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Safer at Home FAQs

Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Secretary-designee Andrea Palm issued Emergency Order #12, Safer at Home order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, effective at 8 a.m. on Wednesday March 25th. On April 16, 2020, Secretary-designee Palm issued Emergency Order #28, which extends Safer at Home and makes some changes to the initial order.

The changes from Emergency Order #28 will go into effect on April 24. Safer at Home order will remain in effect until 8 a.m. on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 or until a superseding order is issued.

General Questions

Why is the Safer at Home order being extended?

According to the model created by DHS, Wisconsin was projected to have between 440 and 1,500 deaths from COVID-19 by April 8th. These numbers were based on projected significant exponential growth in positive cases; however, since the Safer at Home Order, there has been a decrease in exponential growth in the number of cases and by April 8th, Wisconsin only had 99 deaths.

Without effective treatments or a vaccine, the only way to slow the spread of COVID-19 is through non-pharmaceutical interventions. The Safer at Home Order has been our main intervention in Wisconsin, and we are beginning to see the results. We will continue to work with local health departments to develop capacity to implement effective containment strategies across the state. Relaxing the order before those measures are in place would be expected to result in a surge of cases.

What's new in this Safer at Home Order that was not in the first order?

Most of the order remains the same, and it is structured in the same way. The changes are designed to ensure safety and compliance, while also allowing certain activities to start up again. The changes in this order include:

Businesses and activities that may increase services and operations:

1. **Public libraries:** Libraries may provide curbside pick-up of books and other library materials.
2. **Golf courses:** Golf courses may open, with restrictions including scheduling and paying for tee times online or by phone only. Clubhouses and pro shops must remain closed.

3. **Non-essential businesses:** Non-essential businesses can do more things as Minimum Basic Operations, including deliveries, mailings, and curbside pick-up. Non-essential businesses must notify workers of whether they are necessary for the Minimum Basic Operations.
4. **Arts and craft stores:** Arts and craft stores may offer expanded curbside pick-up of materials necessary to make face masks or other personal protective equipment (PPE).
5. **Aesthetic or optional exterior work:** Aesthetic or optional exterior lawn care or construction is allowed, so long as it can be done by one person.

Safe business practices:

1. **Safe business practices for Essential Businesses and Operations:** Essential Businesses and Operations must increase cleaning and disinfection practices, ensure that only necessary works are present, and adopt policies to prevent workers exposed to COVID-19 or symptomatic workers from coming to work.
2. **Safe business practices for retailers that are Essential Businesses and Operations:** Retail stores that remain open to the public as Essential Businesses and Operations must limit the number of people in the store at one time, must provide proper spacing for people waiting to enter, and large stores must offer at least two hours per week of dedicated shopping time for vulnerable populations.
3. **Supply chain:** Essential Businesses and Operations that are essential because they supply, manufacture, or distribute goods and services to other Essential Businesses and Operations can only continue operations that are necessary to those businesses they supply. All other operations must continue as Minimum Basic Operations.

Other changes:

1. **Schools:** Public and private K-12 schools will remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.
2. **Local parks and open space:** Local health officials may close public parks and open spaces if it becomes too difficult to ensure social distancing or the areas are being mistreated.
3. **Travel:** People are strongly encouraged to stay close to home, not travel to second homes or cabins, and not travel out of state if it is not necessary.
4. **Tribal Nations:** Tribal Nations are sovereign over their territory and can impose their own restrictions. Non-tribal members should be respectful of and avoid non-essential travel to Tribal territory. Local government must coordinate, collaborate, and share information with Tribal Nations.
5. **Duration:** The changes in this order go into effect on April 24. The order will remain in effect until 8:00 a.m. on May 26, 2020.

Where does the Safer at Home order apply?

The Safer at Home order applies to the entire state. All Wisconsin residents must stay at home as much as possible and non-essential businesses and operations must cease, with limited exceptions for minimum basic operations and working from home. All public and private gatherings of any number of people that are not part of a single household or living unit are prohibited, except for the limited exceptions contained in the orders.

What are social distancing requirements?

