

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 31-2020  
PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE § 16-20-1-24  
AND CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 5 OF THE CODE OF THE HEALTH  
AND HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF MARION COUNTY

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the recent increase of new cases nationwide with a trend toward cases in a younger population, and to ensure that social distancing measures vital to the mitigation of the pandemic remain in place, I order the following, **effective 12:00 AM on September 28, 2020** and remaining in force until superseded or rescinded.

1. **Masks.** Unless an exception applies, all individuals must wear a mask or face covering over their nose and mouth when in an indoor place other than the home, or when outdoors in a situation where adequate social distancing of at least 6 feet is not possible (including outdoor public gatherings). This requirement does not apply to:
  - Children who are two years of age or younger.
  - Individuals who are hearing or speaking impaired and for whom a mask or face covering is an obstacle to communication.
  - Individuals who are unable to wear a mask or face covering for a physical, medical, or health-related reason. **However, many individuals who cannot wear a mask for health reasons can wear a plastic face shield and must do so whenever possible.**
  - Individuals in a hospital, doctor's office, dentist's office, or other health care facility, in circumstances where wearing a mask or face covering would be an impediment to receiving proper care.
  - Individuals experiencing homelessness who are living outdoors in unsheltered environments. When indoors, including in shelter facilities, individuals experiencing homelessness must wear a mask or face covering whenever a mask or face covering is available.
  - Individuals who are alone in a room in a public building, such as in an office.
  - Individuals who are traveling in their own vehicles.

- Individuals for whom wearing a face mask or covering would present a risk to their safety while at work, as determined by local, state, or federal workplace safety regulations.
- Individuals who are incarcerated. However, detention facilities must establish policies that require all staff and detainees or inmates to wear masks or face coverings to the maximum extent compatible with the safe operation of the facility.
- Individuals who are engaged in a form of indoor exercise that is incompatible with wearing a mask or face covering, including swimming.
- Individuals who are seated at a restaurant, bar, nightclub, or other establishment that serves food and/or drink, while they are eating or drinking. However, individuals must wear masks at all other times while in such establishments.
- Individuals who are engaged in outdoor physical exercise, including running, jogging, walking, bicycling, or swimming, if in groups of less than 25.
- Bona fide emergency situations in which a person lacks the time or the means to put on a mask or face covering before entering an indoor or outdoor public space.
- Individuals who are outdoors and are maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from others who are not part of their household.
- Exceptions specifically described in the paragraphs below.

2. **Enforcement of mask requirement.** All businesses and public accommodations that are open to the public must ensure that all staff, customers and/or visitors are complying with the requirements of Paragraph 1 above. Businesses or public accommodations that fail to enforce compliance with Paragraph 1 are subject to enforcement action.

3. **General health and safety precautions.** When individuals must interact with one another outside the home, including at work, at essential businesses, and at non-essential businesses, they should observe the following precautions:

- a. Maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet from other individuals who are not part of their own household;
- b. Wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol when soap and water are not available;
- c. Cover all coughs and sneezes with a tissue that can then be disposed;
- d. Disinfect frequently used surfaces;
- e. Avoid sharing food, drinks, and utensils;
- f. Refrain from sharing office supplies and equipment (such as pens, staplers, and computer keyboards);

