



Stay Safe Against the Coronavirus



MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCE
Even if you feel well, stay at home as much as possible. In public, keep at least 6-feet distance from others. Avoid unnecessary appointments.



PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE
Wear a face mask or covering in public. Cover your cough and sneezes. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.



PROTECT LOUISIANANS AT RISK
Take special caution to avoid exposing the elderly and people with underlying health conditions. Stay home when sick.

Shopping Malls and Retail Stores

UPDATED May 26, 2021

The Office of State Fire Marshal is providing you with this update in conjunction with the Office of the Governor and the Louisiana Department of Health to keep you up to date with additional information and/or changes as it becomes available during our battle with COVID-19. These notifications are issued automatically and immediately to those who sign up through “OpenSafely” (<https://opensafely.la.gov/>).

Every attempt is being made to **highlight** critical changes that have occurred since the previously published notification for your convenience. However, please read through this entire document in context as these changes do not stand on their own and all of the additional general information and clarifications made may not be highlighted.

Preface:

This phasing plan applies to those non-essential businesses that have been affected during the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. Essential (critical) infrastructure businesses are not further restricted by these new guidelines and may continue to operate under the current guidelines that are applicable to the specific

business. Refer to: https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/covid/Essential-Infrastructure_fact-sheet.pdf for specific information regarding critical infrastructure businesses.

COVID-19 is a highly contagious and deadly disease. The fundamental concept of this phased opening plan is to slowly open businesses at reduced occupant capacities that will allow for social distancing and circulation to keep employees and patrons safe. Everyone's cooperation is critical to the success towards defeating this disease and revitalizing our economy.

The virus spreads primarily through person-to-person contact, from droplets that are formed by coughing, sneezing or other projections, or by touching infected surfaces and then touching one's eyes, nose or mouth. Individuals can carry the virus and be contagious for up to 14 days prior to having any symptoms. The guidelines outlined below for social distancing, face coverings and sanitation are proven methods of mitigating these modes of transmission. **THE MOST IMPORTANT FACT** to remember is that COVID-19 is still prevalent across the state. We must all continue to do our part to help slow the spread, protect the most vulnerable and continue to remain vigilant until at least two weeks beyond the point where everyone has had the opportunity to receive the full administration of COVID-19 vaccine.

Finally:

Face coverings are no longer required statewide, except as provided by the CDC for public transportation or other specific venues, for educational facilities for the remaining few school days, for correctional facilities, and by the State Health Officer for healthcare facilities. Owners and operators of businesses and commercial establishments may continue to impose more restrictive measures than those recommended herein, including the requirement to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside the commercial establishment. It is however strongly recommended that unvaccinated individuals continue to wear a face mask in public and when they are with people outside of their households to reduce their likelihood of contracting COVID-19.

There are no further restrictions reducing occupant capacities. Full capacity as authorized by the OSFM, based upon the adopted codes, is now permitted.

Owners and operators of businesses and commercial establishments who choose to impose more restrictive measures may refer to previously published guidelines found here: <https://opensafely.la.gov/>.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING KEEP LOUISIANA SAFE THROUGHOUT THIS PANDEMIC!