## NORTH CAROLINA - Back to Business - COVID-19 - Phases 1, 2, and 3 (updated 10/23/20)

## **EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/covid-19-orders

## **REOPENING PLAN AND SITE**

https://www.nc.gov/covid19
https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/staying-ahead-curve

GENERAL TOPIC	SUMMARY	SECTION#
Executive Orders	EO 138 (Phase 1): Effective at 5:00 pm on May 8, 2020.	
	EO 141 (Phase 2): Effective at 5:00 pm on May 22, 2020, then extended.	
	EO 147 (face masks): Effective June 24, 2020.	
	EO 151 (extend Phase 2): Effective July 17, 2020	
	EO 155 (extending Phase 2): Effective August 5, 2020	
	EO 163 (Phase 2.5): Effective September 4, 2020	
	EO 169 (Phase 3): Effective October 2, 2020	
	EO 170 (extend Phase 3): Effective October 23, 2020	
General	The Orders implement the first three phases for gradually re-opening North Carolina businesses and easing restrictions on travel and mass gatherings.	
Shelter in Place - Modifications	Phase 1: The Order provided an updated listed of Allowable Activities defined below. Individuals in the state of North Carolina may undertake Allowable Activities, but are otherwise ordered to continue to stay at home.	EO 138 §2 (c)
	Phase 2: Stay at home mandate lifted. High risk individuals are "strongly encouraged" to stay at home. Individuals are "strongly encouraged" to telework to the greatest extent permitted by employers. When outside the home, individuals are strongly encouraged to social distance, wear masks, etc.	EO 141 §2, 3 EO 169§1.4
	Phase 3: Same as Phase 2, but no reference to telework.	10331.4
Opening of Resumed Businesses	Phase 1: All businesses that are not expressly closed under the Order may resume operations. These newly reopened businesses must operate under specific restrictions outlined in additional detail below. In Phase 1, personal care and grooming business remained closed.	EO 137 §3(A) & (B) EO 138 § 5(A)

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.

GENERAL	SUMMARY	SECTION#
TOPIC		
	Phase 2: Personal care and grooming businesses opened, subject to compliance with certain requirements.  Phase 3: All other businesses opened, subject to stated restrictions  See <a href="https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/staying-ahead-curve">https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/staying-ahead-curve</a>	EO 141 §6, 8 EO 169
Essential Businesses	Not addressed by these Orders. See original closing orders.	
Public/Entertainment Venues/Gyms	Phase 1: State parks and trails may reopen, however, public playgrounds will remain closed during this phase of the reopening process. Entertainment and fitness facilities without retail or dining component will remain closed. Those facilities with a retail or dining component may operate the retail or dining component so long as they are in compliance with the remaining provisions of this order.  Phase 2: Pools may open, subject to capacity and other requirements. Public playgrounds remain closed. Entertainment and fitness facilities without retail or dining component will remain closed (however, an exception is provided for venues that have at least two entrances and exits and a stated fire capacity of at least five hundred (500), who can meet social distancing requirements; spectators must meet gathering limits)  Phase 3: Amusement parks may reopen, subject to certain restrictions. Bars, music halls, lounges, sport facilities, adult entertainment may reopen, subject to certain restrictions. Gyms, exercise facilities, health clubs, bowling alleys, etc may open, subject to certain restrictions. Movie theaters, entertainment venues may open, subject to certain restrictions	EO 138 § 3(E)  EO 138 § 5 (B)  EO 141 §6(E), 7(B), 9  EO 169 §3.5, 3.8
Doctor words Doc	See <a href="https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/staying-ahead-curve">https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/staying-ahead-curve</a>	50 420 S
Restaurants, Bars	Phase 1: Restaurants may remain open if consumption occurs off premises via carry-out, drive-through, and delivery. Restaurants should follow social distancing and transmission reduction recommendations. Sit-down food and beverage services is prohibited at any kind of business. Bars are directed not to serve alcoholic beverages for onsite consumption. The Order does not direct the	EO 138 § 4(A)
	closure of retail beverage venues that provide alcohol for off-site consumption and does not require the closure of production operations at breweries, wineries, or distilleries.	EO 138 § 4(B)
		EO 141 §6(C)

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.