Social distancing requirements include:

1. Maintaining social distancing of six feet between people;
2. Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer;
3. Covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands);
4. Regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces;
5. Not shaking hands; and
6. Following all other public health recommendations issues by DHS and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

Is the Safer at Home order mandatory?

Yes. All Wisconsinites need to do their part to keep their family, friends, neighbors and communities safe.

Individuals may leave their homes for the following reasons:

1. To perform essential governmental functions, to work at essential businesses and operations, to do minimum basic operations for non-essential businesses, and essential travel, all of which are defined in the orders;
2. To obtain services at or to work for health care and public health operations, certain human services operations, or essential infrastructure;
3. To perform tasks that are essential to health and safety such as obtaining medical supplies or medication, seeking emergency services, or visiting a health care professional;
4. To obtain necessary services or supplies such as food, gasoline, pet supplies, and other household consumer products;
5. To engage in outdoor activity, as long as they maintain social distancing; and
6. To care for a family members, friend, or pet in another household, and to transport family members, friends, or pets as allowed under the order.

Will I be required to carry documentation to leave my home?

No. Individuals do not need special permission to leave their homes, but they must comply with the Safer at Home order and the extension order as to when it is permissible to leave home.

Does the order specify places that must close?

Yes. All non-essential businesses and operations must close. K-12 schools and public libraries are closed, with some exceptions including virtual learning, on-line services, and curb-side pick-up. Additionally, all amusement parks, carnivals, water parks, licensed public or private swimming pools, splash pads, aquariums, zoos, museums, arcades, fairs, children's play centers, playgrounds, funplexes, theme parks, bowling alleys, movie and other theaters, concert and music halls, country clubs, social clubs, and gyms and fitness centers. The order applies to the above places and those like them whether they are indoors or outdoors.

Can I go outside for walks, outdoor exercise, or to play?

Yes. You may engage in outdoor activities that meet social distancing requirements. You may travel to open public and state parks for walks, hikes, and bike rides. No team or contact sports are permitted. Playgrounds are closed.

Can I proceed with a wedding or funeral as planned?

Weddings and funerals can proceed as long as any gathering includes fewer than 10 people in a room or confined space at a time and individuals adhere to social distancing requirements as much as possible. If you need to travel to attend a wedding or funeral, you should check before you leave that your means of travel is still available. If travel is to another state, you should read any orders in place in that state before you leave.

Can I obtain care or boarding for my pet?

Non-essential veterinary care should be avoided, but you may leave your home to obtain necessary veterinary care and supplies for your pet. Grooming services must close. Pet boarding and daycare is an essential business and operation that may remain open.

Am I able to proceed with plans to move out of my house?

Yes. Moving and relocation services are essential businesses and operations.

Are golf courses open?

Yes. Golf courses may open, but there are restrictions. Golf carts are prohibited; all reservations and payments must be made online or by phone ahead of time; social distancing must be observed at all times; clubhouses and pro shops must remain closed; and tee times must be spaced to avoid multiple foursomes from clustering at any point on the course. Driving ranges and miniature golf remain closed.

Travel

Can I travel?

All forms of travel are prohibited unless explicitly excepted. Individuals utilizing mass transit must maintain social distancing of at least six feet as much as possible. Permitted essential travel includes:

1. Any travel related to essential activities, essential governmental functions, essential businesses and operations, or non-essential businesses' minimum basic operations.
2. Travel to care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or vulnerable persons.
3. Travel to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, or any other services.
4. Travel to return to a place of residence from outside the jurisdiction.
5. Travel required by law enforcement or court order, including to transport children pursuant to a custody agreement.
6. Travel required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside Wisconsin.

Can I travel to my second home or cabin?

Individuals are strongly encouraged to remain at their primary residence or home. Travel to second homes within Wisconsin and outside of Wisconsin and to Tribal territory is discouraged.

Can I travel to another state to work?

Yes. You may travel to another state for activities that are permitted in that state. Please contact the state directly to ensure that your travel complies with their rules and orders.

Schools, Libraries, and Local Government

How long will schools be closed?

The order closes public and private K-12 school buildings for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. All schools must remain closed for instructional and extracurricular activities. Schools may also be used for essential government functions and food distribution.

What is the rest of my school year going to look like if schools are closed?

