MY CITY, MY NEWS

City of Philadelphia

One Philly, A Connected City.

April 20, 2026

Get Ready for Election Day!

*By **Office of the City Commissioners***

The 2026 Primary Election is right around the corner. Here are a few key dates to keep in mind:

- **May 4 -** Last day to register to vote
- **May 12 -** Last day to apply for a mail ballot
- **May 19 -** Election Day and the last day to return your mail ballot

If you've moved, changed your name, or want to update your party affiliation, your application must be received by **11:59 p.m.** on **May 4.**

If you're already registered, take a moment to remind friends, family, and coworkers to check their registration too.

Visit **vote.phila.gov** to check your registration, apply for a mail ballot, or find more information.

Questions? Contact **annemarie.lebresco@phila.gov**

This Month We Recognize:
Autism Acceptance Month, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and more.

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hrhelpdesk@phila.gov **or** 215-686-0880

FY27 Budget Town Halls: “One Philly, One Future”

*By the **Mayor’s Office***

Mayor Cherelle L. Parker and City officials are hosting FY27 Budget Town Halls across Philadelphia to engage residents on the proposed $6.98 billion budget and Five-Year Plan.

The series kicked off in West Oak Lane, where residents heard updates on progress over the past two years and key investments in public safety, housing, economic mobility, and neighborhood quality of life — including expanded efforts to end street homelessness and increased road repair and pothole response.

These town halls reflect the Administration’s commitment to transparency, accountability, and delivering results residents can see and feel.

What to Expect:
Budget overview, progress updates, Q&A with City leadership, and access to City services

Can’t attend? Watch live on the City’s Facebook page.

Learn more at **phila.gov**.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **April 20 –** Northwest (8th District)
- **April 23 –** North Philadelphia (5th District)
- **May 5 –** Kensington (7th District)
- **May 7 –** West Parkside (4th District)
- **May 12 –** Northeast (6th District)
- **May 14 –** Fox Chase (10th District)
- **May 21 –** Kingsessing (3rd District)
- **May 28 –** Port Richmond (1st District)

Complete the Energage Employee Survey by April 27!

*By the **Office of Human Resources***

Please complete the Energage Survey for Top Workplaces Award **by April 27.** It takes 5-7 minutes to complete!

How to access the survey:

1. Scan the QR code or click the link.
2. Enter your **payroll ID number** in the **“survey code”** box.
3. Press **start survey.**
4. Fill out the survey.
5. Press **submit.**

The survey is being conducted by Energage, an independent research company. Your responses will be kept confidential, but please note that managers at City of Philadelphia may see the optional written comments on the final page of the survey. If you wish to make a comment, please do not write anything that will identify you as an individual.

Please do not share your payroll ID number with a colleague, as everyone can only take the survey once.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Energage directly at (800) 405-8381.

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Help Us Expand Summer Meal Sites Across Philadelphia!

By the ***Office of Children and Families***

Did you know? The City is working to expand Summer Meal Sites across Philadelphia, and staff can help spread the word! Over 100,000 youth experience food insecurity, and many lose access to school meals in the summer.

Community groups (including camps, faith-based orgs, and neighborhood blocks) can serve meals at no cost. Learn more at phila.gov/summermeals and help fuel the fun this summer!

How you can help:

- Apply to become a Summer Meal Site at www.phila.gov/summermeals
- Share this opportunity with your network

Have questions? Contact **Laura.Crandall@phila.gov**

Download the Become a Summer Meal Site flyer to share with your network!

SPRING 2026 TRAINING CATALOG

Attached below is the 2026 Spring Training Catalog. It contains new training resources for City employees to include REQUIRED trainings.

HR Professionals: Please make sure you provide access to the training catalog to all of your employees. Contact **TalentSuccess@phila.gov** if you have questions.

The success of our employees within their public service careers is important for the success of our residents and our city. Check out the list of trainings for Spring 2026!

Spring 2026 Training Catalog

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY AND TRAINING

The City of Philadelphia has launched a comprehensive Microsoft Copilot Chat Training program to help employees use AI tools more effectively and responsibly. The training covers key topics such as Copilot Chat's features, creating better prompts, using AI for everyday tasks, and ensuring safe, guideline-compliant usage.

