



# County of San Diego

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

## ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER AND EMERGENCY REGULATIONS (Effective August 22, 2020)

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 120175, and 120175.5 (b) the Health Officer of the County of San Diego (Health Officer) **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

Effective 12:00 a.m. on **Saturday, August 22, 2020** and continuing until further notice, the following will be in effect for San Diego County (county):

1. All persons are to remain in their homes or at their place of residence, except for employees or customers traveling to and from essential businesses, reopened businesses, or essential activities as defined in section 22, below, or to participate in individual or family outdoor activity as allowed by this Order.
2. All public or private “gatherings,” as defined in section 22 below, are prohibited.
3. All businesses not meeting the definition of essential business or reopened business in section 22 below are referred to in this Order as “non-essential businesses” and shall be and remain closed for the duration of this Order. All essential businesses and reopened businesses must comply with the requirements of this Order. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any business may remain open if its employees and owners can provide its services from home, including by telecommuting, without direct contact with the public.
4. **All public, charter, and private schools may hold classes and other school activities only under circumstances permitted by the State and in compliance with the COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and School - Based Programs, and as may be updated or superseded by further State guidance. Institutions of higher education may hold classes or other school activities only under circumstances permitted by the State and in compliance with the COVID – 19 Industry Guidance: Institutions of Higher Education and as may be updated or superseded**

by further State guidance.

5. Child daycare and child care providers shall operate in compliance with the measures set forth in State COVID-19 Updated Guidance: Child Care Programs and Providers and shall prepare and post a Safe Reopening Plan pursuant to section 11, below.
6. “Non-essential personnel,” as defined in section 22 below, are prohibited from entry into any hospital or long-term care facility. All essential personnel who are COVID-19 positive or show any potential signs or symptoms of COVID-19 are strictly prohibited from entry into hospitals or long-term care facilities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, individuals requiring medical care for COVID-19 or related conditions may be admitted to hospitals or other medical facilities if the hospital or medical facility is appropriate for treating COVID-19 and has adequate precautions in place to protect its patients, medical personnel and staff.
7. Hospitals and [healthcare providers](#), including dentists shall:
  - a. Take measures to preserve and prioritize resources; and,
  - b. May authorize and perform non-emergent or elective surgeries or procedures based on their determination of clinical need and supply capacity, and where consistent with State guidance.
  - c. Nothing in this Order shall prevent physicians and other healthcare providers from conducting routine preventive care provided it conforms to any applicable State guidance.
  - d. Nothing in this Order shall prevent dentists or dental hygienists from conducting routine preventive care provided it conforms to any applicable State guidance.
8. Hospitals, healthcare providers, pharmacies and commercial testing laboratories shall report all COVID-19 test results to the Public Health Officer immediately after such results are received.
9. All persons two years of age or older who are present in the county shall have possession of a face covering when they leave their home or place of residence and shall wear the face covering as described and required in California Department of Public Health Face Covering Guidance issued on June 18, 2020, (available at: [https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Guidance-for-Face-Coverings\\_06-18-2020.pdf](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Guidance-for-Face-Coverings_06-18-2020.pdf)).