Schools are strongly encouraged to facilitate distance or virtual learning. It is important for schools to continue to keep in touch with students as social connections through school are important to student mental health. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has resources on its COVID-19 web page (<https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/2019-novel-coronavirus>) to support schools in this work.

I'm a school employee and people are using our outdoor spaces to congregate or play group sports. What should I do?

Use your discretion on the best path forward given the situation. We encourage all communities and individuals to work together to comply with the Safer at Home order. You can talk to the group to educate them on the importance of social distancing and the Safer at Home order. Another option is to request local law enforcement to assist in communicating that message.

Will public libraries remain open?

Libraries must close for all in-person services. However, libraries may provide curbside pick-up of books or other materials that patrons order on-line or by phone. Libraries may also continue online services and programming. Libraries may be used for essential government functions and food distribution.

Can local government bodies continue to conduct business?

All state, tribal, and local essential governmental functions can continue. This means that government bodies should continue all functions needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government body and provide and support the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Each government body is responsible for determining what functions, if any are necessary and identify employees and contractors necessary to perform those functions.

Government bodies should continue to follow the [Wisconsin Department of Justice's Office of Open Government guidance](#) regarding holding government meetings, and should consult directly with that office regarding specific open meetings questions.

My local government also issued an order like this. Which one do I follow?

You must follow the statewide order issued by DHS Secretary-designee Andrea Palm. If a local order conflicts with the statewide order, you must follow the statewide order. However, local governments may issue orders to close public parks and open spaces in their jurisdiction under certain circumstances.

How will this order be enforced?

This order is enforceable by any local law enforcement official, including county sheriffs. Violation or obstruction of this order is punishable by imprisonment, fines, or both. Wis. Stat. § 252.25.

Businesses and Employees

Does my business or employees need documentation to continue working?

No. If a business is an essential business or operation as outlined in the Safer at Home order and the extension order, it does not need documentation or certification to continue work that is done in compliance with this order.

If a business is non-essential, it must determine which of its employees are necessary to carry out Minimum Basic Operations and it must inform its workers of that designation. However, no formal documentation is required for non-essential businesses or their employees.

What if I still have to go to work?

All essential businesses and operations are encouraged to remain open but must have employees work from home if it is possible for them to complete their job duties remotely. If you are a worker at one of these businesses, you must implement social distancing requirements as much as possible. Your business is required to follow all [DHS guidelines](#) on how to keep the workplace safe and the specific requirements in the order.

If you are an employee at a non-essential business, your employer must communicate to you whether you are one of its employees who is necessary to carry out its Minimum Basic Operations.

My employer is making me come to work, but we are not an essential business.

Non-essential businesses may continue Minimum Basic Operations. Your employer must inform you if you are necessary to perform a Minimum Basic Operation.

If businesses or operations are continuing to work beyond what is permitted in the Safer at Home order, you can contact local law enforcement to report a violation of the order.

What if my business or operation is not essential?

Your business must close. Individuals are encouraged to work from home where possible.

You are permitted to do the Minimum Basic Operations to maintain the value of your business's inventory, preserve the condition of the business's physical plant and equipment, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions, including where these functions are outsourced to other entities. Minimum Basic Operations may include:

1. Taking steps to facilitate employees working remotely;
2. Fulfilling deliveries or mailing parcels so long as all the operations are performed by one person in a confined space, including a car or truck, and no signature is required;
3. Providing curb-side pick-up of goods, so long as the operations are performed by one person in a confined space, including a car or truck, no signature is required, and pick-ups are scheduled to maintain social distancing between customers.

Minimum Basic Operations does not include serving customers in person (other than the deliveries and curb-side pick-up). Services or activities requiring more than one person may only continue via phone or virtually.

For more information on essential and non-essential businesses, check the information page on the [Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation \(WEDC\) website](#).

What is considered an essential business?

Please read the Stay at Home order carefully to determine what is considered an essential business or operation. Even if a business or operation is essential, there are still important restrictions on how the business can operate. For example, all entities that remain open as essential businesses or operations must implement social distancing as much as possible and use technology to avoid meeting in person, including virtual meetings, teleconference, and remote work (i.e., work from home). The order contains specific restrictions on each kind of essential business and operation.

