



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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## **OSAGE COUNTY KANSAS**

### **COVID-19 Blueprint for Re-Opening**

#### **PURPOSE AND INTRODUCTION:**

This document has been prepared to offer guidance on a safe, stepwise reopening of Osage County. We must continue to take measures to ensure the safety of our most vulnerable and continue to ensure our healthcare resources are not overburdened. In an effort to do this, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly enacted Executive Order 20-29 on April 30, 2020, to provide the beginning steps to safely re-open our state. Per this Executive Order, Osage County must adhere to the minimum guidelines set forth in the state order.

Restarting economic activity is one of our county's priorities, along with keeping our community safe and limiting the spread of COVID-19. This is a critical time to be thoughtful and careful about reopening Osage County, and we believe that a safe, stepwise approach will allow our county to accomplish this goal.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

- Osage County must follow the Executive Order enacted by the State of Kansas. If needed, more stringent guidelines may be implemented by the Osage County Public Health Officer and Board of Health in order to maintain the collective health and well-being of Osage County citizens.
- The Governor will evaluate the state's disease spread, testing rates, death rates, hospitalizations, ability of state and local public health authorities to contain outbreaks and conduct contact tracing, and personal protective equipment availability when determining if the state should move to the next "Phase."
- The executive order for each phase will be a mass gathering limit prohibiting mass gatherings of more than a specifically determined size. For Phase 1, mass gatherings of more than 10 individuals will be prohibited with relevant exceptions.
  - **Mass gathering definition:** Mass gatherings are defined as instances in which individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance between individuals (not including individuals who reside together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.

- Symptoms of COVID-19 include (but are not limited to) fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache, aches, fatigue, chills, loss of smell or taste, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea.
- Private entities may choose to implement more stringent guidelines, and are encouraged to follow industry-specific guidelines.
- High risk individuals should remain cautious, and are encouraged to stay at home except for essential needs.
- Non-essential travel to areas with a high rate of transmission should be avoided.
- The Governor will publish new guidelines as each Phase ends and another begins. As such, Osage County will update the plan in conjunction with the state's Executive Order.

# OSAGE COUNTY COVID-19

## REOPENING ORDER

Osage County will adopt the following order beginning May 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 am, and this order will remain in effect until 11:59 pm, May 18, 2020, or until rescinded. This order may be expanded and/or modified by the Osage County Public Health Officer as circumstances dictate in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Osage County.

1. Executive Orders 20-16 (statewide stay-home order), 20-24 (extending statewide stay-at-home order), and 20-25 (mass gatherings) are no longer in effect.
2. Osage County's mass gathering order issued March 21, 2020, and the stay-at-home order issued March 26, 2020 are rescinded.
3. **Mass Gatherings:**
  - a. Mass gatherings of more than 10 individuals are prohibited.
    - i. Mass gatherings are defined as instances in which individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance between individuals (not including individuals who reside together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.
4. **Guidance for Individuals:** Individuals are strongly encouraged to follow guidance attached to this order.
5. **Guidance for Employers/Businesses:** Employers and businesses are strongly encouraged to follow guidance attached to this order.
6. **Business restrictions:**
  - a. All businesses not prohibited below can open if they comply with the following:
    - i. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between customers or groups of customers;
      1. Restaurants or dining establishments may meet this requirement by using physical barriers sufficient to prevent virus spread between seated customers or groups of seated customers;
    - ii. Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices detailed on [covid.ks.gov](https://www.covid.ks.gov); and
    - iii. Avoid any instances in which groups of more than 10 individuals are in one location and unable to maintain a 6-foot distance with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity. This does not limit the total occupancy of a business, but requires that businesses limit mass gatherings in areas and instances in which physical distancing cannot be maintained, such as at tables or in entrances, lobbies, break rooms, check-out areas, etc.
  - b. All businesses in operation should follow industry-specific guidelines as provided on [covid.ks.gov](https://www.covid.ks.gov). Following any additional best practices guidance from each business sector is strongly encouraged.

- c. The following, unless they are repurposed for use in an essential function under the Kansas Essential Function Framework as determined under the provisions of paragraph 8 below, shall be closed to the public:
    - i. Bars and night clubs, excluding already operating curbside and carryout services;
    - ii. Casinos (non-tribal)
    - iii. Theaters, museums, and other indoor leisure spaces (trampoline parks, arcades, etc.)
    - iv. Fitness centers and gyms;
    - v. Nail salons, barber shops, hair salons, tanning salons, tattoo parlors, and other personal service businesses where close contact cannot be avoided;
7. Education, Activities, and Venue Restrictions:
- a. Educational Facilities:
    - i. K-12 facilities remain subject to the provisions of EO 20-07 regarding school closures, including the requirement that fewer than 10 students, instructors, or staff be present for normal operations. K-12 facilities should continue to follow the guidelines of the Continuous Learning Plan developed by the Kansas State Department of Education. Districts with facilities in more than one county or city should follow any applicable directives issued by the county and city in which their district office is located.
    - ii. Higher education facilities that are closed before May 4<sup>th</sup> should remain closed for in-person learning or events involving groups of more than 10 individuals present at a time.
    - iii. Licensed childcare facilities may continue operations pursuant to state and local regulations.
  - b. All activities and venues not prohibited in paragraph 7.c below can open if they comply with the following:
    - i. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between individuals or groups (not including individuals who reside together);
    - ii. Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices (compliance with any additional sector-specific best practices guidance is strongly encouraged); and
    - iii. Avoid any instances in which groups of more than 10 individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity. This does not limit the total occupancy of a facility, but requires that facilities limit mass gatherings in areas and instances in which physical distancing cannot be maintained such as in entrances, lobbies, locker rooms, etc.
  - c. The following, unless they are repurposed for use in an essential function under the Kansas Essential Function Framework as determined under the provisions of paragraph 8 below, shall remain closed to the public;
    - i. Community centers and senior centers;