GENERAL	SUMMARY	SECTION#
TOPIC		
	Phase 2: Restaurants may allow on-premises consumption of food and beverages. Restaurants must meet the sanitation requirements of this Section even if they are open only for take-out or delivery service. Certain capacity limits and other restrictions apply. Bar restrictions remain in place.  Phase 3: Bars may reopen for outdoor service, subject to certain restrictions. Late night curfew on serving alcoholic beverages	EO 169 §4
	See https://www.nc.gov/covid-19/staying-ahead-curve	
Permitting Elective Surgeries, Etc.	Not addressed by these Orders	
Facemask Requirements	Phase 1: Individuals are "encouraged" to wear face coverings when leaving the home and to wear them inside all public settings.  Phase 2: Workers in restaurants and personal care businesses "strongly encouraged" to wear face masks when within 6 ft of	EO 138 § 2(A) EO 141 §6(C)
	another person.  EO 147: Effective 6/24/20, all persons are <u>required</u> to wear Face Coverings in <u>certain listed settings</u> , whether they are inside or outside. Certain exceptions provided.	EO 147
	Phase 3 (EO 169): Face Coverings must be worn in <u>any public place</u> , business or establishment, indoor or outdoor, where it is not possible to consistently be physically distant by more than six (6) feet from non-household members. Certain exceptions provided. Honor system for individual compliance. Employers must make good faith effort to provide employees with face masks (see order for details).	EO 169
Gatherings	Phase 1: Mass gatherings of more than ten (10) people at a time at a single space are prohibited. The order provides exceptions for events that involve multiple sessions of no more than 10 people at a time, funerals, drive-ins, and households where more than ten (10) people reside. There are additional exceptions for gatherings related to allowable activities and for normal operations of airports, bus and train stations, medical facilities, shopping malls, and shopping	EO 138 § 6 (A)-(F)
	centers.  Phase 2: Mass gathering limit increased to 10 people indoors or 25 people outdoors. See order for details.	EO 141 § 7(A)
	Phase 3: Mass gathering limit increased to 25 people indoors or 50 outdoors. See order for details. Additional provisions for events at	EO 169§5, 6

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.

GENERAL TOPIC	SUMMARY	SECTION#
	very large facilities (capacity 10,000 or more)	
Liability Provisions	Not addressed by these Orders	
Other	Provisions relating to child care, day camps, overnight camps, price gouging.  In Phase 2, professional athletes and athletes performing on an agreement with an educational institution to receive a scholarship or other benefit may train within indoor fitness facilities that otherwise would be closed under Subsection A above, provided they do not exceed the Mass Gathering limit	
	APPENDIX AND DEFINITIONS (SUMMARY)	
Requirements for Resumed/Reopened Retail Businesses	Phase 1: Under EO 138, Retail businesses must:  Limit customer occupancy to either:  50% or less of the business' stated fire capacity; or,  12 customers for every 1000 square feet of retail space (excluding areas not accessible to customers) if there is no stated fire capacity  In any event, customers must be able to stay six (6) feet apart, even if this requires reducing occupancy beneath the limits stated above  Direct customers to stay six (6) feet apart from one another and workers except at point of sale if applicable  Mark six (6) feet of spacing in lines at point of sale and other high traffic areas  Perform frequent and routine cleaning of high-touch areas with an EPA-approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2  Provide hand sanitizer when available and soap and hand drying materials at sinks. These stations should be checked and refilled frequently  Conduct symptom screening of workers using standard interview questionnaire before workers enter workplace  The NC Department of Health and Human Services will make a sample screening checklist available online  Immediately send symptomatic workers home  Have a plan in place for isolating workers from workplace if symptoms develop	EO 138 § 3(B)

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.