Essential businesses and operations include the following, which are clarified in detail in the Order:

1. Any business or worker identified in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) [memo](#), and any subsequent version of this memo;
2. Stores that sell groceries and medicine, including bakeries, provided they: (i) close all seating intended for consuming food; (ii) cease any self-service operations of salad bars, beverage stations, and buffets; (iii) except for grocery stores, prohibit customers from self-dispensing all unpackaged food; and (iv) abide by social distancing requirements;
3. Food and beverage production, transport, and agriculture;
4. Restaurants and bars, for take-out and delivery service of food;
5. Organizations that provide charitable and social services, including food banks and shelters;
6. Religious entities as long as any gathering includes fewer than 10 people in a room or confined space at a time and individuals adhere to social distancing requirements as much as possible;
7. Weddings and funerals as long as any gathering includes fewer than 10 people in a room or confined space at a time and individuals adhere to social distancing requirements as much as possible;
8. News media;
9. Gas stations and businesses needed for transportation;
10. Financial institutions and services;
11. Hardware and supplies stores;
12. Critical trades;
13. Mail, post, shipping, logistics, delivery, and pick-up services;
14. Laundry services;
15. Supplies to work from home;
16. Supplies for essential businesses and operations and essential governmental functions;
17. Transportation to and from activities permitted in the order;
18. Home-based care;
19. Professional services;
20. Manufacture, distribution, and supply chain for critical products and industries;
21. Critical labor union functions;
22. Hotels and motels;
23. Higher educational institutions for purposes of facilitating distance learning, performing critical research, or other essential functions.

In addition to essential businesses and operations, healthcare and public health operations, human services operations, essential infrastructure, essential governmental functions will continue to operate.

My retail store is essential under the order. What restrictions apply to my store?

All retail stores that remain open as essential businesses and operations must install markings for where customers line up to enable the customers to stay six feet apart and use alternatives to lines, such as drive-up loading and scheduled curb-side pick-ups.

Stores with less than 50,000 square feet of customer floor space must limit the number of people in the store, including employees, to 25% of their total occupancy limits.

Stores with more than 50,000 square feet of customer floor space must limit the number of customers (excluding employees) to 4 people per 1,000 square feet. These stores must also offer at least two hours per week of shopping time for vulnerable populations.

My business supplies an essential business. Can I stay open?

Yes, but only for the operations that are necessary for the essential business you are supplying or supporting. You may not continue other parts of your business that are not necessary to service essential businesses or operations.

Can I continue my landscaping, lawncare, or exterior construction business?

Construction is an essential business or operation. Landscapers are also considered essential businesses or operations, so long as the service is necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses, or buildings.

Optional or aesthetic lawncare services and optional or aesthetic exterior residential construction can continue as a Minimum Basic Operation so long as the operation is performed by one person in a room or confined space, including a car or truck, and only one person is on site at a time. No signature may be required for the service.

Are greenhouses and retail landscaping businesses allowed to operate?

Greenhouses, retail landscaping businesses and their suppliers are considered essential businesses or operations, so long as the service is necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses, and buildings.

If a greenhouse, retail landscaping business, or supplier is not necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses, and buildings, they may still continue Minimum Basic Operations, including fulfilling nonessential curb-side pick-up, deliveries, mailing parcels, and receiving parcels if it can be done by one person in a room or confined space, including a car or truck. Services cannot require a signature by the customer.

Will restaurants and bars remain open?

Restaurants may remain open for food take-out or delivery only and no seating may be provided. Carryout sales of alcohol beverages and food are allowed if permitted by state law and municipal ordinance. Customers may enter these establishments only for the purpose of ordering, picking up, and paying for food or beverage. Food and drink may not be consumed on the premises, neither indoors nor outdoors. Delivery of alcohol to retail customers is prohibited.

Any self-service operations of salad bars, beverage stations, and buffets must cease. Customers are prohibited from self-dispensing any unpackaged food or beverage.

Social distancing requirements must be implemented as much as possible.

Will hotels and motels remain open?

