250,000 More Shoppers in Key Areas with the Most Demand Including California, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C. and Toronto

SAN FRANCISCO -- Instacart, the North American leader in online grocery, today announced plans to introduce additional safety measures for its growing shopper community including new in-app shopper wellness checks as well as the expansion of its COVID-19 extended pay policies for all shoppers and bonuses for in-store teams. The company also announced today its plans to bring on an additional 250,000 full-service shoppers over the next two months to meet the continued consumer demand for grocery delivery and pickup in North America with the intention to return to one-hour and same-day delivery.

"Instacart has become an essential service for millions of families relying on us to help deliver their groceries and household goods in the wake of COVID-19. Overnight, we've become a necessity for millions of people and our teams are working tirelessly to launch new products that speed up our service and open up more delivery windows for customers. We're committed to getting back to one-hour and same-day delivery speeds, and in order to do that, we're continuing to grow our shopper community to meet the surge in customer demand. We recognize these are extraordinary times and we take our responsibility to safely serve shoppers and customers very seriously. We're focused on continuing to provide safe and flexible earnings opportunities for shoppers, while also making it possible for more families than ever before to access grocery delivery," said Apoorva Mehta, Founder and CEO of Instacart.

As the COVID-19 crisis unfolds, Instacart remains steadfast in its commitment to support the health and safety of its shopper community. The company is working closely with public health officials and retail partners to take the appropriate precautionary measures to continue to safely deliver groceries for families, seniors, and communities across North America.

Today, the company is sharing additional steps it's taking to support the health and safety of Instacart shoppers:

and instructed to contact their physician.

- **Extending COVID-19 Pay for Part-Time Employees and Full-Service Shoppers** - To support shoppers who are affected by COVID-19, Instacart is offering up to 14 days of pay for any full-service shopper or part-time employee — including in-store shopper, shift lead, site manager, or Instacart Care agent — who is diagnosed with COVID-19 or placed in individual mandatory isolation or quarantine, as directed by a local, state, or public health authority. Today, we're announcing the extension of this financial assistance for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis to support employees and shoppers impacted by the virus.
- **Extending Bonuses for In-Store Teams Until End of COVID-19 Crisis** - The last several weeks have been the busiest in Instacart's history due to the increased customer demand for grocery delivery across North America. During this time, Instacart has been increasing pay for employees with new bonuses for all in-store shoppers, shift leads, and site managers. These bonuses are determined by the number of hours worked and range from \$25 to \$200. Today, we're announcing the extension of these bonuses for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis to further support our in-store shopper community during this critical time.
- **Making it Easier for Active Shoppers to Access Health and Safety Kits** - Instacart is continuing to provide personal protective equipment to all active shoppers with health and safety kits that include face masks and hand sanitizer. These health and safety kits were sourced and developed with several third-party manufacturers in consultation with medical and infectious disease experts. Starting today, Instacart will begin rolling out new in-app messaging that makes it easier for all active shoppers to request a free health and safety kit directly from the Instacart Shopper app.

In addition to the new shopper safety measures announced today, Instacart also shared that the company plans to bring on an additional 250,000 new full-service shoppers. One month ago, Instacart announced that it was bringing on 300,000 new full-service shoppers and, in the weeks following that announcement, the company quickly met that goal, growing its shopper community to more than 500,000 people today. With order volume growing by more than 500% year-over-year last week and average customer basket sizes increasing by 35%, the company plans to bring on more shoppers across North America to meet the continued surge in customer demand. Instacart will be focused on scaling its shopper community in key areas with the most consumer demand right now including California, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and Toronto.

To help safely grow its shopper community, Instacart is partnering with more than two dozen companies across a number of industries to support their employees who have been directly affected by this economic downturn. Whether they're an airline employee, service industry worker, member of the hospitality community, or otherwise impacted individual, Instacart wants to serve as an additional source of income for those looking for immediate, short-term financial solutions during this time of need. Instacart is also working alongside a number of other companies to expand its customers and shopper support team by bringing on experienced support agents whose previous positions were recently impacted.

Instacart's goal is to continue to offer a flexible earnings opportunity to shoppers, while also proactively taking the appropriate precautionary measures to operate safely. In the last few weeks, Instacart has introduced more than 15 new product features, new [health guidelines](#), contactless delivery options, shopper bonuses, and sick leave policies, as well as [pay for those affected](#) by COVID-19.



Blog

stores across more than 6,000 cities in North America. Instacart's delivery service is available to more than 60% of U.S. households and 70% of Canadian households. The company's cutting-edge enterprise technology also powers the ecommerce platforms of some of the world's biggest retail players, supporting their white-label websites, applications and delivery solutions. Instacart offers an Instacart Express membership for unlimited free delivery on orders over \$35. For more information or to start shopping, visit www.instacart.com. For anyone interested in becoming an Instacart shopper, visit <https://shoppers.instacart.com/>.

Get deliveries with Instacart



iOS



Android

Get Groceries

Top Departments

Top Cities

For Shoppers

For CPG's & Brands

Resources

More Departments

More Cities

Instacart Programs



Blog 

[Terms of Use](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[MPF Tax Policy](#)

[Security Portal](#)

[Cookie Preferences](#)

[Cookie Statement](#)

Apple and the Apple logo are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc. Android, Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google LLC.

© 2026, Maplebear Inc. dba Instacart.

