



YOU'LL BE PLAYING AS:

**NEW MEXICO  
GOVERNOR**

To view a black and white, printer-friendly version of this packet, click [here](#).

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## WELCOME TO LIVES IN BALANCE LETTER

---

Scan this letter for the basic details you'll need to discuss the Bubble Plans. You can find links to the *Lives in Balance* trailer and tutorial videos here, too.

## CHARACTER SHEET (NEW MEXICO GOVERNOR)

---

Read all about your character's background and goals for this scenario.

## SOUTHWEST STATE COALITION MAP

---

Check out a map of the Southwest States Coalition. Will the pandemic unite or divide these neighbors?

## CDC RE-OPENING GUIDELINES

---

Find out what the experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that states and employers do in the face of a pandemic.

## ROLE REFLECTION EXERCISE

---

Use these prompts to help you get into character before you play *Lives in Balance*.

## BASIC TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE FOR VIDEO CONFERENCING SOFTWARE

---

Look here for help if you're playing *Lives in Balance* virtually and have some trouble with your video conferencing platform.

# WELCOME TO LIVES IN BALANCE

The members of the **Southwest States Coalition** are meeting today. They want to work together on their responses to the pandemic. They will look over each state's plan to "re-open" its economy.

The Coalition includes the governors from **Arizona, New Mexico, California, and Nevada**. Also joining is the **U.S. Deputy Secretary of Commerce**, who will share financial information to help the states decide. The **Deputy Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** will be at the meeting, too. This federal official will share the latest pandemic health information.

The Nevada and Arizona governors will be presenting their "**Bubble Plans**." These plans explain how the states will "re-open" their economies through professional sports events. Today's goal: Each Coalition member will vote to approve or deny "the Bubble Plans."

In **Arizona**, Major League Baseball (MLB) will start its season under their proposed Bubble Plan:

- Players, teams, and personnel will stay in socially distanced hotel rooms.
- All team and stadium personnel will have temperature checks each day.
- All team and stadium personnel will have weekly virus testing.
- Food will come only from the restaurant(s) at the hotels, with rapid testing of workers.
- Teams will be allowed to be face-to-face only in the hotel restaurant and lobby.
- Private shuttles will transport teams to and from the hotel and stadium.
- Shuttles will be cleaned each day before taking the teams to the stadium.
- There will be **no fans**.

In **Nevada**, the National Football League (NFL) will start its season under their proposed Bubble Plan:

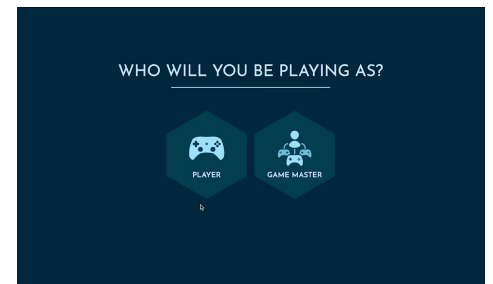
- Players, teams, and personnel will stay in socially distanced hotel rooms.
- There will be one team per hotel.
- All team and stadium personnel will have weekly virus testing.
- All team and stadium personnel will have temperature checks twice a day.
- Players and staff will be allowed to be face-to-face in private meeting rooms only.
- Private shuttles will be transport teams to and from the hotel and stadium.
- CDC-approved helmets will be provided. They feature an improved visor and a certified air filtration system.
- There will be **no fans**.

**What is more important, putting people back to work or the health of the residents? Where does the federal government stand? Is it helping or hurting the states? You decide!**

BEFORE PLAYING THE SIMULATION,  
PLEASE WATCH THE VIDEOS  
LINKED BELOW.



LIVES IN BALANCE TRAILER



ITHRIVE SIM WALKTHROUGH

## ROLE DESCRIPTION

### NEW MEXICO






CAPITAL: SANTA FE

POPULATION: 2.09 MILLION






You are the Governor of New Mexico. You are the head of New Mexico's executive branch. You command the state's military forces. You make an annual State-of-the-State address to the New Mexico State Legislature. You submit the state budget. You make sure state laws are enforced. You will have the courtesy title of "The Honorable" for life.


## ABOUT YOU

-  You were a track star in high school and college. You won the Silver Medal at the Olympics. You graduated with honors from one of the top law schools in the country. You made your home state proud with your Olympic medal.
-  You speak deliberately. You choose your words carefully to make your point.
-  You have a strong relationship with the communities who live on tribal lands in the region. You are committed to supporting their welfare. You request their input on laws and budget matters that impact them.
-  You like watching sports. But you do not allow anything to get in the way of your responsibilities to your state.
-  You work hard to empower the members of local tribal communities. You also care deeply about the poor communities in your state. You believe that healthcare is a right and not a privilege. You have done everything you can to provide universal healthcare for New Mexico residents.