Hotels and motels are essential businesses and operations and can remain open if they follow the guidelines imposed on stores that sell groceries and medicine, restaurants, and bars. Guests are prohibited from congregating in lobbies or other common areas and social distancing requirements must be implemented. Hotel and motel swimming pools, hot tubs, and exercise facilities must close.

However, everyone is strongly encouraged to stay close to home and not to travel.

The order does not prohibit individuals from residing at a hotel, motel, short term rental, or campground as their primary home or residence.

Does this order apply to child care settings?

Child care settings are essential businesses and operations. Secretary-designee Andrea Palm's [Emergency Order #6](#) remains in effect, with the following amendments:

Child care settings must prioritize care for families as follows:

Tier 1: Employees, contractors, and other support staff working in health care

Tier 2: Employees, contractors, and staff in vital areas outlined in the order

Child care settings include all licensed and certified child care providers who may provide care for any age or ages of children up to 13 years of age, unless specially licensed for children with disabilities up to 19 years of age.

Please see the Department of Children and Families [FAQ on this topic](#) for additional information.

Are personal care businesses allowed to remain open?

No. All hair salons, barber shops, nail salons, day spas, electrolysis providers, waxing salons, eyebrow-care establishments, tattoo parlors, body art establishments and tanning facilities must close.

Business Requirements Summary

*This is intended as an overview. Please review the Safer at Home Order for details and restrictions for specific industries and businesses.

All businesses must:

1. Avoid meeting in person whenever possible, and switch to virtual meetings, teleconference, and remote work (i.e. work from home);
2. Comply with all [Department of Health Services guidelines for businesses](#);
3. Follow Social Distancing Requirements between all individuals on the premise to the maximum extent possible.

(All businesses are encouraged to follow [WEDC's best practices for a COVID-19 response plan](#).)

Essential businesses and operations must also:

1. Restrict the number of workers present on premises to no more than is strictly necessary to perform the essential operation.
2. Increase standards of facility cleaning and disinfection and adopt protocols to clean and disinfect in the event of a positive COVID-19 case in the workplace.
3. Adopt policies to prevent workers from entering the premises if they display respiratory symptoms (e.g., a cough) or have had contact with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.

Essential retail stores must also:

1. Consider establishing scheduled curb-side pick-up.
2. Stores with less than 50,000 square feet: limit number of people in the store to 25% of the total occupancy limit.
3. Stores with more than 50,00 square feet: limit customers to 4 people per 1,000 square feet and offer at least 2 hours per week of shopping time for vulnerable populations.
4. Establish lines to regulate entry into the store, including markings to keep customers six feet apart while waiting.

Specific Businesses		
Business	Essential Business	Non-Essential Business
Airbnb and VRBO	X Industry-specific Requirements: 1. Comply with requirements of Sections 13.b (selling groceries and medicine), 13.d (restaurant operations), and 13.e (bar operation); 2. Close swimming pools, hot tubs, and exercise facilities; and 3. Prohibit guests from congregating in lobbies or other common areas, including providing adequate space to adhere to Social Distancing Requirements while queuing for front desk services.	
Architecture	X	
<p style="text-align: center;">Auctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock market barns (Equity Co-op livestock) • Herd dispersal • Estate auctions of farms with livestock • Estate auctions, but only if an auction is necessary to preserve the value of property or inventory. 	X Industry-specific Requirements: 1. Must occur virtually or online to the greatest extent possible 2. In-person auctions must be limited to bidders only; 3. Pick-up of goods after the auction must be staggered;	
<p style="text-align: center;">Auctions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural equipment • Animal auctions for competition (e.g. show pigs) • Consignment sales • Antiques & collectibles • Art • Autos & motorcycles • Boats & personal watercraft 		X 1. May continue as virtual auctions or online auctions. 2. All preparations, meetings, inventory review, and consumer preview of goods must occur virtually.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coins & currency • Collector cars & vintage equipment • Government surplus property & seizures • Heavy equipment & construction machinery • Household goods • Industrial & manufacturing equipment • Intellectual property • Jewelry • Off-road & recreational vehicles • Restaurant equipment • Tools • Trucks, trailers, and transportation related equipment 		<p>3. After a virtual or online auction, the auctioneer or auction company may deliver, mail, or provide curb-side pick-up of goods if it can be done by one person in a room or confined space, including a car or truck.</p> <p>4. Delivery, curb-side pick-up, or parcel services cannot require a signature by the recipient.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Bars</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carryout sales of alcohol beverages are allowed if permitted by state law and municipal ordinance; 2. Delivery of alcoholic beverages to retail customers is prohibited; 3. Wineries holding direct wine shippers' permits may make deliveries of wine in accordance with their permit; 4. Customers may enter only to order, pick up, and paying for food or beverage or both; 5. No seating may be provided; 6. Food and drink may not be consumed on premises, either indoors or outdoors; 7. Self-service operations of salad bars, beverage stations, and buffets are prohibited; and 	

