



## **State of Oregon**

# **Updated Mitigation Measures on Coronavirus Response**

March 12, 2020

Pursuant to directives from Governor Brown, the State of Oregon is issuing the following guidance, with the primary goal of slowing transmission of the coronavirus in Oregon in order to protect the most vulnerable Oregonians, and to protect our state's health care system capacity. This guidance follows updated guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, released March 10, 2020, and the World Health Organization's designation of COVID-19 as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020.

### **1. Large Gatherings**

- All large gatherings over 250 people are canceled statewide, effectively immediately, for four weeks (through April 8, 2020).
  - Large gatherings subject to this order include but are not limited to community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based, or sporting events, concerts, conventions, fundraisers, and any similar events or activities, if a distance of at least three (3) feet between individuals cannot be maintained.

### **2. Other Events**

- Individuals in high risk populations (those over 60 years of age, or those with an underlying health condition) should avoid social and community gatherings of more than ten (10) people, for four weeks (through April 8, 2020).
- All other events are recommended to be modified as follows:
  - Make events virtual when possible;
  - Make performances and content available online;
  - Change the location of event to an outdoor setting;

- Transition a large event to multiple events with fewer people;
- Send announcements ahead of events, reminding high risk individuals and persons who are sick to stay home;
- Display signs that encourage hand washing;
- Ensure guests have ready access to hand sanitizer, and sinks with water, soap, and paper towels;
- Politely ask individuals to leave if they are sick and coughing.

### **3. Workplace Recommendations**

- The following social distancing measures should be observed to the extent possible:
  - Maintain a distance of at least three (3) feet between employees in offices and at worksites;
  - Implement staggered work schedules;
  - Cancel or limit in-person meetings by utilizing teleconference and videoconference technologies;
  - Limit all non-essential meetings of twenty (20) or more individuals, including after-work functions;
  - Limit all non-essential work travel—in-state, national, or international work travel;
  - Limit all work-sponsored conferences, tradeshow, and other events.
- Employers should also:
  - Establish flexible leave policies for staff who need to stay home due to school, childcare, and event dismissals;
  - Consider paid leave policies for people with COVID-19 symptoms;
  - Consider shift equivalent paid leave policies for hourly employees who have work hours decreased or cancelled due to implications of COVID-19;
  - Implement extended telework arrangements where feasible.
- Businesses, whether indoor businesses (museums, movie theaters, retail stores, grocery stores, gyms, etc.) or outdoor businesses (outdoor markets, zoos, etc.) should:
  - Post signage reminding people who are sick to stay home;
  - Display signs that encourage handwashing;

- Limit crowding, and implement social distancing measures to ensure individuals are at least three (3) feet apart, whenever possible;
- Increase cleaning of high-touch surfaces.
- Restaurants and the hospitality industry also should, when possible, encourage social distancing, and reconfigure businesses to emphasize take-out ordering.

#### **4. Schools Recommendations**

- In addition to previous guidance from the Oregon Health Authority, schools should, to the extent possible, cancel or limit all non-essential gatherings and group activities, including but not limited to:
  - Group parent meetings and parent education activities;
  - Field trips;
  - Competitions;
  - Concerts and plays;
  - Arena-based conferences;
  - Group trainings and professional learning activities.

*\*These recommendations apply whether or not the activities are specifically sponsored by a school or school district.*

- Schools should also:
  - Limit interscholastic athletics and activities to student participants, essential personnel, and credentialed media. This recommendation includes any organized youth athletic programs, club sports, intramural activities and competitions, whether or not they are affiliated with or sponsored by a school or school district;
  - Coordinate with and make this information available to all onsite partners (preschools, childcare centers, afterschool programs, etc.);
  - Consider staggering recess and lunch periods to reduce the number of students coming into close contact with each other.
- Students at high risk for severe illness should consult with their health care providers about specific steps to lower their risk of illness.

- School district employees and students, volunteers and visitors who are ill should stay home until their fever is gone and symptoms are better for at least 24 hours to stay home.
- Colleges and universities are also advised to follow these protocols, modified as necessary to apply within a higher education setting.

## **5. Childcare Recommendations**

- Childcare providers and facilities are recommended to, to the extent possible:
  - Cancel all in-person training activities or professional learning, and discourage participation of staff in community-based training that is not available online;
  - Cancel all in-person parenting education and parent information meetings;
  - Cancel field trips;
  - Limit staff meetings and gatherings;
  - Stagger meal and outdoor times to limit interaction.
- Children, teachers and staff who are ill should stay home until their fever and symptoms are gone for at least 24 hours.
- Childcare programs are strongly encouraged to implement sick leave policies that support staff who are symptomatic, particularly high-risk individuals, from coming to work.
- Childcare programs that are experiencing hardship in maintaining operations should consult with their licensing specialist for guidance.
- Childcare providers should coordinate with education and early learning partners including schools, especially when co-located.
- Home-based childcare providers, or their family members who are ill, should stay home until their fever is gone and symptoms are better for at least 24 hours. In those circumstances, home-based childcare providers also should either (a) preemptively close the facility, or (b) separate ill household members in a different room, away from others and increase cleaning procedures.

## **6. Transit-related Recommendations**

- Individuals and entities providing transit services are recommended to:
  - Post or play reminders to stay home when sick;

- Encourage individual to travel only when essential;
  - Avoid crowding, and encourage social distancing;
  - Increase cleaning.
- Ride shares are encouraged to clean regularly and have windows down, when possible.

## **7. Congregate Settings, including Long-Term Care and Assisted Living**

- Guidance announced this week by OHA and DHS remains in place to protect older adults. The guidance:
  - Directs nursing, assisted living and residential care facilities to restrict visitation to only essential individuals;
  - Requires screening of all permitted visitors for respiratory or other symptoms;
  - Limits community outings and support residents' access to socialization when visitors are not able to enter the facility.