

# **FOLLOWING ARE LOCAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDANCE FOR PERRY COUNTY BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS, PROVIDED BY THE PERRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, PERRY COUNTY COMMISSION AND CITIES OF PERRYVILLE, ALTENBURG AND FROHNA IN RESPONSE TO MISSOURI GOVERNOR MIKE PARSON’S “SHOW ME STRONG RECOVERY” PLAN BEGINNING MAY 4**

## **General Guidelines for all residents:**

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- Citizens who feel sick should stay home.
- Continue to practice good hygiene, including: Washing hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer, especially after touching frequently used items or surfaces; Avoiding touching your face Sneezing or coughing into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow; Disinfecting frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.
- Avoid socializing in groups that do not readily allow for appropriate physical distancing (receptions, trade shows, etc.). When in public (parks, outdoor recreation spaces, shopping malls, etc.), individuals should maximize physical distance from others.
- Minimize travel to the extent possible.
- Individuals at higher risk of COVID-19 should continue to be extra vigilant and reduce their exposure as much as possible.

## **General Guidelines for Businesses:**

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- Prepare to implement basic infection prevention measures informed by industry best practices, regarding: Protective equipment; Temperature checks; Sanitation, including disinfection of common and high-traffic areas (entrances, breakrooms, locations where there is high-frequency employee interaction with the public/customers). General cleaning and disinfecting guidelines for businesses can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>.
- Remove all unnecessary items such as magazines, newspapers, service menu, and any other unnecessary paper products and décor from reception areas. Wipe down all seats and tables. A

plastic cover should be considered for all reception area furniture that cannot be properly cleaned and disinfected.

- Encourage contactless and off-site signature payment interactions with customers.
- Modify physical workspaces to maximize social distancing.
- Minimize business travel.
- Develop policies and procedures to allow your business to identify close contacts of any employee who may test positive. Additionally, identify where and how employees and patrons may be exposed to COVID-19 within your standard business practices and educate employees about how they can reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the workplace. More information for preparing your work place from spread of COVID-19 can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>.
- Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms. Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider.
- Develop, implement, and communicate about workplace flexibilities and protections, including: Encouraging telework whenever possible and feasible with business operations; Returning to work in phases and/or split shifts, if possible; Limiting access to common areas where personnel are likely to congregate and interact; Ensuring that sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with public health guidance; special accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html>).

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### **How long is this order in effect?**

The Statewide Order is in place through Sunday, May 31, 2020. As new information from credible national, state, and local sources becomes available, guidance for specific businesses or the public may change.

### **Under guidance from the federal government, we are considered an “essential business.” How does this order affect me?**

This order applies to ALL Missouri businesses. Businesses that are categorized as “essential” by the federal government should continue current operations, and incorporate our General Guidelines for Business outlined above. Businesses that were considered “non-essential” by the federal government may resume operations in Missouri in accordance with the Statewide Order and these guidelines.

### **I work in the personal service industry. What if my job requires me to be within six feet (6’) of another employee and/or customer?**

The social distancing requirements do not apply to individuals performing job duties that require contact with other people closer than six feet (6’). It is recommended that organization personnel who have to come within 6 ft of any clients in order to perform any job-related task wear a mask during these activities.

Barber shops/hair and nail salons spa /massage parlors:

- Consider seeing clients by appointment only.
- Limit the number of persons in a waiting area. It is recommended that clients wait outside in their vehicle until their appointment time.
- Maintain social distancing between customers at all time by ensuring at least 6 ft between customers. Consider additional spacing between booths, divider shields, and/or alternate work schedules to accomplish this.
- Each client should be draped with a clean cape. Capes should be laundered following the fabric recommendations between each client, or salons/shops may consider using disposable capes and dispose of the cape after it is used.

Further guidance and recommendations for personal service can be found by clicking [Additional Guidance and Recommendations for Perry County Personal Services](#)

For further technical guidance on personnel services, please call the county office at 573-547-4242.

### **Are there restrictions on businesses?**

Yes. Workplaces that are engaged in retail sales to the public must limit the number of customers in each retail location to the following standards based on the workplace's fire or building code occupancy:

- For smaller locations (less than 10,000 square feet), they must maintain 25 percent or less of the authorized occupancy;
- For larger locations (10,000 square feet or greater), they must maintain 10 percent or less of the authorized occupancy.

Employees at the workplace and vendors delivering products into the store are not included in this calculation and do not count toward occupancy limitations.