- ii. Correctional Facilities;
- iii. Long Term Care Facilities;
- iv. Outdoor and indoor large entertainment venues with capacity of 2,000 or more;
- v. Fairs, festivals, carnivals, parades, commencements, and graduations;
- vi. Swimming pools (other than backyard pools);
- vii. Organized sports facilities and tournaments; and
- viii. Summer camps.

**8. Essential Functions:**

a. While local governments may implement more restrictive orders or provisions regarding businesses, mass gatherings, or stay-home requirements, local governments must continue to allow the performance of essential functions identified in the Kansas Essential Functions Framework. However, such local orders or provisions may affect or regulate essential functions only so long as they do not significantly disrupt performance of the essential function. The applicable list of essential functions was outlined in Executive Order 20-16 prior to its expiration; while the substantive provisions of that order no longer apply, the Kansas Essential Functions Framework listed in Executive Order 20-16 are the essential functions local governments must continue to allow.

b. During the re-opening phases, whether an individual or organization performs an essential function under the Kansas Essential Function Framework is a decision left to local governments, but any individual or business with previous confirmation from the State that it performs essential functions under Executive Order 20-16 (prior to its expiration) will continue to have those functions deemed essential.

9. Nothing in this order shall restrict, limit, or supersede the Secretary of Health and Environment's authority to make isolation, quarantine, or other orders restricting movement as necessary to respond to escalating or worsening conditions in any local jurisdiction.

10. Local governments retain authority to issue and enforce equally or more restrictive orders or provisions and retain any authority to issue or enforce isolation or quarantine orders or other orders restricting movement as necessary to respond to escalating or worsening conditions in any local jurisdiction.

11. As currently permitted pursuant to state law, law enforcement officers enforcing this order should use their discretion, consult with their legal counsel, and consider the totality of the circumstances as they determine appropriate enforcement actions.

This document shall become effective as of 12:00 a.m. on May 4, 2020, and remain in force until rescinded. This order may be expanded and/or modified by the Osage County Public Health Officer as circumstances dictate in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Osage County.

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Jacqueline Patterson, RN, BSN  
Osage County Public Health Officer

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Date

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Fred Diver, Chairman  
Osage County Board of Health

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Date

## Guidance for Individuals and Employers/Businesses

### 1. Guidance for Individuals:

- a. Individuals are strongly encouraged to wear cloth masks in public settings as appropriate and especially when using mass transit. Employees should follow industry-specific guidance on mask use in workplaces.
- b. When in public (e.g. parks, outdoor recreation areas, shopping areas) all individuals (not including individuals who reside together) should maintain a 6-foot distance from others with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.
- c. Avoid socializing in person with groups of more than 10 individuals in both indoor and outdoor settings, especially in circumstances that do not allow for a physical distance of 6-feet or more between individuals or groups with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity (e.g., receptions, trade shows).
- d. All high-risk or vulnerable individuals are encouraged to stay home except for essential needs.
- e. Minimize or eliminate non-essential travel and adhere to CDC and KDHE guidelines regarding isolation or quarantine following travel to high-risk areas. Essential travel includes travel for urgent family, medical and business-related needs as determined by the individual or business. (Travel related quarantine table can be found here:  
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/135/Travel-Related-Quarantine-Table-PDF---4-30-20>)

### 2. Guidance for Employers/Businesses:

- a. Continue to strongly encourage telework for all employees when possible.
- b. Avoid gatherings of employees in groups of more than 10 individuals where 6-foot distance between individuals cannot be maintained except for infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.
- c. Gradually phase in employees on-site as possible while maintaining 6-feet between employee workstations.
- d. Any employees exhibiting symptoms should be required to stay at home and asked to call their healthcare provider.
- e. Minimize or eliminate non-essential travel and adhere to CDC and KDHE guidelines regarding isolation and quarantine following travel to high-risk locations. Essential travel includes travel for urgent family, medical, and business-related needs as determined by the individual or business. (Travel related quarantine table can be found here:  
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/135/Travel-Related-Quarantine-Table-PDF---4-30-20>)
- f. Strongly consider special accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population.