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**ORDER OF THE
COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

No. 2020-2

COVID-19 TIER 3 MITIGATION

Issued and Effective: December 11, 2020

WHEREAS, On January 27, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared that COVID-19, a respiratory illness spread by close contact through respiratory droplets, presents a public health emergency, and the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic on March 11, 2020.

WHEREAS, The Cook County Department of Public Health is the Illinois certified local health department for suburban Cook County, Illinois, with the exception of Evanston, Skokie, Oak Park, and Stickney Township, serving 127 municipalities.

WHEREAS, The Cook County Department of Public Health is responsible for determining when a danger to the public health exists within its jurisdiction, and to order measures deemed necessary to protect the public health until such time that the danger to the public health is eliminated or reduced in such a manner that an immediate threat no longer exists.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Cook County, Illinois, Code of Ordinances Sec. 38-33(b), a law enforcement officer with proper jurisdiction shall be authorized to enforce orders issued by the Cook County Department of Public Health with respect to public health measures and shall assist in enforcing such orders.

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the authority delegated to it by the Illinois Department of Public Health pursuant to the Illinois Public Health Act (20 ILCS 2305/1.1 *et seq.*); the Illinois

Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law (20 ILCS 2310/2310-15 *et seq.*); and the Cook County, Illinois, Code of Ordinances (Chapter 38, Article II *et seq.*), the Cook County Department of Public Health hereby directs and orders:

All Businesses

- Continue to evaluate which employees are able to work from home, and facilitate remote work from home, when possible.
- Designate with signage, tape, or by other means, six foot spacing for employees and customers to maintain appropriate distance.
- Ensure that employees practice social distancing and wear face coverings when social distancing is not always possible.
- Implement separate operating hours for elderly and vulnerable customers, where appropriate.
- Ensure that all spaces where employees may gather, including locker rooms and lunchrooms, allow for social distancing.
- Ensure that all visitors (customers, vendors, etc.) to the workplace can practice social distancing.
- Require employees, customers, and other individuals on the premises who are over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering to cover their nose and mouth with a face covering when on premises when indoors. Face coverings are required outdoors when employees, customers and other individuals are unable to maintain at least a six-foot social distance or as otherwise stated in this order. Businesses, services, facilities or organizations that offer food or beverages for in-person consumption may permit employees, customers, and other individuals to remove their face coverings only while seated and in the processes of eating or drinking outdoors, but must require face coverings at all other times.
- Masks shall be disposed of in a sanitary manner. Bag lined refuse bins shall be available for their disposal by employees and the public.
- Cap occupancy at 25 percent capacity for customer-facing activity.
- Prominently post the [guidance](#) from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Office of the Illinois Attorney General regarding workplace safety during the COVID-19 emergency.
- Provide employees with appropriate face coverings and requiring that employees wear face coverings where maintaining a six-foot social distance is not possible at all times. When the work circumstances require, providing employees with other PPE in addition to face coverings.

Bars, Restaurants, Private Clubs, Country Clubs (All businesses that offer food or beverages for on-premises consumption, including, but not limited to, restaurants, bars, grocery stores, and food halls)

- Must close at 11pm and may reopen no earlier than 6am the following day.
- No indoor service. Only outdoor on-premises food and beverage consumption is permitted in accordance with Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) guidance.
- All patrons must be seated at tables outside.
- No ordering, seating, or congregating at bar (bar stools must be removed).
- Table placement must allow for parties to be seated 6 feet apart from one another.
- No standing or congregating outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting.
- No dancing, standing or congregating indoors.
- No tables exceeding 6 people.
- Reservations required for each party.
- No seating of multiple guest parties at one table.
- Indoor gaming terminals must suspend operations.
- Delivery, third-party delivery, drive-through, and curbside pick-up may continue.
- Tents may be used for outdoor dining if at least two sides of the tent are open to allow airflow. If more than two sides of the tent are enclosed, this is considered indoors for purposes of this order.