### **Are grocery stores considered a business “engaged in retail sales to the public?”**

Yes, and such stores are subject to the occupancy limitations in the Order.

Grocery stores are strongly encouraged to set aside hours, outside of regular store hours, to allow third-party grocery delivery services to provide grocery shopping services for their customers. This will allow individual shoppers to shop during regular store hours, and reduce congestion during such times. This will further allow such services to function in an environment where their services may be in excessive demand.

Shoppers at all retail stores are also encouraged, when possible, to limit the number of people shopping in stores to one person per household at any one time. This will better enable all families to access necessary goods in grocery stores, and further reduce the number of individuals necessary to access such goods.

**My local jurisdiction does not have a building or fire code. Do the limitations on square footage apply to my retail business?**

Yes. If your business is not subject to fire or building code occupancy limitations set by your local jurisdiction, you should calculate your occupancy limits based on the following formula:

For a business with a retail location less than 10,000 square feet:

- Building Square Feet divided by 30 = Quotient
- Quotient x .25 = Occupancy Limit

For a business with the retail location of 10,000 square feet or more:

- Building Square Feet divided by 30 = Quotient
- Quotient x .10 = Occupancy Limit

Examples:

- A 40,000 square foot grocery store would be able to have 133 customers in the store at any one time.
- An 8,000 square foot retail store would be able to have 66 customers in the store at any one time.

**My local fire or building code occupancy limitation calculation is lower than that allowed for businesses without any fire or building code limits, or is lower than a neighboring jurisdictions fire or building code limitations. Can I apply the same formula for calculating occupancy for my business as those without a code?**

Yes. You may use either the calculation set forth above for businesses without a fire or building code occupancy limitation, or the calculation applied to your business based upon your specific local jurisdiction fire and building code occupancy limitation, whichever is greater.

Examples:

- My 30,000 square foot retail business has a local jurisdiction fire or building occupancy limitation of 700 people. Using the formula allowing only 10% of the local jurisdiction, I would be able to have 70 customers in my store at any one time. For an identical business without a local fire or occupancy limitation, they would be able to have 100 customers in their store at any one time. Under this guidance, you may have up to 100 customers in your store at any one time.
- My 6,000 square foot retail business has a local jurisdiction fire or building occupancy limitation of 150 people. Using the formula allowing only 25% of the local jurisdiction, I would be able to have 37 customers in my store at any one time. For an identical business without a local fire or occupancy limitation, they would be able to have 50 customers in their store at any one time. Under this guidance, you may have up to 50 customers in your store at any one time.

**My business has a public waiting room with congregate seating. Should I limit access to it?**

Implementing a system where customers/citizens can wait inside their vehicles prior to entering the business is strongly encouraged, as are pre-scheduled appointments to minimize interaction between people. In situations where this is not feasible, such as public transit, medical offices, courtrooms, and parks, entities

should develop public health and safety measures using the above direction as a guide, in addition to any guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### **Does this order prevent me from receiving non-emergency healthcare, such as a routine eye exam or dental care?**

Medical providers, such as dentists and optometrists, may provide usual services at their discretion. The social distancing requirements do not apply to individuals performing job duties that require contact with other people closer than six feet (6').

Medical providers should develop and implement public health and safety measures for employees and patients, using the above direction as a guide, in addition to any guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Implementing a system where patients can wait inside their vehicles prior to entering the office is strongly encouraged, as are pre-scheduled and spaced out appointments to minimize interaction between people.

### **May bars and restaurants open their dining rooms?**

Yes. However, we strongly encourage them to prioritize public health and safety by implementing measures including, but not limited to, regulating self-serve options such as salad bars and buffets, using disposable menus, and employee use of personal protective equipment if available. Tables and seating shall be spaced out according to social distance requirements.

Please be advised that amusement/gaming activities are still not allowed under a state-wide order that can be viewed at <https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/pdf/amusement-device-order.pdf>

The continued use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is encouraged. Additional guidelines are as follows:

- Limit tables to groups of 10, preferably only members of the same household at each table.
- Tables must be at least 6 ft apart. Tables that are unable to be used should be either removed or marked off.
- Barstools and counter seating should be no less than 6 ft. apart.
- Buffet food items must be served by a designated employee and cannot be self-serve unless items are pre-packaged.
- Disposable menus are highly encouraged.
- Condiments, napkin holders, and other items that are typically on all tables between customers should be removed and only given to customers upon request. Thorough cleaning of these items should take place between customers.
- Staff members who come within 6 feet of customers are encouraged to wear some sort of face covering, such as a cloth face mask.