All staff, whether new or experienced with AI tools, must participate to build practical skills for improved efficiency. Remember, only Microsoft Copilot Chat is approved for City data; commercial tools like ChatGPT are not permitted.

Copilot Chat AI Training

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VOLUNTEER FOR LOVE YOUR PARK WEEK

Spring is here, and it's time to give Philadelphia's parks some love! Love Your Park Week returns **May 9 – 17**, with volunteer opportunities at more than 100 parks across the city.

Join neighbors and fellow park enthusiasts to help rake leaves, plant flowers, remove litter, and more at one of the many volunteer events happening through the week. Tools and gloves are provided. Just bring comfortable clothes and your community spirit!

Sign up for a Love York Park Week event

SECOND CHANCE MONTH PHILADELPHIA EVENTS

April is **Second Chance Month**, a nationwide initiative that raises awareness about the challenges faced by individuals returning to society after incarceration. Each year, the City of Philadelphia joins communities across the country in reaffirming its commitment to breaking down barriers to employment, housing, and social inclusion—helping returning citizens rebuild their lives and thrive.

In recognition of this important month, the City of Philadelphia's **Office of Public Safety (OPS) Division of Reentry (DOR)** is hosting a series of local events throughout April. Returning citizens and community members who wish to support successful reentry are encouraged to participate.

Second Chance Month events

COMPLETE SENSORY INCLUSION TRAINING BY MAY 17

City employees have **until May 17** to complete the KultureCity Sensory Inclusion Training, a virtual course offered by the Office for People with Disabilities (OPD) and sponsored by the Eagles Autism Foundation.

The training increases awareness of sensory needs and provides practical tools to better support individuals with sensory sensitivities. As the nation's first Sensory Inclusive City, Philadelphia is committed to ensuring that all residents, employees, and visitors feel welcomed and supported.

KultureCity Sensory Inclusion Training

READ ABOUT THE POINT-IN-TIME COUNT VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is an annual effort led by the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) that provides a one-night snapshot of individuals and families in Philadelphia experiencing homelessness, both sheltered and unsheltered. The data collected is essential for shaping local policies, guiding funding decisions, and improving services, while also contributing to national efforts to better understand homelessness trends.

Each year, OHS calls for volunteers to help with the PIT Count. Read Office of Human Resources Communications Intern Anfisa Blyumina's blog post sharing her experience volunteering for this important one-night effort.

PIT Count Volunteer blog post

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2026 in Philadelphia

We're celebrating our country's 250th birthday! Find out which celebrations, activities, and events you can look forward to this year!

A Nation of Artists: US Art Exhibition

Now open, A Nation of Artists celebrates the rich and evolving story of American art. Presented jointly by the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, this unprecedented exhibition features over 1,000 works—including 120 rarely seen pieces from the Middleton Family Collection—spotlighting both famous icons and unsung heroes from historically underrepresented communities.

Visit the 2026 Resource Hub

The City is working to ensure residents, businesses, and visitors are prepared to experience Philadelphia's 2026 special events and celebrate America's 250th birthday. On the 2026 Resource Hub page, you'll find helpful resources, major event details, and public safety guides.

We'll keep this page updated regularly with the latest information and resources.

Download 2026 Access Philly App!

Philadelphia's biggest moment is here and it's happening in your neighborhood.

Download the 2026 Access Philly app to see what's happening across the city in real time, from America's 250th events to neighborhood festivals and local experiences.

Know what's happening near you. Plan your next move. Stay connected to your city.

Available in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Download the Access Philly app.

52 WEEKS OF FIRSTS

April 25

First Postmaster: 1737

Before there was email, there was Ben Franklin. He became America's first postmaster, creating a system that did more than deliver mail, it brought people together. See how one man's mail shaped a new nation.

Where: Franklin Court, 322 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA

May 2

First American-Made Piano and Sousaphone: 1895

From ivory keys to booming brass, Philadelphia hit all the right notes with the first American-made piano and sousaphone. Music history was composed right here in the city of harmony.

Where: Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, 300 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA

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Making It Happen: Upcoming Events!