10. All essential businesses that allow members of the public to enter a facility must prepare and post a “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” on the form available at: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/SOCIAL\\_DISTANCING\\_AND\\_SANITATION\\_PROTOCOL\\_04022020\\_V1.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/SOCIAL_DISTANCING_AND_SANITATION_PROTOCOL_04022020_V1.pdf) ), or on a form required by another governmental entity requiring substantially similar information, for each of their facilities open to the public in the county. The Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must be posted at or near the entrance of the relevant facility, and shall be easily viewable by the public and employees. A copy of the Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must also be provided to each employee performing work at the facility. All essential businesses shall implement the Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol and provide evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand. The Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol must ensure all required measures are implemented and must identify and require measures necessary to implement social distancing are implemented at each facility that will ensure social distancing and sanitation at that particular facility. If the measures identified and implemented are not effective in maintaining proper social distancing and sanitation, the business shall promptly modify its Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocols to ensure proper social distancing and sanitation. Any business that fails to successfully implement social distancing and sanitation may be required to close.
11. All reopened businesses, with the exception of restaurants, bars, wineries, distilleries and breweries which do not limit services to take-out or delivery, must prepare and post a “Safe Reopening Plan” on the form available at: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/Community\\_Sector\\_Support/BusinessesandEmployers/SafeReopeningPlanTemplate.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/Community_Sector_Support/BusinessesandEmployers/SafeReopeningPlanTemplate.pdf) for each of their facilities in the county. Restaurants bars, wineries, distilleries and breweries which do not limit services to take-out or delivery, must prepare and post a “COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol” on the form available at [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/deh/fhd/food/pdf/covid19sdrestaurantoperatingprotocol\\_en.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/deh/fhd/food/pdf/covid19sdrestaurantoperatingprotocol_en.pdf) for each restaurant in the county. The Safe Reopening Plan or COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol must be posted at or near the entrance of the relevant facility, and shall be easily viewable by the public and employees. A copy of the Safe Reopening Plan or COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol must also be provided to each employee performing work at the facility. All reopened businesses shall implement the Safe Reopening Plan or COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol and provide evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand. The Safe Reopening Plan or COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol must ensure all required measures are implemented. If the

measures identified and implemented are not effective in maintaining proper social distancing and sanitation, the business shall promptly modify its Safe Reopening Plan or COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol to ensure proper social distancing and sanitation. Any business that fails to comply with its Safe Reopening Plan or COVID-19 Restaurant Operating Protocol shall immediately close.

12. When the State of California has issued an [industry guidance](#), or any subsequent amendments thereto, with mandatory and/or suggested measures to be implemented by a particular type of business or industry, a reopened business must include in its Safe Reopening Plan all of the industry guidance mandatory measures, including, but not limited to, all of the requirements and guidance set forth in the Statewide Public Health Officer Order, issued by the California Department of Health Services on July 13, 2020, all portions of which are operative in San Diego County effective immediately, and available at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/SHO%20Order%20Dimming%20Entire%20State%207-13-2020.pdf>. The reopened business shall include all suggested measures necessary to maintain proper sanitation, employee screening, social distancing and facial coverings. Any mandatory measures required by this Order must also be included in the Safe Reopening Plan.
13. All brewpubs, breweries, bars and pubs shall close unless they comply with section 14c, below, in which case they shall comply with all other requirements in this section and section 14 below. All other restaurants, bars, wineries, distilleries and breweries shall close indoor service in conformance with the requirements set forth in the Statewide Public Health Officer Order, issued by the California Department of Health Services on July 13, 2020, all portions of which are operative in San Diego County effective immediately, and available at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/SHO%20Order%20Dimming%20Entire%20State%207-13-2020.pdf>, and shall be closed from 10:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. every day. Guests already in the facility at 10:00 p.m. may remain in the facility until 11:00 p.m. Only staff needed to close, open or clean shall be in the facility between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.
14. All restaurants, bars, wineries and breweries shall also be required to ensure their customers comply with all of the following measures and shall immediately close if they are not able to do so:
  - a. No food or beverages shall be served to or consumed by a customer who is not seated at a table designated by the restaurant for dining.