- g. Frequently clean communal office equipment (such as printers and copiers);
  - h. Increase ventilation of indoor spaces, by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning, as much as possible;
  - i. Hold all necessary meetings by telephone or videoconference whenever possible; and
  - j. Refrain from shaking hands or engaging in other physical contact with the hands or face of another person.
4. **General rules for gatherings and large events.**
- a. **Social gatherings must be limited to 50 people or fewer.** A social gathering is defined as an event, assembly, or convening that brings together multiple people, individually or from separate households, in a single space, indoors or outdoors, at the same time and in a coordinated fashion where a significant purpose is to interact with others. Examples of social gatherings include, but are not limited to, private parties, club meetings, and banquets. However, this 50-person limit does not apply to a pre-planned social gathering, such as a wedding reception, that is held in a dedicated event space or commercial venue and has a determined guest list, and as to which adequate advance arrangements for social distancing have been made. For all social gatherings, social distancing of a minimum of 6 feet must be maintained, and face coverings must be worn.
  - b. **All other forms of gathering, meeting, or special or seasonal event** (including social gatherings that are exempt from the 50-person limited established in subparagraph (a)) **must be limited to 250 people, or 25% of venue capacity as defined by the fire marshal.** Social distancing of a minimum of 6 feet must be maintained, and face coverings must be worn at all times.
  - c. **Notwithstanding subparagraph b above, a special or seasonal event that anticipates attendance of more than 250 people may proceed if a risk mitigation plan for the event is submitted to MCPHD at least 7 days before the event is scheduled to begin and MCPHD has approved the risk mitigation plan before the event begins.** Risk mitigation plans must address at least the factors identified in paragraph 2(b)(iii) of Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-36. A special or seasonal event is defined as an assembly or convening of multiple people from separate households in a single space, indoors or outdoors, at the same time but where the purpose is not primarily to interact with the other attendees but to attend the event itself. Examples of special or seasonal events include, but are not limited to, concerts, special movie screenings, fairs, festivals, back to school events, carnivals, parades, graduation ceremonies, community

holiday celebrations, conventions, fundraisers, sport or racing competitions, shows, or other entertainment events.

- d. These restrictions do not apply to religious services or to political or civic assemblies.
  - e. Large facilities such as museums or convention centers may have more than one event simultaneously as long as those events collectively do not exceed the capacity stated in the appropriate paragraph.
5. **Voluntary Quarantine Period Post-Travel.** After traveling to, or from, a state or country which has experienced at least 300 new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in the previous two-week period as of the time of travel, Marion County residents, or individuals who live in Marion County, should observe a quarantine period of 14 days, during which they remain in their homes and do not come into close contact with any person outside of their household. A list of states and countries for which travel triggers this recommendation will be posted on MCPHD's website and updated on a regular basis. [www.marionhealth.org](http://www.marionhealth.org).
6. **The Indianapolis Public Library,** Central location and branches, may remain open at 75%. Patrons are encouraged to take advantage of delivery and curbside options. Books and other items returned to the Library should be kept out of circulation for at least 72 hours. Additionally, the Library must follow the recommendations of the CDC to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 on library material surfaces.
7. **Shopping malls and other retail stores,** including liquor stores and convenience stores, may remain open at 75% capacity. Employees must be screened daily. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour. The following additional requirements apply:
- a. Common areas within indoor shopping malls must restrict capacity to 75%.
  - b. Food courts within shopping malls may remain open for in-house dining but must restrict capacity to 75% and must maintain social distancing of six (6) feet between dining parties. Party size must be limited to 10 people or fewer at a table, while maintaining a minimum of six feet between parties not from the same household.
  - c. Convenience stores and grocery stores may allow self-service beverage stations with proper monitoring and frequent disinfection of high touch surfaces. Salad bars, bulk items, hot dog rollers are prohibited. Pre-packaged "grab and go" items or items dispensed by a food worker are approved.
8. **Restaurants, bars, nightclubs, and retail food establishments** may be open at 50% indoor capacity and 100% outdoor capacity, subject to the

restrictions listed below. Hookah bars and cigar bars are considered bars and are subject to this paragraph. Gentlemen's and ladies' clubs are considered bars and are subject to this paragraph.