Free Community Boating with Discovery Pathways
Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
April 25, 2026 | 10 a.m.
FDR Park, 1500 Pattison Ave & S Broad

Join Discovery Pathways for Free Community boating days at least twice a month. We provide instruction and support for you and your family to get out and enjoy a day on the water. We have rowboats, kayaks, and canoes. All ages are welcome, but kids must be accompanied by a guardian. No experience is needed and no pre-registration. **View the Friends of FDR Park event calendar**

How Did Philadelphia Become a World Cup City?
Free Library of Philadelphia
April 27, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.
Parkway Central Library, 1901 Vine St

The Social Science and History Departments are partnering with the Great Game Lab at Arizona State University and New America to explore how our nation, and a city known for its Eagles, Phillies, 76ers, and Flyers, came to embrace soccer, the world's most popular sport. As Philadelphia marks its 250th anniversary and prepares to welcome a global audience, this FREE program considers how the city connects to the world today. Featuring a preview screening of *Gritty but Global*, followed by a panel discussion with filmmaker Yana Pashaeva; Andrés Martinez, author of *The Great Game: A Tale of Two Footballs* and *America's Quest to Conquer Global Sport*; Jonathan Todd, Director of Social Impact, World Cup 26 Philadelphia; and Racheal Gray of the Philadelphia Union's Sons of Ben supporters group.
Register for *How Did Philadelphia Become a World Cup City?*
View *How Did Philadelphia Become a World Cup City?* on the Free Library calendar.

Skyline Sway: Hip Hop
Free Library of Philadelphia
May 4, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.
Parkway Central Library, 1901 Vine St

Join the Free Library of Philadelphia's Special Collections and Music Department for a series of free beginner dance classes! The classes will be held in Skyline Room on the 4th Floor of the library. The May 4 class will be hip hop taught by Alexis Curiel. Classes are brought to you by Urban Movement Arts and Laurel Card Latin Dance. This program is a part of the exhibition celebrating America's 250th, *Philadelphia: For the People*, which will be on display from June 2026 - December 2026 in the 2nd Floor West Gallery of the Parkway Central Library. **View Skyline Sway: Hip Hop on the Free Library calendar.**

988 5k
DBHIDS
May 17, 2026 | 7 a.m.
MLK Drive & Eakins Oval

Registration for the 988 5k is now open! Taking place the morning of May 17, in the middle of Mental Health Awareness Month, this free community event calls on Philadelphians to prioritize their emotional well-being and support loved ones in doing the same. Participants and supporters are encouraged to join the event to enjoy a welcoming, family-friendly and pet-friendly atmosphere that includes music, wellness resources, and information about the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Community partners will be on site to share tools, services, and guidance for anyone seeking help for themselves or others as we unite to reinforce a simple, powerful message: You are not alone. **Share the 988 5k logo!**

CEA Learning Series - Leading a Community Meeting
Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity
May 20, 2026 | 6 p.m.
Virtual - Zoom

The Civic Engagement Academy (CEA) is a free training program that provides community members with the tools to create lasting positive change. In this training, you will learn How to host a successful meeting and manage conflict. **Register for CEA Learning Series - Leading a Community Meeting.**

FMLA for Family Members and Caregivers
Silver Collaborative
May 21, 2026 | 12 p.m.
Virtual - Teams

Join the Silver Collaborative for a virtual meeting on Thursday, May 21 from 12 - 1 p.m. Nicole Brown from the City of Philadelphia Department of Labor will provide information regarding FMLA for family members and caregivers. Bring your questions and concerns. Any and all employees welcome! Email **Tracy.Jones@phila.gov** for the Teams meeting link. **View the FMLA for Family Members and Caregivers Silver Collaborative meeting flyer.**

Ignite Your Insight - Emotional Regulation
DBHIDS
May 27, 2026 | 12 p.m.
Virtual - Teams

The DBHIDS Education and Training Unit invites you to an engaging, interactive virtual learning session focused on the topic of emotional regulation, where there will be space to learn, reflect, and share perspectives through facilitated conversation. Each Ignite Your Insight session explores timely topics designed to develop your insight and offers practical takeaways for personal and professional growth. **Register for Ignite Your Insight - Emotional Regulation.**

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Work ResourcePhilly

YOUR CITY. YOUR MISSION. YOUR FUTURE.

STAY CONNECTED. STAY INFORMED.

Whether you're in the office or out in the field, the City of Philadelphia Employee Website is your one-stop destination for the latest news, tools, and updates that matter to YOU including:

- Benefits & Open Enrollment Info
- Training Opportunities
- Resources to Help You Thrive
- Payroll Access
- Employee News
- Share Your Story

GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW CITY EMPLOYEES.