# WHAT YOU DO

-  You work to protect the residents of New Mexico.
-  In these Coalition meetings you fight for more funding from the Department of Commerce. Your state's virus numbers are spiking. You try to promote empathy and action from the other Coalition members.
-  You work really hard to represent your region's most vulnerable communities. They are being hit the hardest by the virus.

## GOALS



Take care of the residents of New Mexico. Make sure they have the medical equipment they need to fight the virus. Convince Arizona and Nevada to stop or delay their re-opening and Bubble Plans. Argue that the Bubble Plan will put the region and the nation as a whole in more danger.

## OTHER CHARACTERS

### NEVADA GOVERNOR

You do not trust the **Nevada Governor**. You will work with them if they support you in protecting the health and well-being of the people of New Mexico.

### ARIZONA GOVERNOR

You do not like the **Arizona Governor**. You think they act entitled. You guess it's because they are a member of a major political family.

### CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR

You like the **California Governor**. You feel you can work with them to slow down Arizona's and Nevada's Bubble Plans.

### DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

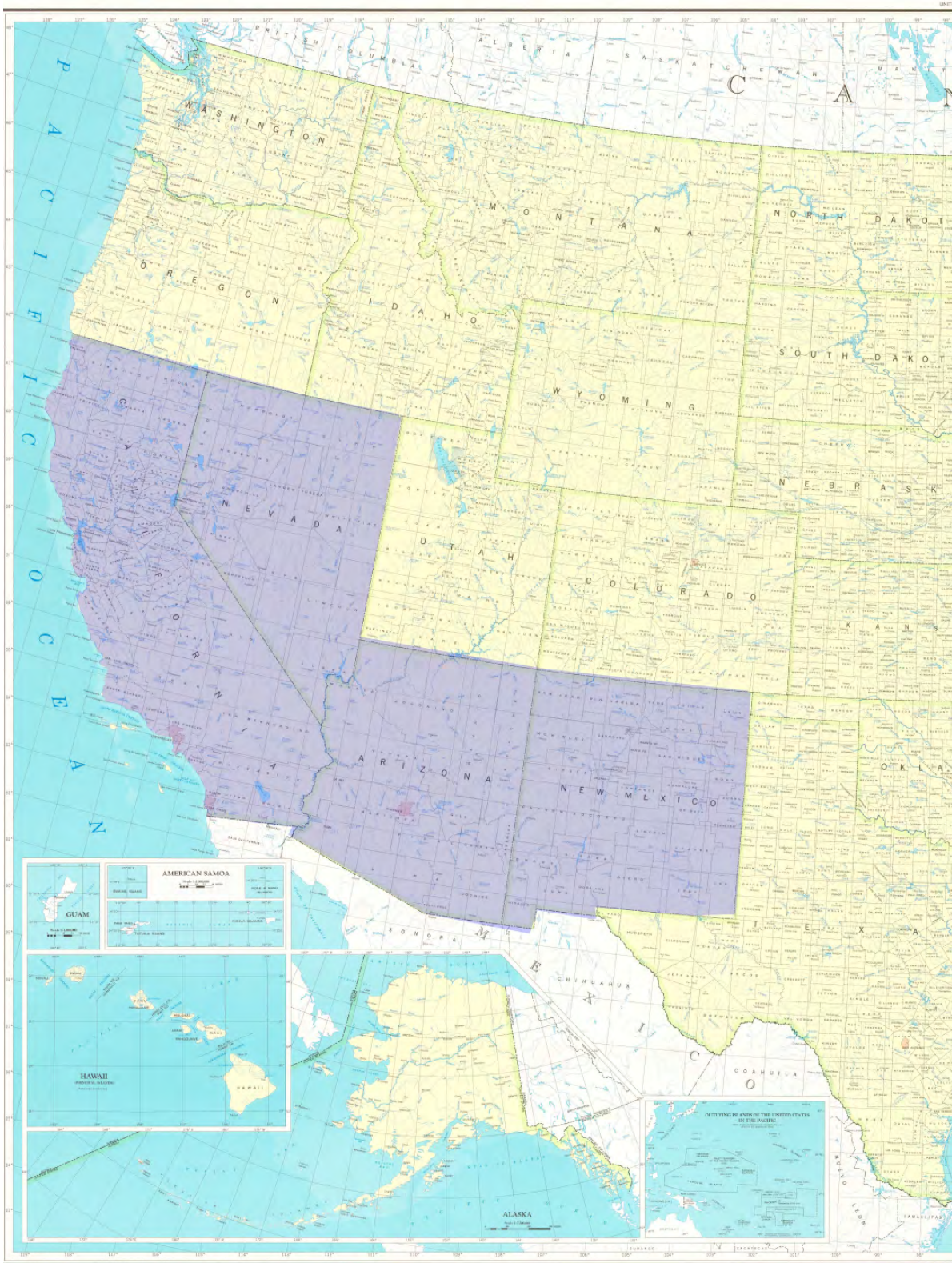
You do not like the **Deputy Secretary of Commerce**. You feel they are all talk and no action. This is not the first time they have failed you.

### PRINCIPAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CDC

You generally like the **Principal Deputy Director of the CDC**. You respect each other. You agree with the CDC's science-based, cautious recommendations.

# SOUTHWEST STATES COALITION

This map is intended for educational purposes only.



# CDC RE-OPENING GUIDELINES

ITHRIVE SIM: LIVES IN BALANCE



IF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOLLOW STRICT PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND SANITATION RULES, THEY MAY OPEN.

## 1 Phase One SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS



**SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES** (e.g., daycare, camp): **NO**



**BARS: NO**



**ELECTIVE SURGERIES: YES** as clinically appropriate, on an outpatient basis at facilities that adhere to medical guidelines



**LARGE VENUES** (e.g., sit-down dining, movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship): **YES** under strict physical distancing protocols



**GYMS: YES**



**VISITS TO SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS: NO**

## 2 Phase Two SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

**SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES** (e.g., daycare, camp): **YES**

**BARS YES** with reduced capacity

**ELECTIVE SURGERIES: YES** on an outpatient and in-patient basis at facilities that adhere to medical guidelines

**LARGE VENUES** (e.g., sit-down dining, movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship): **YES** under moderate physical distancing protocols

**GYMS YES**

**VISITS TO SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS: NO**

EACH PHASE OF THIS GUIDANCE ADDRESSES THOSE ASPECTS OF DAILY LIFE FOR WHICH RESTRICTIONS REMAIN APPROPRIATE DUE TO THE VIRUS.

**PART ONE:** Read about your character, then answer the following questions:

- (1) What role will you be playing?
  
- (2) Based on what you know about the scenario and the role, what are you most curious about?
  
- (3) What is one main goal your character is trying to achieve?
  
- (4) Based on the description, what's one thing about your character you relate to? Explain.
  
- (5) Based on the description, what's one thing about your character you DON'T relate to? Explain.

**PART TWO:** Discuss your responses with one or more members of your role-play team. Your role-play team also may choose to warm up for the simulation by introducing yourselves in character.

**Complete this exercise using the Google Docs document [here](#).**



***iThrive Sim: Lives in Balance*** is designed to be accessible to participants in any location. All you need is WiFi access and a device, such as a laptop or Chromebook.

For students learning virtually, the social interactions in ***iThrive Sim*** will require using an additional video conferencing software tool, such as Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, etc.

## ACROSS VIDEO CONFERENCING PLATFORMS, HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

### YOU ARE USING A BROWSER FOR VIDEO CONFERENCING:

- You will need two (2) browsers open; one for the *iThrive Sim* website and one for the video conferencing site.
- Arrange the browsers side-by-side so that they are both visible. To do this, you may need to minimize both windows so that you are able to adjust the size and arrangement of both to be visible (for example, neither browser should be in full-screen mode).

### NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU:

- Call into the meeting using the phone number listed on the video conferencing invitation you received.
- Mute your computer mic and use your phone to communicate.

### YOU CAN'T SEE THE VIDEOS IN THE ITHRIVE SIM PLATFORM:

- Post a note in the chatbox to let the facilitator know. The facilitator can play the videos over the video conferencing software instead.

### YOUR CAMERA FEATURE ISN'T WORKING:

- As long as you can hear and be heard by the other participants, you will be able to play ***iThrive Sim***.

### MORE RESOURCES

Below, you'll find links to help guides for relevant questions on commonly used video conferencing platforms. If there are other platforms you need information about, search for help guides online or feel free to reach out to us at least one week prior to running your simulation at [support@ithrivesim.org](mailto:support@ithrivesim.org).

#### FOR ZOOM:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Managing Breakout Rooms](#)
- [Pre-assigning Participants to Breakout Rooms](#)

#### FOR GOOGLE MEET:

- [Troubleshooting Network, Audio, and Video](#)
- [Start a new Google Meet Video](#)
- [Use breakout rooms in Google Meet](#)

#### FOR MICROSOFT TEAMS:

- [Get Started with a Live Event](#)
- [Using Video in Teams](#)
- [Join a Teams Meeting](#)
- [Use breakout rooms in Teams meetings](#)