

Sierra County Phased Opening Plan

Sierra County has established a phased plan for reopening during COVID-19. The local plan is based on California's Pandemic Roadmap and is subject to change based on the Governor's orders. This is a phased plan that will allow a slow and steady pace to return our community to normal operations. The phased plan is necessary to continue to limit the spread of COVID-19 disease until we have developed wide spread immunity. This Plan also allows for targeted mitigation measures, as well as the regression to a prior phase should a spike in community transmission of COVID-19 occur. This plan is a living document that will align with the local and state Public Health Officer's orders. As new findings and recommendations are developed at the Federal, State and Local level this document shall evolve to provide guidance to communities throughout Sierra County.

Community support and personal responsibility is critical for this Plan to work. We ask that each resident of Sierra County make informed decisions to keep yourself and your family healthy throughout the duration of this pandemic.

Stage 1: Businesses in Stage I are the current essential workers and businesses laid out in the Governors Executive Order of March 19, 2020

Stage 2:

Individuals:

- **Anyone who is feeling ill should stay home**
- **Continue social distancing** – When in public maintain at least **6** feet from others.
- **Maintain good hygiene practices** – Washing hands, use hand sanitizer, cleaning frequently touched surfaces, covering coughs & sneezes.
- **Face covering-** required to wear a face covering in public, when social distancing is not possible and when in places of business.
- **Public Settings**
 - Require that a business would expect all patrons to comply and place adequate signage stating this demand.
 - Require all employees of a business wear a face covering.
 - Make sure you carry hand sanitizer and look for hand sanitizer offered at place of business to use on your way in and out of the door.
- **Vulnerable (high risk) individuals** – those over the age of 65 and individuals with pre-existing health conditions, are encouraged to stay at home. Households with vulnerable members should be aware that other members of the household may increase risk of transmission if resuming normal activities. Precautions should be taken to protect the vulnerable household members.

- **Non-essential travel is discouraged**
- **Residents are encouraged to participate in outdoor activities close to their home daily.**
- **Outdoor recreation may open.**
 - Physical distancing should be promoted and maintained.
 - If equipment is provided it should be cleaned after use.
- **Check with your Healthcare provider and dentist for updated services offered.**

Work & Business:

- **Returning employees to work and business should be phased in and not all at once, provide appropriate physical distancing measures, and ensure sick employees do not come to work. Please refer to OSHA guidelines: <https://dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html>**

Changes from Stage 1:

- **Businesses such as offices, retail stores, logistics, manufacturing, landscapers, pet groomers, outdoor museums may open with a Public Health approved plan.**
 - **Owners and operators are encouraged to limit the number of staff and customers in the building at a given time.**
 - Optimally less than 6 people in a small store or office. Social distancing of at least 6 feet must be maintained if possible.
 - Ensure sick employees remain at home or go home immediately if they become ill at work.
 - Meeting rooms, break rooms and other common areas should remain closed or be limited in capacity to provide physical distancing of at least 6 feet between employees.
 - Protection and accommodations should be provided to employees who are high risk for COVID-19.
 - Consider staggering work schedules to decrease exposure. Continue encouraging telecommuting if possible.
 - Provide posted signage educating the public what is expected inside and outside the business including social distancing, face coverings and rescheduling their visit if they are sick.
 - Mark with visuals where employees and customers should be standing.
 - If not able to maintain 6 feet distancing employees and customers **MUST** wear face coverings.

- Provide as many services as feasible with limited contact for example:
 - Online orders with in store pickup
 - Limiting number of customers in a lobby or waiting area
 - Staggering appointments
- Clean frequently touched surfaces with appropriate disinfectant.
- Provide for frequent hand washing and/or make hand sanitizer readily available to both employees and customers.
- **Restaurants may open for limited dine in options.**
 - Provide posted signage educating the public what is expected inside and outside the business including social distancing, face coverings and rescheduling their visit if they are sick.
 - Mark with visuals where employees and customers should be standing.
 - Tables must allow for appropriate physical distancing of **6** feet.
 - No more than half capacity should be reached.
 - Take out options should continue to be promoted.
 - Clean frequently touched surfaces with appropriate disinfectant.
 - Provide for frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizer readily available to both employees and customers.

What should remain closed:

- Hair salons, nail salons, barbers and massage therapists
- Short term rentals and lodging
- Bars
- Hot springs and pools
- Organized youth sports
- Organized Camps
- Churches, synagogues, mosques, temples
- Skilled nursing facilities should be closed to non-essential visitors.