GENERAL	SUMMARY	SECTION#
TOPIC		
	<ul> <li>Post signage at main entrances to remind people of social distancing guidelines, instructing recently symptomatic people not to enter, and to notify customers of reduced capacity</li> </ul>	
	Under EO 138, it is also recommended that Retail Businesses:	FO 120 S
	<ul> <li>Direct workers to stay at least six (6) feet apart from one another and customers to the greatest extent possible</li> </ul>	EO 138 § 3(C)
	<ul> <li>Provide designated times for seniors and other high-risk populations to access services</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Develop and use systems that allow for online, email, or telephone ordering, no-contact curbside or drive-through pickup or home delivery, and contact-free checkout</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>High-volume Retail Businesses (e.g. grocery stores and pharmacies) are encouraged to take additional measures to reduce transmission including:</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Using acrylic of plastic shields at cash registers</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Clearly mark designated entry and exit points</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Provide assistance with routing through aisles</li> </ul>	
	EO 138 also recommends that all Businesses (including Retail):	
	<ul> <li>Continue to promote telework and limit non-essential travel where possible</li> </ul>	EO 138 §
	Promote social distancing	3(D)
	<ul> <li>Limit face-to-face meetings to no more than ten (10) workers</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Promote hygiene and frequent hand-washing and hand sanitizer</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Recommend and provide workers with face coverings and to provide information about proper use, removal, and cleaning of face coverings</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Make accommodations for workers who are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Encourage sick workers to stay at home and provide support to do so with sick leave</li> </ul>	
	Follow CDC guidelines following worker COVID-19 diagnosis	
	<ul> <li>Provide workers with education about COVID-19 prevention strategies</li> </ul>	

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.

GENERAL	SUMMARY	SECTION#
TOPIC		
	<ul> <li>Promote information on helplines for workers such as 211 and Hope4NC Helpline</li> <li>For Phase 2 revisions, see <a href="Public Health Guidance re Phase 2">Public Health Guidance re Phase 2</a> and <a href="Phase 2">Phase 2 Extension FAQ</a></li> <li>For Phase 3 revisions, see <a href="Public Health Guidance for Businesses 10/2/20">Public Health Guidance for Businesses 10/2/20</a> and <a href="Phase 3">Phase 3 FAQ</a></li> </ul>	
Entertainment and Fitness Venues	Phase 1 and 2 businesses remaining closed. Reopened in Phase 3 subject to limits:  Bingo Parlors, including bingo sites operated by charitable organizations  Bowling Alleys  Indoor Exercise Facilities (e.g., yoga studios, dance studios, martial arts facilities, indoor trampoline and rock climbing facilities)  Gyms  Indoor Fitness Facilities, including but not limited to indoor basketball courts, volleyball courts, racquetball courts, squash courts, and tennis courts  Health Clubs and Fitness Centers  Movie Theaters  Skating Rinks  Gaming and business establishments which allow gaming activities (e.g., video poker, gaming, sweepstakes, video games, arcade games, pinball machines or other computer, electronic or mechanical devices played for amusement)  Venues for Receptions or Parties  Museums  Amusement Parks  Bars  Night Clubs, Dance Halls, or Music Halls where patrons are	EO 141, EO 169
515	not seated.	
Essential Businesses	Not addressed by these Orders	
Minimum Basic Operations	Not addressed by these Orders	

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.

GENERAL TOPIC	SUMMARY	SECTION#
Allowable Activities	Under Phase 1, there were restrictions on individuals leaving their residences, limited to certain Allowable Activities. These restrictions were lifted in Phase 2.	
Essential Travel	Not addressed by these Orders	
Minimum Basic Operations	Not addressed by these Orders	
Social Distancing Requirements	Individuals are encouraged to following social distancing guidelines by avoiding mass gatherings and keeping six (6) feet of distance from other individuals with the exception of family or household members.	EO 138 § 2(A)

**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.

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.