- a. **All restaurants, bars, nightclubs, and retail food establishments must be closed and cleared of all customers between the hours of 12:00 AM and 5:00 AM nightly.**
- b. All patrons or group parties must be at least six (6) feet away from people at other tables. Party size must be limited to 10 people or fewer at each table, while maintaining a minimum of six feet between parties not from the same household.
- c. Table service is required for indoor dining or drink service. No bar service or bar-top seating is permitted. Tables within a bar area may be open for table service.
- d. Carry-out service is permitted. Lines for carry-out services must provide an environment where patrons and staff maintain social distancing (at least six (6) feet away from other people) to the greatest extent possible.
- e. Live entertainment is permitted, but must comply with the spacing requirements for live entertainment set forth in Paragraph 10 of this Order.
- f. Customers must remain seated and congregation is not permitted.
- g. Open congregate areas that are not necessary for the preparation and service of food and beverages (i.e. billiards, card playing, pinball game, video games, arcade games, dancing) are to be closed and may not be utilized by customers.
- h. Staff must perform proper hand washing hygiene after every operation at each table.
- i. Employees must be screened daily.
- j. All establishments must continue to adhere to all food and safety code requirements, and must consult Indiana Restaurant and Lodging Association best practices.
- k. All establishments are encouraged to use outdoor seating as much as possible.
- l. Breweries, wineries, and distilleries that do not offer retail food sales may continue to offer tastings at 50% capacity and carry-out sales. Removal of any bar-top seating for tastings is required. Outdoor tastings can be offered but not at bar seating and must be socially distanced. Indoor and outdoor beverage service must be by table service only. Masks are required when not eating or drinking.
- m. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
- n. This Paragraph does not apply to food service in healthcare facilities and food pantries, but those facilities must implement policies to



maintain social distancing (at least six (6) feet away from other people) to the greatest extent possible.

9. **Private clubs or fraternal organizations** meeting the eligibility criteria of Indiana Code § 7.1-3-20-1 or § 7.1-3-20-7 may remain open at 75% capacity and maintain social distancing (at least six (6) feet away from other people) to the greatest extent possible.
10. **Spacing Requirements for Live Entertainment.** Any business that offers live entertainment, including a restaurant, bar, nightclub, comedy club, concert venue, or music venue, must ensure that a space of at least 10 feet is maintained between performers and the audience at all times. All performers must be at least 6 feet from each other. All such businesses must also comply with the capacity restrictions set forth in the paragraphs of this Order applicable to their type of business.
11. **Personal services businesses**, such as salons, barber shops, nail salons, spas, and tattoo parlors, may remain open, but **only by appointment**. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour. Patrons may remove their mask or face covering for beard trimming, or other facial treatments. Employees must be screened daily.
12. Indoor **religious services** may operate at 75% capacity. Outdoor religious services may continue without a set capacity restriction. Religious organizations should operate in accordance with all guidelines of the CDC and MCPHD. All people must be at least six (6) feet away from other people not from their household. Individuals aged 65 and older, individuals who are immunocompromised, and individuals of all ages with serious underlying medical conditions are strongly recommended to avoid in-person religious gatherings. Air ventilation for indoor religious services should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
13. **Funeral homes** may continue to operate at 75% capacity. Funeral homes must ensure all attendees are at least 6 feet apart, and must observe industry and CDC health and safety guidelines.
14. **Campgrounds and youth day camps** may remain open subject to CDC social distancing guidelines and appropriate sanitation precautions. Overnight youth camps must remain closed.
15. **Community swimming pools** may remain open at 75% capacity, but must follow CDC guidance. Fountains, hot tubs, spas, and splash pads may remain open.