From Water to Parks & Rec, from Licenses & Inspections to Health — we're all on the same team. The Employee Website helps build a stronger, more connected City workforce by sharing stories, spotlighting departments, and celebrating our collective impact.

City of Philadelphia | *One Philly, for all.*

Visit **EMPLOYEE.PHILA.GOV**

Anytime. Anywhere. On any device.

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Employee Resources

Office of Human Resources
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Employee.phila.gov

Employee.phila.gov is a new online resource designed to support City employees. This hub brings together essential information in one easy-to-access location! Need details on benefits, workplace policies, or well-being programs? The hub site has you covered with clear, up-to-date information. The site also provides tools to help you share career opportunities with friends, family, and community members who may be interested in joining the City workforce. Explore the page!

CITY RESOURCE GROUP MEETINGS

City Resource Groups (CRGs) create employee-led spaces to support diverse communities and allies, helping make the City a more inclusive workplace. CRGs offer networking, leadership opportunities, and skill-building through professional development. Members also collaborate with the Office of DEI to support departmental diversity goals. **Learn more about CRGs** or email Brenna.Schmidt@phila.gov to join or get involved.

CITYWIDE IT TRAINING

The Office of Innovation & Technology contracts with several vendors to provide information technology training. This is available on site, hands-on, and interactively to all City Departments. The Order Form and the Course Catalog are posted on the Office of Innovation and Technology Intranet, see Forms and Document Page. Please note that all training requires the approval of both the department's authorized personnel and fiscal agent. **VIEW AVAILABLE COURSES**

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

NEW self-care and mental health resources for employees coping with the impact of COVID-19 are now available on the LMS, in addition to a variety of training and career development resources. Simply visit the Knowledge Base on the LMS for more information on COVID-19 Employee Self-Care. **ACCESS THE LMS**

LANGUAGE ACCESS PHILLY

All City departments must have a Language Access Plan (LAP) to ensure residents with non-English language preference (NELP) can access services for free.

Language Access Philly connects departments with interpretation and translation services to support multilingual communities. Need help? Contact your Language Access Coordinator or **visit the Language Access Philly resource page.**

DISABILITY ACCESS RESOURCES

The City of Philadelphia is committed to making City services accessible to all residents, including people with disabilities. Through policies, programs, and resources, the Office for People with Disabilities works to support inclusion and access. Explore accessible spaces, disability data, systems navigation videos, and key policies. Learn more on **the website** and contact the Office for support.

CITY INTRANET

Receive updates and access City resources like central duplication, an updated org chart, and updates on employee benefits and programs! All announcements listed here are also posted to the City's Intranet. Please note, you must be connected to either City Wi-Fi, LAN, or through approved VPN to access. **CHECK IT OUT**

SEPTA KEY ADVANTAGE

There's still time to get on board with **SEPTA Key Advantage**. Whether you're already enrolled or thinking about signing up, keep riding with ease. Log in to app.jawntpass.com to register your KeyCard today.

RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT FUND

Resident Engagement Fund: City departments seeking funding to pay residents during community engagement activities can apply through the Resident Engagement Fund, administered by the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. LINK HERE or email ResidentComp@phila.gov

READYPHILADELPHIA

Stay connected to the weather forecast and important information from the City, directly to your phone! The city's emergency notification system is now available in 11 languages including American Sign Language. Text READYPHILA to 888777 to receive alerts to your device or sign up with your preferred language by visiting our ReadyPhiladelphia **webpage** for phone and text alerts. **SIGN UP FOR ALERTS**

CITY COLLEGE FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT

Have you seen the new homepage for the City College for Municipal Employment? Check it out on phila.gov and explore some of the options and details!

DISCLAIMER

This is a citywide newsletter, distributed to all employees with a phila.gov email address. Attendance at events during work hours must be approved by your supervisor. Occasionally, some information you receive may be applicable only to a certain group of employees, like exempts. We will clearly label such information, but if you have questions, please contact your HR administrator. Any special citywide discounts have been approved in advance by the Chief Integrity Officer and are available to all City employees who are interested.

Reference in this newsletter to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of City employees, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the City of Philadelphia.

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