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- b. The bar area of a restaurant may be used only for table service of meals.
- c. Alcoholic drinks shall only be served as part of a meal and must be sold and served in the same transaction as the meal. All meals shall be served by a food operator permitted by the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health. This restriction shall not be applicable to outdoor service of wine at a winery or spirits at a distillery.
- d. Customers shall not stand in the restaurant, bar, winery, distillery or brewery except in the reception area while waiting for a table or to pick up take-out food. If customers cannot be socially distanced in the reception area they shall wait in their cars or outside of the restaurant in a line with six feet between each customer.
- e. Discontinue open seating. All members of the party must be present before seating and the host must bring the entire party to the table at one time. The customers allowed at a table are limited to members of a single household or customers who have asked to be seated together at the time a table is requested.
- f. Discontinue seating customers and/or groups at bar counters, sushi preparation bars, etc. where they cannot maintain at least six feet of distance from employee work areas/stations. Install physical barriers or partitions in areas where maintaining a physical distance of six feet is difficult.
- g. Customers are not required to wear face coverings while at a table with members of the same household. Customers at a table with non-household members are not required to wear face coverings when eating and drinking. Customers are required to wear face coverings at all other times in conformance with paragraph 9, above.
- h. Tables designated for dining shall be six feet apart, or separated by barriers or partitions that extend above the heads of customers while seated. Customer shall not be allowed to bring additional chairs to the table that interfere with the six foot separation.
- i. Self-serve food or drink options, such as buffets, salad bars, and drink stations are not allowed.
- j. Shared entertainment items such as board games, arcade games and vending machines are prohibited and customers shall not have access to game and entertainment areas such as pool tables or darts.
- k. Dance floors shall be closed and live performances such as musical or dance acts shall be discontinued.
- l. Any customer that refuses to comply with this section shall be subject to enforcement per Health and Safety Code section 120295.

15. Places of Worship – Religious services and cultural ceremonial activities (including wedding ceremonies but not receptions) may be conducted in conformance with the State Guidance pursuant to sections 11 and 12, above. Given the high risk of this activity, vulnerable members

of the population (over 65 years old, compromised immune system or underlying condition) are strongly encouraged to participate through streaming or some other form of remote technology. Outdoor services and cultural ceremonial activities may be conducted provided all persons practice social distancing as defined in section 22e, below.

16. Each essential business and reopened business shall:

- a. Require all employees/on-site contractors (hereinafter referred to as employees) to have possession of face coverings and wear them as described in section 9 above when in the business facility; and,
- b. **Require** temperature screening of all employees and prohibit entry to the workplace of employees with a temperature of 100 degrees or more, employees exhibiting COVID-19 [symptoms as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), or employees who have recently been exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 (either directly or through a breach of Personal Protective Equipment in the case of healthcare workers/first responders); and
- c. Take all of the following actions if an employer becomes aware that an employee is diagnosed with COVID-19:
  - i. Promptly notify the County Department of Public Health that there is an employee diagnosed with COVID-19, together with the name, date of birth, and contact information of the employee.
  - ii. Cooperate with the County Department of Public Health's COVID-19 response team to identify and provide contact information for any persons exposed by the employee at the workplace.
  - iii. Provide notice of the exposure to any employees, and contractors (who regularly work at the workplace), who may have been exposed to COVID-19, as stated in the State's COVID-19 Employer Playbook for a Safe Reopening, available at {<https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/employer-playbook-for-safe-reopening--en.pdf>}.

17. Outdoor Recreation

- a. Each public park and recreation area or facility, shall operate in compliance with the measures set forth in the [State COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Campgrounds, RV Parks and Outdoor Recreation](#). The operator of the park shall prepare a Safe Reopening Plan pursuant to section 11, above, indicating how the park or recreation facility will implement the required measures. Any park or recreation area/facility at which the Protocol requirements cannot be effectively implemented may be required to close.