Health and Fitness Centers (including swimming pools)

- Operate at no more than 25% capacity.
- No indoor group classes.
- Face coverings must be worn at all times, including while engaged in individual exercise regardless of person or machine spacing.
- Reservations required.
- Locker room areas must be closed except as permitted by DCEO guidance.
- Indoor pools and indoor water features for recreation, amusement or group lessons must be closed.
- Lap swimming is permissible at facilities; 1 swimmer per lane is allowed and reservations are required.

Hotels

- Hotel room occupancy must be limited to registered guests only, with the maximum allowance being the number of individuals permissible per existing fire code for each applicable guest room.
- Swimming pool and spa areas must be closed or operated only on a reservation model, and only used as allowed by DCEO guidance.
- Indoor pools and indoor water features for recreational use and amusement must be closed.

- Fitness centers must be closed or operated only on a reservation model, with capacity limited to 25% of the maximum occupancy for the room. Health and Fitness Centers section requirements apply.
- Hotel restaurants and bars are subject to the requirements for Restaurants and Bars, but grab-and-go food, take-out and room service for in-room consumption is allowed.
- Gatherings may not be hosted in event and meeting spaces or in other locations of the hotel.

Recreational, Theaters and Cultural Institutions (including, but not limited to, casinos, gaming, bowling, arcades, theaters and perform arts, spectator events, museums, aquariums and zoos)

- Gaming and casinos must be closed.
- Indoor public amusement and indoor recreational activities are prohibited.
- Outdoor activities are permitted at 25% capacity or less.
- Outdoor group activities limited to 10 persons or less. Participants/guests must wear face coverings at all times and adhere to social distancing requirements at all times.
- Reservations are required for each guest for outdoor activities.

Manufacturing

- Provide additional COVID training for all employees required even if previous training occurred.
- Operators should coordinate with IDPH to implement testing protocols and contact tracing, upon request, consistent with available testing supplies.
- Provide face coverings to all employees who are not able to maintain a minimum six-foot social distance.
- All employees must wear face coverings at all times unless eating or drinking. Exemptions are only allowed for safety purposes.
- Only manufacturing staff and key personnel allowed in facilities. Non-production employees must work remotely. Non-essential staff and visitors are not permitted. Exemptions only for critical equipment repairs, supply deliveries and safety reasons (“critical visitors”).
- All critical visitors must have an Employee Health and Safety (EHS)-approved risk-assessment done in advance, including travel history, tracking, and temperature check prior to entrance.
- Implement additional workstation realignment, when feasible.
- Stagger and space shifts, and designate shift entrances and exits (when possible) to minimize interactions of employees across unique shift groupings.
- Station sanitation are required at the beginning and ending of shifts.
- Review policies to ensure that workers are not encouraged or incentivized to report to work while sick or potentially contagious (this may include suspending attendance-based incentive pay and implementing temporary sick leave policies). Implement temporary leave policies to accommodate workers who are sick.

- Develop and implement safety protocols for employee travel vans to promote spacing, require face coverings, temperature checks, air circulation, and vehicle sanitization.

Meetings, Social Events and Gatherings (including, but not limited to, weddings, potlucks, etc.)

- Meeting rooms, banquet centers, private party rooms, private clubs and country clubs may not host gatherings.
- Party buses are prohibited.
- Funerals are limited to 10 family members of the decedents, not including staff. Venues hosting funeral or visitation services are subject to [IDPH guidance](#).

Offices

- Provide face coverings to all employees.
- Cap occupancy at 50 percent of office capacity, and consider implementing stricter capacity limits where the physical space does not clearly allow for social distancing.
- Allow telework where possible.
- Develop and prominently post plans and signage to ensure social distancing in shared spaces such as waiting rooms, service counters, and cafeterias.

Organized group recreational activities (including, but not limited to sports, indoor sports and activity facilities, park districts, travel leagues, etc.):

- Pause all indoor group sporting and recreational activities including youth and adult recreational sports, individual training may remain (with facility reservation).
- Outdoor sports and recreation allowed.
- Participant groups and practices outdoors limited to 10 persons or less with social distancing.
- Face coverings required as stated in All Businesses section.
- Locker room areas must be closed except as permitted by DCEO guidance.