	8. Customers are prohibited from self-dispensing any unpackaged food or beverage.	
Bicycle stores and repair shops	X	
Campgrounds	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comply with requirements of Sections 13.b (selling groceries and medicine), 13.d (restaurant operations), and 13.e (bar operation); 2. Close swimming pools, hot tubs, and exercise facilities; and 3. Prohibit guests from congregating in lobbies or other common areas, including providing adequate space to adhere to Social Distancing Requirements while queuing for front desk services. 	
Cannabidiol (CBD) shops		X
Car auctions		<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Auctions may be held virtually.</p>
Car washes		X
Churches and religious entities	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Any gathering must include fewer than 10 people in a room or confined space at a time.</p>	
Cleaning services - residential		X
Cleaning services - business	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Permitted for essential businesses if it is necessary to maintaining safety, sanitation, and essential operations.</p>	

Construction supplies	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Aesthetic or optional construction projects should be avoided.</p> <p>Exterior aesthetic or optional construction may continue with one worker on site.</p>	
Copier sales and maintenance	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Only if they are selling to or servicing an essential business or operation.</p>	
Craft stores		<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>May use additional staff as necessary to provide curbside pick-up for materials necessary for making personal protective equipment.</p>
Driving ranges		<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>
Farmers markets	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Close all seating intended for consuming food; 2. Food samples are prohibited; 3. Self-dispensing unpackaged food areas (including fresh produce) may stay open. Areas that require customers use tongs or scoops are encouraged, but not required to close. Vendors must sanitize the tongs and scoops frequently. 	
Fishing, chartered excursions		<p style="text-align: center;">X</p>
Food banks	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Close all seating intended for consuming food; 	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Close self-service operations such as salad bars, beverage stations and buffets; and 3. Cease any customers self-dispensing unpackaged food (except for grocery stores). 	
Food trucks	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take-out or delivery service only; 2. No seating may be provided; 3. Food and drink may not be consumed on the premises, either indoors or outdoors; 4. Self-service operations of salad bars, beverage stations, and buffets are prohibited; 5. Customers are prohibited from self-dispensing any unpackaged food or beverage. 6. Carryout sales of alcohol beverages are allowed if permitted by state law and municipal ordinance; and 7. Delivery of alcoholic beverages to retail customers is prohibited. 	
Fulfillment centers	X	
Furniture stores		X
Garage sale, rummage sales, yard sales		X
Gas stations	X	

Golf courses	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No golf carts; 2. Social distancing is required; 3. Only online or phone tee time reservations and payments; 4. Clubhouses and pro shops are closed; 5. Tee times scheduled to ensure social distancing throughout the course; 6. Requirements for staff and maintenance; 7. Driving ranges and miniature golf are closed. 	
Greenhouses	X	
Grocery stores	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <p>Industry-specific Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Close all seating intended for consuming food; 2. Close self-service operations such as salad bars, beverage stations and buffets; 3. Self-dispensing unpackaged food areas (including fresh produce) may stay open. High-touch areas and areas that require customers use tongs or scoops (water dispensers, bulk bins, bakery displays) are encouraged, but not required to close. Stores must sanitize these areas frequently. 	
Gun and ammunition stores, shooting ranges	X	
Gyms, fitness centers, personal trainers		X
Hemp agriculture	X	
Home improvement stores	X	