- Cups, lids, straws, napkins, and utensils should be handed directly to customers by staff instead of being placed in a common area or waiting on the table when customers arrive.
- Dances, parties, bingos and other events designed to draw large crowds are discouraged.

A Health Department Environmentalist will be contacting restaurants and bars individually to provide more detailed guidance including managerial controls and checks of employees, cleaning guidelines, etc. One resource for restaurant best practices during COVID-19 can be found by visiting <https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/best-practices-retail-food-stores-restaurants-and-food-pick-up-delivery-services-during-covid-19>

### **How do these guidelines apply to childcare facilities?**

Daycares, childcare providers, or schools providing childcare for working families can continue operations, but should follow the CDC guidance targeted for those operations found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

### **May I attend service at my place of worship?**

Yes. As long as the social distancing requirements are followed, places of worship are allowed to hold in-person services. Social distancing requirements include 6 ft. of separation in all directions between all household family units when seating and during communion and similar activities. Common practices that may occur with worship services, such as hand shaking, holding hands during prayer, and shared communion cups, should be avoided. It is suggested to not pass any offering plates from person to person. Instead have a giving box at entrances, encourage online giving, or have one person holding the plate at all times. Places of worship are also encouraged to add additional services to keep groups smaller and continue use of alternative means of services through online streaming services, radio and other opportunities.

### **I am a member of a fraternal organization. Are we allowed to open our building and meet?**

Yes. Fraternal organizations such as the Knights of Columbus and the Fraternal Order of Eagles may gather, but must adhere to the social distancing and communal seating area requirements similar to bars and restaurants.

### **Will I still be able to participate in my local parks and recreation organized activities and/or camps this summer?**

Yes, provided 6 ft. of social distancing can occur, traditional summer activities such as utilizing aquatic facilities, community centers, fitness centers, libraries, organized athletics, and camps are offered. We encourage adjustments be considered to mitigate the risks of contracting or spreading COVID-19 between participants, patrons, spectators and staff, such as limiting the number of participants at a single event, modifying activities, restructuring programs, and increasing sanitization measures for facilities and participants.

Gymnasiums and pools should ensure an attendee is on staff while in use in order to ensure social distancing guidelines are met and strict cleaning and sanitation protocols are followed. It is recommended

that organization personnel who have to come within 6 ft of any clients in order to perform any job-related task, such as class facilitators or swim lesson instructors, wear a mask during these activities.

We also advise areas of high-touch or high-traffic, such as playgrounds, remain closed.

Organized sports are allowed to resume as long as precautions are taken to increase cleaning of commonly used spaces, such as benches and restrooms. It is encouraged for bleachers to be roped off as well as increased time between games or team practices in order to reduce exposure between players and fans of various teams.

### **Are gyms and training facilities allowed to open?**

Yes, gyms may open provided the 6 ft. of social distancing is enforced. Similar to pools, gyms should ensure an attendee is on staff when open in order to ensure social distancing guidelines are met and strict cleaning and sanitation protocols are followed. It is recommended that organization personnel or spotters who have to come within 6 ft of any clients in order to perform related tasks, such as personal trainers, spotters or instructors, wear a mask during these activities.

### **Can I attend an event at a large venue or stadium, or go to a movie theater?**

Yes. However, seating shall be spaced out according to 6 ft. in all directions social distancing requirements

This will apply to all large events such as amusement parks and attractions, festivals, concerts, funerals, museums, school graduations and weddings.

### **Are there limitations on social gatherings?**

Per Federal and local recommendations, residents should 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, etc.). Mass gatherings and social events are strongly discouraged at this time.

### **How will this order be enforced?**

The State is working with local health authorities to support the order. Local health authorities and law enforcement maintain the same jurisdiction and authority they have always had.

### **Can my local health authority impose requirements that are more restrictive?**

Yes. This Order establishes the minimum requirements that must be complied with statewide. Local health authorities may enforce more restrictive public health requirements for businesses or individuals.

The only exception is the Order from the Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services dated March 24, 2020, removing the authority of a local health authority from closing or restricting the operations of a business which is a part of the food supply, whether that be agricultural production, manufacturing, distribution, or sale of food. This limited waiver does not limit the authority of a local health authority from closing or restricting the operations of a retail food establishment.

**Can a business impose more requirements on staff or patrons that are more restrictive than listed in this guidance?**

Yes. Any business has the right to be more restrictive and have more requirements of staff or patrons as long as those restrictions do not break any laws (i.e. discrimination).