16. **Outdoor Playgrounds** may remain open, but all visitors must wash or sanitize hands frequently.
17. **Gyms, fitness centers, yoga and dance studios, martial arts studios, and like facilities** may remain open but must restrict capacity at 50%. The following additional requirements apply:
  - a. Classes must be restricted to 50% of their normal size, or to the class size necessary to ensure distancing of at least 10 feet among all participants, whichever number is less.
  - b. Fitness equipment must be spaced at least 10 feet apart.
  - c. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
  - d. Equipment must be cleaned after each use.
  - e. Locker rooms and shower rooms may remain open, subject to the overall 50% capacity limitation.
  - f. All employees must be screened daily.
18. **Golf course facilities and golf club houses** may remain open at full capacity. Air ventilation should be at maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
19. **Sports venues and raceway events** may remain open but must restrict spectator capacity to 25%, with consideration for CDC social-distancing guidelines. It is highly encouraged that sports venues and raceways use electronic ticketing methods to aid in identifying patron seating locations. As stated in paragraph 4(b) above, events at a sports venue or raceway that anticipate more than 250 attendees must create a risk mitigation plan and submit it to MCPHD for approval at least 7 days before the event is to begin; the event may not take place until the plan has been approved by MCPHD.
20. **Cultural, entertainment, and tourism sites, including zoos, museums, music venues, and parks**, may be open at 50% capacity. Patrons and staff must maintain social distancing (at least six (6) feet away from other people). Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour. Music venues are those venues that sell tickets to a specific musical performance.
  - a. Music venues must have seats for each guest and dance floors must remain closed.
  - b. Bars or nightclubs with a DJ are not considered music venues.

- c. Performances at music venues are subject to the restrictions on live entertainment set forth in Paragraph 10 of this Order.
21. All other **non-essential entertainment businesses** not listed above, such as **movie theaters, bowling alleys, trampoline parks, boating and marina facilities, and rock wall climbing facilities**, may remain open at 50% capacity. Individuals or groups must keep a distance of six (6) feet apart at all times. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
22. **Gaming facilities** may be open if they have received MCPHD approval.
23. **Conventions and conferences** may take place, but must follow CDC guidelines and the requirements of Governor Holcomb's Executive Orders. Events are encouraged to be outdoors whenever feasible. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour. As stated in paragraph 4(b) above, host organizations for conventions or conferences that anticipate more than 250 attendees for the particular event must create a risk mitigation plan and submit it to MCPHD for approval at least 7 days before the event is to begin; the event may not take place until the plan has been approved by MCPHD.
24. **Fairs and festivals**, including "back to school" events, may take place, but must follow the guidelines of Governor Holcomb's Executive Orders. Staff and participants must maintain a distance of 6 feet or more from persons not from their household. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour. As stated in paragraph 4(b) above, host organizations for any fair or festival that anticipates more than 250 attendees for the fair or festival must create a risk mitigation plan and submit it to MCPHD for approval at least 7 days before the fair or festival is to begin; the fair or festival may not take place until the plan has been approved by MCPHD.
25. **Office buildings** may operate at full capacity, but remote work is strongly recommended whenever feasible. Employees must be screened daily. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
26. **City, County, and local government** offices that are open to members of the public should implement limited-access plans for their facilities consistent with social distancing guidance and should, whenever possible, offer services by appointment.



27. When engaged in outdoor exercise or activities, individuals (other than members of the same household) should maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet from one another at all times, and are not required to wear a mask except when in a group of 25 or more.
28. All workplaces that remain open or that reopen, including manufacturing and industrial businesses, should maintain six (6) feet between employees and visitors. All such workplaces must adhere to CDC and OSHA guidelines. Air ventilation should be increased to maximum capacity, or at least 6 air changes per hour.
29. **Hospital visitations** are not encouraged, but hospitals permitting such visitations must maintain appropriate safety and social distancing precautions and conform to the advice of the patient safety coalition.
30. **Assisted living communities and nursing homes** may open indoor and outdoor visitation opportunities in accordance with ISDH guidelines. Guidance for assisted living communities and nursing homes will continue to be evaluated.
31. Marion County residents aged 65 and older, and those with known high-risk medical conditions should adhere to social distancing guidelines, stay at home, and telecommute for work if possible.

This Order does not apply on State property.

This Order is issued pursuant to Indiana Code § 16-20-1-24 and Chapter 7, Article 5 of the Code of The Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County.

This Order supersedes Public Health Order 29-2020.

Unless otherwise specified in this Public Health Order 29-2020, the restrictions imposed by Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-43 apply unless superseded by a later Executive Order issued by Governor Holcomb.

*Virginia A. Caine, M.D.*

Virginia A. Caine, M.D.  
Director and Chief Medical Officer

Issue Date: September 25, 2020