

## Highlights of COVID-19 Phase II Guidance and Executive Orders

### Travel

- **Domestic Travel (EO-20-40 May 19):** Only people who are coming to Rhode Island from an area that has a stay-at-home order in effect will need to self-quarantine for 14 days, excluding:
  - Public health, public safety or healthcare workers; and/or
  - Anyone traveling for medical treatment, to attend funeral or memorial services, to obtain necessities such as groceries, gas or medication, to drop off or pick up children from day care or to anyone who must work on their boats.
- **International Travel (EO-20-40 May 19):** Any person arriving from outside the 50 states or the District of Columbia must immediately self-quarantine for 14 days.

### Face Coverings

- All persons must wear a cloth face covering in compliance with RIDOH regulations and active executive orders.
  - All individuals in public or in an establishment shall wear a cloth face covering unless social distancing can be maintained easily and continuously.
  - No store or other business is required to refuse entry to a customer not wearing a face covering
- Employers must arrange for cloth face coverings or materials to make face coverings for each employee at no expense to the employee.
- Examples of exceptions to mask wearing in the regulations are:
  - Cloth masks should not be placed on young children younger than age two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
  - Cloth face coverings are not required for individuals who are required by their employers or by state or federal law to wear other more protective respiratory protection (such as N-95 respirators and surgical masks).

### Physical Distancing

- All individuals in public or in an establishment must maintain six feet of physical distance at all times, to the extent feasible.
  - When physical distancing is not feasible, individuals should minimize the time of exposure to the extent possible.
- Physical distancing means keeping space between oneself and others when outside of the home to prevent the spread of disease. It includes:
  - Staying at least six feet from people outside the same household, unless separated by a physical barrier that prevents individuals from having direct contact and contact with any droplets from another individual's coughing, sneezing or talking;
  - Not gathering in groups;
  - Staying out of crowded places; and
  - Avoiding mass gatherings.

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## Screening

- All businesses and organizations shall implement and ensure compliance with screening of all individuals entering its establishment(s) at any time for any reason. Sample screening forms are available in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#). If an individual is identified as exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, the covered entity shall deny access to that individual unless the establishment is a healthcare facility with other access requirements or limitations or the individual is a resident in a multi-unit residential establishment.

## Cleaning

- All businesses and organizations shall perform environmental cleaning once per day.
- Commonly touched surfaces, such as shared workstations, elevator buttons, door handles, and railings should be cleaned in accordance with [CDC guidance for specific industries](#).
- Businesses and organizations shall use, and have readily available to service providers, cleaning/disinfecting products designed to clean/disinfect surfaces and shall use the products as intended.
- Businesses and organizations shall maintain records documenting the date, time, location and procedures for the required cleaning activities.

## Setting-specific guidelines and requirements (details for each are available at <https://ReopeningRI.com>)

- **All social gatherings** of more than 15 people in any public or private space such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, library, theater, parade, fair, festival, park or beach, are prohibited. **(EO-20-40 May 19)**.
- **Elective medical procedures and other medical services** shall continue pursuant to plans submitted by healthcare providers and approved by RIDOH.
- **Child care services** shall resume in small, stable groups pursuant to emergency regulations promulgated by DHS.
- **Restaurants** may begin limited indoor dining in addition to outdoor dining, pick-up, delivery, and drive through operations subject to the requirements and recommendations described in the Phase II Guidelines for Restaurants and RIDOH regulations.
  - **Restaurant parties** are limited to 15 people, up to eight people may be seated at the same table, and customers are encouraged to minimize the number of non-household members with whom they dine.
  - **Bars** may reopen for seated service only; subject to the requirements and recommendations described in the Phase II Guidelines for Restaurants and RIDOH regulations.
- **Recreational businesses and historical/cultural establishments** may conduct limited outdoor operations and, under certain circumstances (described in Phase II Guidance for Outdoor Recreational Businesses and Cultural/Historical Sites), related indoor operations.
  - Examples of these operations include outdoor mini golf courses, batting cages, go-kart tracks, rail biking, bumper cars, zoos, horseback riding, and historical sites.
- **Gyms and fitness centers** may begin limited indoor reopenings subject to the requirements and recommendations in the Phase II guidelines for gyms and fitness centers.
  - Outdoor group fitness activities are preferred but are limited to one person per 150 square feet, with all physical distancing guidelines to be observed.
  - In open gym settings, capacity is limited to one person per 150 square feet. In class settings (e.g., yoga, exercise, spin), group size is limited to 15, not including staff, with physical distancing requirements in place.
  - Whirlpools, communal saunas, and steam rooms must stay closed.
  - All **licensed pools** may only be operated in accordance with RIDOH regulations.

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- **Office-based businesses** may allow up to 33% of workers (or up to 15 staff members, whichever is greater) to work on site at the same time as long as physical distancing standards, regulations and other guidance described in Phase II guidelines can be maintained.
  - Working from home is still strongly encouraged when possible.
- **Personal services businesses and operations**, including, but not limited to, hair salons and barbershops, nail salons, tattoo parlors, tanning parlors, estheticians, and massage therapists may reopen subject to all of the requirements of their professional or facility licensing, the requirements and recommendations of the Phase II guidelines for personal services.
  - Personal services where masks cannot be worn continuously in accordance with this and other executive orders by both customers and professionals, like facials, make-up applications, facial hair removal, face piercings and face tattoos, are prohibited.
- DEM shall open all **state parks and beaches** subject to [limits on use, parking, capacity, and other restrictions](#).
- **Non-critical retail businesses** with a physical location in Rhode Island may continue to conduct in-store pickup and limited browsing.
  - Non-critical retail businesses may allow up to one customer per 150 square feet of store area.
- **Religious and faith-based organizations** may resume indoor in-person activities up to 25% of worship space capacity and subject to the Phase II guidelines for religious and faith-based organizations.
  - Live streaming or broadcasting of religious services or attendance through outdoor drive-in services are permitted and strongly recommended, particularly for vulnerable populations, including those over 65 years of age.

## Other business requirements

- All businesses and organizations must complete a COVID19 Control Plan and keep it on file at the business and make it available to RIDOH upon request.
  - A [COVID19 Control Plan template](#) is available online.
  - All businesses and organization must designate an individual to monitor and ensure compliance with requirements.
- All covered entities shall ensure the placement of posters or signs at entry to its establishments educating any individual at the establishment concerning entry screening, required social distancing, use of cloth face coverings, and other subjects as provided in guidance issued by RIDOH. Copies of acceptable posters can be found here: <https://health.ri.gov/>
- All businesses will be expected to ask visitors for contact information.
- All businesses and organizations shall ensure that restrooms are open, and that they have running water and are stocked with soap and towels.
  - If access to restrooms or running water is limited, the establishment shall ensure access to hand sanitizer at all times.
- All covered entities shall prohibit the use of water fountains.
- The use of hookahs or waterpipes at any establishment is prohibited.

## Other general guidance

- Outdoor activities are preferred. Open windows or doors, when possible, to improve ventilation in indoor spaces. Increased use of HVAC is not recommended if outdoor airflow cannot be introduced.
- All vulnerable populations identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which include those who are 50 years of age and older, are still strongly advised to stay at home unless they must go to work, travel for medical treatment, or obtain other necessities such as groceries, gas, or medication (**EO-20-40 May 19**).