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- b. Outdoor recreation instruction and day camps that comply with the State COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Day Camps, may be conducted in park and recreation areas/facilities.
  - c. Swimming pools owned or operated by a Homeowners' Association, Condominium or Apartment complex may be open provided the owner or operator completes and posts a Safe Reopening Plan that shows conformance with the requirements of this Order and with the swimming pool/aquatic venues requirements of the State COVID-19 Industry Guidance on Fitness Facilities.
18. All essential businesses and reopened businesses that remain in operation in accordance with the Order shall make every effort to use telecommuting for their workforces.
19. A strong recommendation is made that all persons who are 65 years old or older, have a chronic underlying condition, or have a compromised immune system self-quarantine themselves at home or other suitable location.
20. All persons arriving in the county from international locations identified on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Warning Level 2 or 3 Travel Advisory (available at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>) shall be subject to 14-day home or other suitable location quarantine and self-monitoring.
21. Persons who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or who are likely to have COVID-19, shall comply with the Order of the Health Officer titled: "Isolation of All Persons with or Likely to have COVID-19", or as subsequently amended. Persons who have a close contact with a person who either has COVID-19, or is likely to have COVID-19, shall comply with the Order of the Health Officer titled: "Quarantine of Persons Exposed to COVID-19," or as subsequently amended. Both orders are available at: [https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community\\_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/health-order.html](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/health-order.html). If a more specific isolation or quarantine order is issued to a person, that order shall be followed.
22. For purposes of this Order:
- a. "Essential business" is any business or activity (or a business/activity that employs/utilizes workers) designated by the State Public Health Officer as "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers" set forth in: <https://covid19.ca.gov/img/EssentialCriticalInfrastructureWorkers.pdf>) as that list may be updated from time-to-time, and referenced in Executive Order N-33-20 issued by the Governor of the State of

California. For the purposes of this Order, the following businesses in the Food and Agriculture Sector are considered “groceries” or “other retail that sells food and beverages”: grocery stores, corner stores and convenience stores, liquor stores that sell food, farmer’s markets, food banks, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, big box stores that sell groceries and essentials, or similar business that sell food so long as the store has a current permit related to the sale of food and/or beverages from the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health.

- b. “Gathering” is any event or convening that brings together more than one person in a single room or single indoor or outdoor space at the same time. A gathering does not include:
  - i. A gathering consisting only of members of a single family or household.
  - ii. Operations at airports, public transportation or other spaces where persons in transit are able to practice social distancing.
  - iii. Operations at essential businesses as defined in section 22a above and reopened businesses as defined in 22f below and where the other requirements set forth in this Order are followed.
- c. “Long term care facility” is a facility serving adults that require assistance with activities of daily living, including a skilled nursing facility, and that is licensed by the California Department of Community Care and Licensing, or the California Department of Public Health.
- d. “Non-essential personnel” are employees, contractors, or members of the public who do not perform treatment, maintenance, support, or administrative tasks deemed essential to the healthcare mission of the long-term care facility or hospital. Non-essential personnel do not include first responders, nor State, federal, or local officials, investigators, or medical personnel carrying out lawful duties. Non-essential personnel do not include visitors to hospitals and long-term care facilities who are granted entry by the facility’s director, or designee, because they are family or friends who are visiting a resident in an end of life or similar situation, are parents or guardians visiting a child who is a patient, or because of any other circumstances deemed appropriate by the facility director, or designee, and where appropriate precautions by the facility that follow federal, State, and local public health guidance regarding COVID-19 are followed.
- e. “Social distancing” is maintaining a six-foot separation from all persons except for household members, first responders and medical providers or employees conducting temperature screenings.
- f. “Reopened business” is a business that is not an essential business as stated in section



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22a above, and has reopened in conformance with the State of California’s Resilience Roadmap (available at: <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap-counties/>) and the Statewide Public Health Officer Order, issued by the California Department of Health Services on July 13, 2020, all portions of which are operative in San Diego County effective immediately, and available at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/SHO%20Order%20Dimming%20Entire%20State%207-13-2020.pdf>. A reopened business may open when the State has posted the applicable COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE, the Public Health Officer has posted an acknowledgement of the reopened status on the County of San Diego Coronavirus website and the business has complied with the requirements of this Order.

