

MARYLAND – COVID-19 - Back to Business and Business Closure Orders – Updated through 12/15/20

Executive Orders and Interpretive Guidance
<https://governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance/>

Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery
<https://governor.maryland.gov/recovery/>

GENERAL TOPIC	SUMMARY	SECTION #
General	After the initial closure orders, reopening commenced in phases starting 5/15/20. New orders are issued regularly. See Executive Orders and Guidance for latest update New surge restrictions imposed by 11/17/20 Surge Order	
Gatherings	All Marylanders “should” refrain from attending either public or private indoor gatherings of more than 10 individuals See Dept of Health “advisory” 12/17/20 Advisory	
Stay at Home - Modifications	The prior stay at home order was lifted effective 5/15/20. Secretary of Health authorized to issue orders as needed	
Businesses required to close	Senior centers remain closed. See part V of 11/17/20 Surge Order and Roadmap to Recovery , as updated	
Requirements for Business	See restrictions in part III of 11/17/20 Surge Order and at Roadmap to Recovery , as updated. Business guidance includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail – capacity and other limits • Manufacturing • Personal Services – capacity and other limits • Recreational – • Foodservice – capacity limits • Fitness centers – capacity and other limits • Entertainment venues – capacity and other limits . <p>Under the 11/17/20 Surge Order, most capacity limits were moved to 50%</p>	
Restaurants, Bars	See restrictions in part III of 11/17/20 Surge Order and Roadmap to Recovery , as updated. Capacity limited to 50%. Last call hours imposed.	
Face Masks; Social Distancing	Detailed face mask requirements are set forth in 11/17/20 Surge Order . Among other things, face masks are required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On public transit • Indoors at any location where members of the public are generally permitted • At any outdoor sporting or entertainment venue 	

Disclaimer: The information provided in this handout is general information and not designed to be and should not be relied on as your sole source of information when analyzing and resolving a specific legal issue. Each fact situation is different; the laws are constantly changing. If you have specific questions regarding a particular fact situation, we urge you to consult with legal counsel.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoors at any location where unable to consistently maintain social distance • Obtaining healthcare services • Engaged in food preparation or any area where interaction with others is likely <p>See the order for more details relating to face masks and social distancing requirements, including exceptions.</p>	
Travel	<p>The governor issued an emergency order requiring Marylanders to limit all travel to essential purposes only. All Marylanders who travel outside of Maryland or any individuals who travel to Maryland must either obtain a negative COVID test or self-quarantine for 10 days. This applies to all states, with the exception of Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC. Effective 12/17/20. Read 12/17/20 Order re travel and companion health directives.</p> <p>Santa and elves exempted from travel restrictions. See Santa Exemption</p>	
Impact on other Orders	A local political subdivision may issue orders that are more restrictive than this order.	
APPENDIX AND DEFINITIONS (SUMMARY)		
Nonessential businesses	<p>No distinction between essential and nonessential businesses under 11/17/20 Surge Order. However, if definition is needed, nonessential are all businesses, organizations and facilities other than those included in the federal CISA Guidelines. See https://www.cisa.gov/identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19 and Maryland interpretive guidance.</p>	

DISCLAIMER: This information is provided for convenience only, and should not be relied upon in making decisions for your business. As this is a rapidly changing area, reference should always be made to the official order and related interpretative guidance. If you have specific questions about how any particular jurisdiction's Order affects your business, or other COVID-19 topics, please contact a member of the Holland & Knight's COVID-19 Response Team – State and Local Orders and Regulations.

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