Personal Care Service:

- Operate at lesser of 25 clients or 25% capacity.
- Face coverings must be worn at all times by clients and service providers.
- Suspend services where a face covering cannot be worn (e.g. facials, beard trims).
- Massage therapy and body treatments allowed as deemed necessary by a medical provider, but appointments must be spaced by a minimum of 15 minutes and facilities should take steps to sanitize and circulate clean air through service rooms before and after each service.

Retail (including service counters)

- Operate at no more than 25% capacity, including general merchandise stores, "big box" stores that offer groceries and pharmacy, and convenience stores.

- Grocery stores and pharmacies may operate at up to 50% capacity.
- Provide face coverings to all employees.
- Communicate with customers through in-store signage, and public service announcements and advertisements, about the social distancing and face covering requirements.
- Post signage requiring face coverings to be worn on the premises.
- Provide face coverings to customers.
- Give verbal warnings to customers to wear a face covering when on the premises.
- Request that customers leave the premises if not wearing a face covering.
- Promote delivery or curbside pickup options wherever possible.
- When in-store shopping is necessary, promote efficient trips and consistent circulation.

Face covering or mask in this Order refers to a complete and tight knit fabric or cloth, or medical mask that is appropriately sized for the individual's face to snugly cover the nasal openings and mouth without the necessity of being held in place by the individual's hands.

Where reservation requirements or lists are required in this Order, the business, organization and/or employers must make available the list for each party to Cook County Department of Public Health upon request.

Exemptions

- **Free exercise of religion.** This Order does not limit the free exercise of religion. To protect the health and safety of faith leaders, staff, congregants and visitors, religious organizations and houses of worship are strongly encouraged to consult and follow the recommended [practices and guidelines](#) from the Illinois Department of Public Health. As set forth in the IDPH guidelines, the safest practices for religious organizations at this time are to provide services online, in a drive-in format, or outdoors (and consistent with social distancing requirements and guidance regarding wearing face coverings), and to limit services to 10 people. Religious organizations are strongly encouraged to take steps to ensure social distancing, the use of face coverings, and implementation of other public health measures.
- **Emergency functions.** All first responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court personnel, law enforcement and corrections personnel, hazardous materials responders, child protection and child welfare personnel, housing and shelter personnel, military, and other governmental employees working for or to support the emergency response are exempt from this Order, but are encouraged to practice social distancing and take recommended public health measures.

- **Governmental functions.** This Order does not apply to the United States government and does not affect services provided by the State or any municipal, township, county, subdivision or agency of government and needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies or to provide for or support the health, safety and welfare of the public.

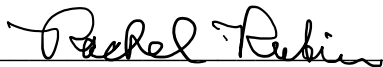
This Order aims to provide industry requirements and best practices for COVID mitigation in our jurisdiction. All measures listed, both requirements and best practices, should be followed to mitigate the spread of COVID in our workplaces, businesses and community.

In addition to any other penalty provided by law, violations of this Order shall be subject to the penalties as set forth in the Cook County, Illinois, Code of Ordinances Sec. 38-38.

Nothing in this Order shall, in any way, alter or modify any existing Cook County Department of Public Health Order, except that in the event of a direct conflict in a requirement for a particular business type between this order and a previously issued Cook County Department of Public Health Order, the requirements of this Order shall be followed. Nothing in this Order shall, in any way, alter or modify the legal authority of the State or any county, or local government body.

If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, this invalidity does not affect any other provision or application of this Order, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. To achieve this purpose, the provisions of this Order are declared to be severable. This Order is meant to be read consistently with any Court order regarding this Order.

This Direction and Order by the Cook County Department of Public Health shall remain in effect for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency as declared by United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, or until such time the Cook County Department of Public Health makes a written determination that the threat to public safety has diminished to the point that this Order can be safely repealed.



Dated: December 11, 2020

Name: Rachel Rubin

Title: Senior Medical Officer, Co-Lead

Cook County Department of Public Health