The Medical Health Operational Area Coordination Team (MHOAC) will daily evaluate and monitor:

- Local and regional data (cases, hospitalizations, EMS capability) monitored daily. Region III bed polling reviewed daily.
- Local healthcare facilities will continue to provide weekly situation reports
- Local and regional testing and trends will be monitored daily
- Case investigation and contact tracing will be conducted
- Coroner reports will be reviewed

Should an increase in illness occur, targeted mitigation measures will be employed as determined by the MHOAC Team. This could include one or more of the following:

- Contact CDPH COVID Hotline which is available 24/7 at (510)255-8922
- Increased monitoring of exposed contacts
- Stricter quarantine of contacts
- Increased recommended use of PPE
- Recommended reduction in worksite staff
- Sanitation of a specific facility
- Closure or partial closure of a specific facility
- Recommended reduction in social gatherings
- **Should the number of positive COVID cases increase to 3 cases, the public will be asked to return to stricter protocols and Stage 2 would be delayed.**
- **Should no significant increase in cases occur over a period of at least 30 days; then we will consider advancing into Stage 3 ONLY with California Department of Public Health approval.**

Stage 3

Changes from Stage 2:

- **Businesses such as bars, hair salons, nail salons, barbers, massage therapists, may open with a Public Health approved plan.**
 - **Owners and operators are encouraged to limit the number of staff and customers in the building at a given time.**
 - Social distancing of at least **6** feet must be maintained if possible.
 - For example, a salon has **3** chairs or booths, consider opening only **1** at one time to allow for physical distancing.
 - Ensure sick employees remain at home or go home immediately if they become ill at work.
 - Meeting rooms, break rooms and other common areas should remain closed or be limited in capacity to provide physical distancing of at least **6** feet between employees.
 - Protection and accommodations should be provided to employees who are high risk for COVID-19.
 - Consider staggering work schedules to decrease exposure. Continue encouraging telecommuting if possible.

- Provide posted signage educating the public what is expected inside and outside the business including social distancing, face coverings and rescheduling their visit if they are sick.
- Mark with visuals where employees and customers should be standing.
- If not able to maintain 6 feet distancing employees and customers **MUST** wear face coverings.
- Provide as many services as feasible with limited contact for example:
 - Limiting number of customers in a lobby or waiting area
 - Staggering appointments
- Clean frequently touched surfaces with appropriate disinfectant.
- Provide for frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizer readily available to both employees and customers.

** Licensed providers such as cosmetology, dental, medical etc. should refer to State Licensing Board and National Associations for guidelines, provisions, and requirements related to their particular profession.*

- **Lodging and short term rentals may open.**
 - Provide posted signage educating the public what is expected inside and outside the business including social distancing, face coverings and rescheduling their visit if they are sick.
 - Mark with visuals where employees and customers should be standing.
 - Clean frequently touched surfaces with appropriate disinfectant.
 - Provide for frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizer readily available to both employees and customers.
- **Travel may resume**
- **Bars may open** maintaining at least **6** feet from others, diminished occupancy and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- **Congregate settings may open** with appropriate physical distancing & hygiene protocols:
 - Hot Springs and Pools
 - Camps
 - Organized youth activities including sports
 - Churches, synagogues, mosques, temples
 - Weddings
 - Funerals

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 - Increased recommended use of PPE
 - Recommended reduction in worksite staff
 - Sanitation of a specific facility
 - Closure or partial closure of a specific facility
 - Recommended reduction in social gatherings
 - Closure or partial closure of congregate settings
 - Return to takeout only options for restaurants
 - Cancellation of non-essential travel
- **Should the increase in community spread of illness be significant, the public will be asked to return to stricter protocols and Stage 3 would be delayed.**
 - **Should no significant increase in cases occur over a period of 30 days, then we will enter Stage 4 ONLY with California Department of Public Health approval.**

Stage 4

Changes from Stage 3:

- **All businesses may resume normal business and capacities.**
- **Skilled nursing facilities can resume normal visitation procedures.**
- **Physical distancing restrictions and face coverings removed.**

Should an increase in illness occur, targeted mitigation measures will be employed as determined by the MHOAC Team. This could include one or more of the following:

- Increased monitoring of exposed contacts
- Stricter quarantine of contacts
- Increased recommended use of PPE
- Recommended reduction in worksite staff
- Sanitation of a specific facility
- Closure or partial closure of a specific facility
- Recommended reduction in social gatherings
- Closure or partial closure of congregate settings
- Return to takeout only options for restaurants
- Cancellation of non-essential travel
- **Should the increase in community spread of illness be significant, the public will be asked to return to stricter protocols and stage 4 will be delayed.**

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