23. Hotels and lodging establishments may be open for all guests, including tourists and leisure guests, provided they comply with the State COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Hotels, Lodging and Short Term Rentals and complete and post a Safe Reopening Plan pursuant to section 11, above.
24. This Order is issued as a result of the World Health Organization’s declaration of a worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 disease, also known as “novel coronavirus.”
25. This Order is issued based on scientific evidence regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, as well as best practices as currently known and available to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the county places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although most individuals who contract COVID-19 do not become seriously ill, persons with mild symptoms and asymptomatic persons with COVID-19 may place other vulnerable members of the public—such as older adults, and those with underlying health conditions—at significant risk.
26. The actions required by this Order are necessary to reduce the number of individuals who will be exposed to COVID-19, and will thereby slow the spread of COVID-19 in the county. By reducing the spread of COVID-19, this Order will help preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in the county and will save lives.
27. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference: a) the Declaration of Local Health Emergency issued by the Health Officer on February 14, 2020; b) the

Proclamation of Local Emergency issued by the County Director of Emergency Services on February 14, 2020; c) the action of the County Board of Supervisors to ratify and continue both the local health emergency and local emergency on February 19, 2020; d) the Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020; e) Executive Order N-25-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 12, 2020 which orders that “All residents are to heed any orders and guidance of state and local health officials, including but not limited to the imposition of social distancing measures, to control COVID-19”; f) Proclamation 9984 regarding COVID-19 issued by the President of the United States on March 11, 2020; g) Executive Order N-33-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California on March 19, 2020; h) the “Interim Additional Guidance for Infection Prevention and Control for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Nursing Homes” issued by the CDC; i) COVID-19 guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health on including, but not limited to the Face Coverings Guidance issued on April 1, 2020; and j) the State of California’s “Resilience Roadmap.”


28. This Order is issued to prevent circumstances often present in gatherings that may exacerbate the spread of COVID-19, such as: 1) the increased likelihood that gatherings will attract people from a broad geographic area; 2) the prolonged time period in which large numbers of people are in close proximity; 3) the difficulty in tracing exposure when large numbers of people attend a single event or are at a single location; and 4) the inability to ensure that such persons follow adequate hygienic practices.
29. This Order is issued to provide additional opportunities for recreational activities while also requiring additional protections from the spread of COVID-19 to the public who are taking advantage of these opportunities for recreational activities. And providing additional protections for employees of essential businesses or reopened business and their customers/clients by increasing facial covering requirements and health checks and temperature screening.
30. This Order is issued to protect the public health as businesses are allowed to reopen by requiring businesses to implement procedures necessary to ensure their employees and customers comply with social distancing, sanitation and screening practices.
31. This Order comes after the release of substantial guidance from the Health Officer, the California Department of Public Health, the CDC, and other public health officials throughout the United States and around the world.

32. The statement of facts and circumstances set forth as justification for each Guidance issued by the California Department of Health Services that is referenced in this Order are hereby accepted and incorporated by reference into this Order.
33. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 120175.5 (b) all governmental entities in the county shall take necessary measures within the governmental entity's control to ensure compliance with this Order and to disseminate this Order to venues or locations within the entity's jurisdiction where gatherings may occur.
34. Violation of this Order is subject to fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code section 120295.)
35. To the extent necessary, this Order may be enforced by the Sheriff or chiefs of police pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029.

36. Once this Order takes effect it shall supersede the Order of the Health Officer and Emergency Regulations dated August 7, 2020.

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

Date: August 21, 2020

  
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Wilma J. Wooten, M.D., M.P.H.  
Public Health Officer  
County of San Diego

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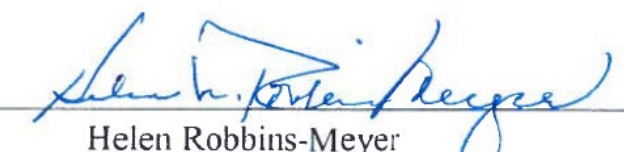
EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

As Director of Emergency Services for the County of San Diego, I am authorized to promulgate regulations for the protection of life and property pursuant to Government Code Section 8634 and San Diego County Code section 31.103. The following shall be in effect for the duration of the Health Officer Order issued above which is incorporated in its entirety by reference:

The Health Officer Order shall be promulgated as a regulation for the protection of life and property.

Any person who violates or who refuses or willfully neglects to obey this regulation is subject to fine, imprisonment, or both. (Government Code section 8665.)

Date: August 21, 2020

  
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Helen Robbins-Meyer  
Director of Emergency Services  
County of San Diego