Internet technology (IT) and telecommunications services	X	
Landscaping	X Essential if it is necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses, and buildings.	
Liquor stores	X	
Miniature golf		X
Office supply stores	X	
Pet boarding and doggy day care	X	
Pet grooming (including in-home, mobile, and part of a larger store)		X
Pool cleaning services	X Optional or aesthetic pool maintenance should be avoided.	
Printing	X Essential if the printer service is necessary for an essential business or operation.	
Real estate staging	X	
Rest stops	X	
Restaurants	X Industry-specific Requirements: 1. Take-out or delivery service only; 2. Customers may enter only to order, pick up, and paying for food or beverage or both; 3. No seating may be provided; 4. Food and drink may not be consumed on the premises, either indoors or outdoors; 5. Self-service operations of salad bars, beverage stations, and buffets are prohibited;	

	<p>6. Customers are prohibited from self-dispensing any unpackaged food or beverage.</p> <p>7. Carryout sales of alcohol beverages are allowed if permitted by state law and municipal ordinance;</p> <p>8. Delivery of alcoholic beverages to retail customers is prohibited; and</p> <p>9. Wineries holding direct wine shippers' permits may make deliveries of wine in accordance with their permit.</p>	
Salons and spas		X
Sawmills	<p>X</p> <p>Essential if the sawmill is necessary for an essential business or operation.</p>	
Shelters	X	
Shoe stores		X
Solid waste and recycling collection and removal	X	
Sporting goods stores		X
Substance abuse programs, Alcoholics anonymous, narcotics anonymous	X	
Timber and logging	X	
Tombstone makers	X	
Trucking schools	X	
Vaping, smoking, and cigar shops		X
Veterinary care	<p>X</p> <p>Non-essential veterinary care should be delayed.</p>	

GUIDELINES

OPENING UP

AMERICA AGAIN





Proposed State or Regional Gating Criteria

(Satisfy Before Proceeding to Phased Opening)

SYMPTOMS

Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) reported within a 14-day period

AND

Downward trajectory of covid-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period

CASES

Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period

OR

Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests)

HOSPITALS

Treat all patients without crisis care

AND

Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including emerging antibody testing

*State and local officials may need to tailor the application of these criteria to local circumstances (e.g., metropolitan areas that have suffered severe COVID outbreaks, rural and suburban areas where outbreaks have not occurred or have been mild). Additionally, where appropriate, Governors should work on a regional basis to satisfy these criteria and to progress through the phases outlined below.



Core State Preparedness Responsibilities

TESTING & CONTACT TRACING

- ✓ Ability to quickly set up safe and efficient screening and testing sites for symptomatic individuals and trace contacts of COVID+ results
- ✓ Ability to test Syndromic/ILI-indicated persons for COVID and trace contacts of COVID+ results
- ✓ Ensure sentinel surveillance sites are screening for asymptomatic cases and contacts for COVID+ results are traced (sites operate at locations that serve older individuals, lower-income Americans, racial minorities, and Native Americans)

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY

- ✓ Ability to quickly and independently supply sufficient Personal Protective Equipment and critical medical equipment to handle dramatic surge in need
- ✓ Ability to surge ICU capacity

PLANS

- ✓ Protect the health and safety of workers in critical industries
- ✓ Protect the health and safety of those living and working in high-risk facilities (e.g., senior care facilities)
- ✓ Protect employees and users of mass transit
- ✓ Advise citizens regarding protocols for social distancing and face coverings
- ✓ Monitor conditions and immediately take steps to limit and mitigate any rebounds or outbreaks by restarting a phase or returning to an earlier phase, depending on severity



Proposed Phased Approach

BASED ON **UP-TO-DATE DATA** AND READINESS

MITIGATES RISK OF RESURGENCE

PROTECTS THE MOST VULNERABLE

IMPLEMENTABLE ON **STATEWIDE OR COUNTY-
BY-COUNTY** BASIS AT GOVERNORS' DISCRETION



Guidelines for All Phases: Individuals

CONTINUE TO PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

- ✓ Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces.
- ✓ Avoid touching your face.
- ✓ Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- ✓ Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.
- ✓ Strongly consider using face coverings while in public, and particularly when using mass transit.

PEOPLE WHO FEEL SICK SHOULD STAY HOME

- ✓ Do not go to work or school.
- ✓ Contact and follow the advice of your medical provider.

