

MEMORANDUM

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Date: March 17, 2020

To: Local Public Health Authorities

From: Food, Pool and Lodging Programs  
Environmental Public Health Section

Subject: Guidance around COVID-19 and Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-07

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On March 16, 2020, Governor Kate Brown released [Executive Order 20-07](#) to address the public health threat posed by the novel infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) in Oregon. This Order states that all restaurant, bars, brew pubs, cafes, food courts, coffee shops, clubs or other similar establishments that offer food or drink are prohibited from offering or allowing on-premises consumption of food or drink. The Order also prohibits public gatherings of 25 people or more. The Order takes effect as of March 17, 2020 at 5 PM and remains in effect through April 14, 2020 (unless extended or terminated by the Governor).

**Prohibition of On-Premises Consumption of Food and Drink**

Establishments may not offer or sell food or drinks, or otherwise allow patrons to eat or drink within or at the restaurant, café, bar, or other similar establishment. This prohibition includes outdoor spaces. Complying with social distancing protocols does not exempt establishments from the prohibition.

Although on-premises consumption of food or drink is prohibited, establishments ARE NOT completely prohibited from providing food and drink. Establishments may provide food or drinks for **off-premises** consumption. This includes orders to-go, take-away, pick-up, or delivery. Establishments offering food or drink for off-premises consumption or delivery **MUST**:

- Follow social distancing protocols of at least three (3) feet between customers in line, ordering, or waiting consistent with Oregon Health Authority (OHA) guidance; and
- Follow social distancing protocols of at least three (3) feet between staff whenever possible.

Any sale of alcoholic beverages must comply with Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 471, any administrative rules adopted thereunder, and any conditions on such a license.

This does not apply to health care facilities, childcare facilities, workplaces, essential government buildings, essential emergency response facilities, essential school-based food programs, and essential shelter and meal programs serving vulnerable populations. Such places are encouraged to use social distancing, staggered schedules, take-out, and other similar measures to reduce the risk associated with the spread of COVID-19.

**Prohibition on Gatherings of 25 People or More**

Social, Spiritual, and recreational gatherings of 25 people or more are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, any community, civic, public, leisure, faith based, sporting event, concert, convention, fundraiser, fair, festival, or similar event if a distance of at least three feet between individuals cannot be maintained. This prohibition does not apply to essential businesses and services, including workspaces, grocery stores, retail stores, convenience stores, banks, gas stations, hotels or motels, health care facilities, pharmacies, childcare facilities, state or local government or schools. Exempt businesses are encouraged to implement social distancing protocols consistent with guidance from OHA.

Attached is a Questions and Answer sheet that captures the types of questions that OHA has been receiving from Local Public Health Authorities. As the COVID-19 situation is rapidly evolving, OHA will make additions and revisions to this list as needed.