Continue to adhere to State and local guidance as well as complementary CDC guidance, particularly with respect to face coverings.



Guidelines for All Phases: Employers

Develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations and guidance, and informed by industry best practices, regarding:

- ✓ Social distancing and protective equipment
- ✓ Temperature checks
- ✓ Testing, isolating, and contact tracing
- ✓ Sanitation
- ✓ Use and disinfection of common and high-traffic areas
- ✓ Business travel

Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms. Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider.

Develop and implement policies and procedures for workforce contact tracing following employee COVID+ test.



Phase One

FOR STATES AND REGIONS
THAT SATISFY THE GATING CRITERIA



Phase One

INDIVIDUALS

ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS* should continue to shelter in place. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not practical, they could carry the virus back home. Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents.

All individuals, **WHEN IN PUBLIC** (e.g., parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping areas), should maximize physical distance from others. Social settings of more than 10 people, where appropriate distancing may not be practical, should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.

Avoid **SOCIALIZING** in groups of more than 10 people in circumstances that do not readily allow for appropriate physical distancing (e.g., receptions, trade shows)

MINIMIZE NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL and adhere to CDC guidelines regarding isolation following travel.

*See Appendix 1 for Definition of Vulnerable Individuals



Phase One

EMPLOYERS

Continue to **ENCOURAGE TELEWORK**, whenever possible and feasible with business operations.

If possible, **RETURN TO WORK IN PHASES.**

Close **COMMON AREAS** where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, or enforce strict social distancing protocols.

Minimize **NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL** and adhere to CDC guidelines regarding isolation following travel.

Strongly consider **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS** for personnel who are members of a **VULNERABLE POPULATION.**



Phase One

SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES (e.g., daycare, camp) that are currently closed should remain closed.

VISITS TO SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS should be prohibited. Those who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene.

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

ELECTIVE SURGERIES can resume, as clinically appropriate, on an outpatient basis at facilities that adhere to CMS guidelines.

GYMS can open if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols.

BARS should remain closed.



Phase Two

FOR STATES AND REGIONS WITH NO EVIDENCE OF
A REBOUND AND THAT SATISFY THE GATING
CRITERIA A SECOND TIME



Phase Two

INDIVIDUALS

ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS should continue to shelter in place. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not practical, they could carry the virus back home. Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents.

All individuals, **WHEN IN PUBLIC** (e.g., parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping areas), should maximize physical distance from others. Social settings of more than 50 people, where appropriate distancing may not be practical, should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.

NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL can resume.



Phase Two

EMPLOYERS

Continue to **ENCOURAGE TELEWORK**, whenever possible and feasible with business operations.

Close **COMMON AREAS** where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, or enforce moderate social distancing protocols.

NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL can resume.

Strongly consider **SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS** for personnel who are members of a **VULNERABLE POPULATION**.



Phase Two

SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES (e.g., daycare, camp) can reopen.

VISITS TO SENIOR CARE FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS should be prohibited. Those who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene.

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

ELECTIVE SURGERIES can resume, as clinically appropriate, on an outpatient and in-patient basis at facilities that adhere to CMS guidelines.

GYMS can remain open if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols.

BARS may operate with diminished standing-room occupancy, where applicable and appropriate.



Phase Three

FOR STATES AND REGIONS WITH NO EVIDENCE OF
A REBOUND AND THAT SATISFY THE GATING
CRITERIA A THIRD TIME



Phase Three

INDIVIDUALS

VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS can resume public interactions, but should practice physical distancing, minimizing exposure to social settings where distancing may not be practical, unless precautionary measures are observed.

LOW-RISK POPULATIONS should consider minimizing time spent in crowded environments.

Phase Three

EMPLOYERS

Resume **UNRESTRICTED STAFFING** of worksites.



Phase Three

SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

VISITS TO SENIOR CARE FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS can resume. Those who interact with residents and patients must be diligent regarding hygiene.

LARGE VENUES (e.g., sit-down dining, movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate under limited physical distancing protocols.

GYMS can remain open if they adhere to standard sanitation protocols.

BARS may operate with increased standing room occupancy, where applicable.



Appendix

Vulnerable Individuals

1. Elderly individuals.

2. Individuals with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy.