
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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COVID-19 — GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATIONS — NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Governor Reynolds proclaimed a State of Disaster Emergency on March 9, 2020, in response to the outbreak of COVID-19 following a national public health emergency declaration issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services on January 31, 2020, and multiple individuals within the State of Iowa testing presumptive positive for COVID-19. The Governor issued an additional Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on March 13, 2020, establishing a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency.

On November 18, 2020, the Governor issued an additional [Proclamation of Disaster Emergency](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This proclamation is effective until December 10, 2020, and includes the following new or enhanced measures from the previous proclamation issued on November 16, 2020:

- Social, community, business, or leisure gatherings or events of more than 15 people indoors or more than 30 people outdoors are prohibited unless explicitly permitted by the Proclamation or if all members gathering live in the same household. Gatherings that occur during the ordinary course of business or government between employees and the public are permitted.
- All sporting or recreational gatherings of any size are prohibited except for high school, collegiate, or professional sporting or recreational gatherings unless the gathering organizer and participants comply with the following requirements:
 - All participants, including athletes, coaches, and instructors, must maintain six feet of physical distance from one another.
 - The organizer and spectators must ensure that the number of spectators is limited to no more than two spectators for each athlete participating in the event, spectators are present only during the time the athlete is participating, and there are at least six feet of distance between each group of spectators.
 - All participants over the age of 2 shall wear a mask or face covering, excluding participating athletes.
- High school-sponsored sporting and extracurricular events must comply with the following requirements:
 - The organizer and spectator must ensure that the number of spectators is limited to no more than two spectators for each student participating in the event, spectators are present only during the time the student is participating, and there are at least six feet of distance between each group of spectators.
 - All spectators over the age of 2 shall wear a mask or face covering.
- Spiritual and religious gatherings are permitted; however, hosts shall implement reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH).
- Fitness centers may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:

- Establishments must ensure that all equipment is positioned so that there is six feet of physical space between individual patrons.
- Group activities must limit participants to ensure six feet of distance can be maintained between participants at all times, and the establishment must comply with the requirements for sporting and recreational gatherings.
- Establishments must implement reasonable measures to ensure social distancing, increased hygiene practices, and other public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.

COVID-19 — GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATIONS — NOVEMBER 16, 2020

Governor Reynolds proclaimed a State of Disaster Emergency on March 9, 2020, in response to the outbreak of COVID-19 following a national public health emergency declaration issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services on January 31, 2020, and multiple individuals within the State of Iowa testing presumptive positive for COVID-19. The Governor issued an additional Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on March 13, 2020, establishing a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency.

On November 16, 2020, the Governor issued an additional [Proclamation of Disaster Emergency](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This proclamation is effective from November 17, 2020, until December 10, 2020, and in addition to encouraging all Iowans to avoid high-risk events not adhering to social distancing and mask recommendations, the Governor ordered the following measures:

- Employers shall evaluate remote work feasibility and to the extent reasonable, take steps to enable employees to work from home. Businesses and employers remaining open shall take reasonable precautions to ensure the health of employees and members of the public.
- All people 2 years old or older must wear a mask or face covering when inside an indoor public space, or inside a State government building, office, or facility under the control of the Executive Branch, and when within 6 feet of individuals who are not members of their household for 15 minutes or longer, except under the following circumstances:
 - Any person in a space under the control of the Legislative or Judicial branches.
 - Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a mask or face covering.
 - Any person working alone or working in a space where six feet of distance can be maintained.
 - Any person consuming food or drink or sitting at a restaurant or bar to eat or drink.
 - Any athlete participating in a sporting or recreation event or any person engaged in physical exercise.
 - Any person giving a presentation or performance for an audience.
 - Any person participating in a service at a spiritual or religious gathering.
 - Any person who is deaf or hard of hearing, and any person communicating with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing or has a disability, medical condition, or mental health condition that makes communication with that individual difficult while wearing a mask or face covering.
 - Any person receiving or providing a service that requires the temporary removal of a mask or face covering.
 - Any person asked to remove a mask or face covering to verify an identity for lawful purposes.
 - Any public safety worker engaged in a public safety role where a mask or face covering would seriously interfere in the performance of the worker's responsibilities.

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- Social, community, business, or leisure gatherings or events of more than 15 people indoors or more than 30 people outdoors are prohibited unless explicitly permitted by the Proclamation or all members gathering live in the same household. Gatherings that occur during the ordinary course of business or government between employees and the public are permitted.
 - All sporting or recreational gatherings of any size are prohibited except for high school, collegiate, or professional sporting or recreational gatherings. High school-sponsored sporting and extracurricular events must comply with the following requirements:
 - The organizer and spectator must ensure that the number of spectators is limited to no more than two spectators for each athlete participating in the event, spectators are only present during the time the student is participating, and there is at least six feet of distance between each group of spectators.
 - All spectators over the age of two shall wear a mask or face covering.
 - Spiritual and religious gatherings are permitted; however, hosts shall implement reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH).
 - Restaurants and bars may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must close for in-person consumption between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals dining alone, and all patrons must have a seat at a table, booth, or bar and must consume their food or beverage while seated.
 - Establishments must limit groups seated together to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - Establishments must not host private social gatherings larger than 15 people indoors or 30 people outdoors.
 - Establishments must require all customers to wear a mask or face covering while in the establishment unless seated and properly distanced, and must require all employees who interact with the public to wear a mask or face covering.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH and the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA).
 - Fitness centers may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure that all equipment is positioned so that there is six feet of physical space between individual patrons.
 - Group activities are prohibited.
 - Establishments must implement reasonable measures to ensure social distancing, increased hygiene practices, and other public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
 - Casinos and gaming facilities may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure that gaming and wagering positions are placed so that there is at least six feet of physical space between patrons.
 - Establishments must comply with the same requirements placed on bars and restaurants with regard to the service of food and beverages.
 - Establishments must require all customers to wear a mask or face covering unless seated at a properly distanced booth or table to eat or drink, and must require all employees who interact with the public to wear a mask or face covering.
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- Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH and DIA.
 - Senior citizen centers and adult daycare facilities may reopen if the establishment complies with social distancing, hygiene, and other public health measures issued by the IDPH.
 - Salons, barbershops, massage therapy establishments as defined by Iowa Code section [152C.1\(3\)](#), tattoo establishments as regulated by Iowa Code section [135.37](#), and tanning facilities as defined by Iowa Code section [136D.2\(5\)](#) may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between customers when employees are performing services.
 - Establishments must ensure that all customers and employees are wearing a mask or face covering, unless a service is being provided that requires the removal of the mask or face covering.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
 - Bowling alleys, pool halls, bingo halls, arcades, indoor playgrounds, and children's play centers may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must close for in-person consumption between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals.
 - Establishments must limit groups seated together to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - Establishments must not host private social gatherings larger than 15 people indoors or 30 people outdoors.
 - Establishments must require all customers to wear a mask or face covering while in the establishment unless seated and properly distanced, and must require all employees who interact with the public to wear a mask or face covering.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
 - Medical spas may reopen or remain open if the establishment complies with the requirements for performing outpatient procedures that utilize personal protective equipment (PPE).
 - Theaters and performance venues may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between groups or individuals when seated.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH and DIA.
 - Racetracks may reopen or continue operations under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between groups or individuals when seated.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
 - Enclosed malls may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Play areas or playgrounds must remain closed.
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- Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
- Museums, aquariums, zoos, libraries, swimming pools, amusement parks, campgrounds, or retail establishments may reopen or remain open if the establishment takes reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
- A hospital, outpatient surgery provider, or outpatient procedure provider may conduct in-patient surgeries and procedures that, if further delayed, will pose a significant risk to quality of life, and any outpatient surgeries or procedures under the following requirements:
 - A hospital or provider must have adequate PPE to support continued operations and respond to an unexpected surge in a timely manner.
 - A hospital or provider has a plan to conserve PPE consistent with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the IDPH.
 - A hospital or provider must have a plan for timely COVID-19 testing of symptomatic patients and staff to rapidly mitigate potential clusters of infection and must comply with testing requirements issued by the IDPH, the CDC, or a provider's professional specialty society. Patients should have a negative COVID-19 test performed within 72 hours of a scheduled surgery. If a COVID-19 test is unavailable, hospitals should consider alternative methods to determine the patient's probability of having COVID-19 and postpone the surgery if the patient has symptoms of fever, cough, or low oxygen saturation.
 - A hospital must continue to accept and treat COVID-19 patients and must not transfer COVID-19 patients to create capacity for elective procedures.
 - A hospital must reserve at least 10.0% of intensive care beds and 10.0% of medical/surgical beds for COVID-19 patients.
 - The total number of medical/surgical and observational beds used for an in-patient nonessential surgery or procedure must be no more than 50.0% of the number of such beds that were used on average during the month of September 2020.
 - A hospital or provider that begins conducting surgeries or procedures as authorized by this Proclamation must cease conducting such surgeries or procedures if it at any time is no longer able to comply with the above described requirements.
- Except as provided above, all nonessential or elective surgeries and procedures that utilize PPE must not be conducted except those that, if further delayed, will pose a significant risk to quality of life.
- Each hospital or provider shall limit all nonessential individuals in areas where PPE is required.
- Each hospital or provider shall establish an internal governance structure to follow the above principles.

COVID-19 — GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATIONS — NOVEMBER 10, 2020

Governor Reynolds proclaimed a State of Disaster Emergency on March 9, 2020, in response to the outbreak of COVID-19 following a national public health emergency declaration issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services on January 31, 2020, and multiple individuals within the State of Iowa testing presumptive positive for COVID-19. The Governor issued an additional Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on March 13, 2020, establishing a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency.

On November 10, 2020, the Governor issued an additional [Proclamation of Disaster Emergency](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This proclamation is effective from November 11, 2020, until November 30, 2020, and in addition to encouraging all Iowans to avoid high-risk events not adhering to

social distancing and mask recommendations, includes the following new or enhanced measures from the previous proclamation issued on October 16, 2020:

- Employers shall evaluate remote work feasibility and to the extent reasonable, take steps to enable employees to work from home. Business and employers remaining open shall take reasonable precautions to ensure the health of employees and members of the public.
- A social, community, recreational, leisure, or sporting gathering of more than 10 people may be held under the following requirements:
 - The organizer must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals attending alone.
 - The organizer must limit groups to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - The organizer must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA).
- Social, community, recreational, leisure, or sporting gatherings of more than 25 people indoors or 100 people outdoors are prohibited unless all participants older than the age of 2 are wearing masks, except while eating and drinking.
- Sporting and recreational events with athletes not wearing masks and having contact within six feet may be held under the following requirements:
 - At outdoor events, the organizer must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals attending alone. The organizer must limit groups to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - At events for youth 18 years old or younger, the organizer must ensure that the number of spectators is limited to no more than 2 spectators for each athlete participating in the event.
 - The organizer must ensure that spectators are wearing masks if the event is an indoor event of more than 25 people or an outdoor event of more than 100 people.
- Wedding receptions may be held under the following requirements:
 - The host, venue owner, and attendees must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals dining alone, and all patrons must have a seat at a table, booth, or bar and must consume their food or beverage while seated.
 - The host, venue owner, and attendees must limit groups seated together to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - The host and venue owner must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH and DIA.
- Restaurants and bars may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals dining alone, and all patrons must have a seat at a table, booth, or bar and must consume their food or beverage while seated.
 - Establishments must limit groups seated together to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH and DIA.

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- Salons, barbershops, massage therapy establishments as defined by Iowa Code section [152C.1\(3\)](#), tattoo establishments as defined by Iowa Code section [135.37](#), and tanning facilities as defined by Iowa Code section [136D.2\(5\)](#) may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between customers when employees are performing services.
 - Establishments must ensure that all customers and employees are wearing masks or face coverings.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.
 - Bowling alleys, pool halls, bingo halls, arcades, indoor playgrounds, and children's play centers may reopen or remain open under the following requirements:
 - Establishments must ensure at least six feet of space between groups and individuals.
 - Establishments must limit groups seated together to eight people unless all are members of the same household.
 - Establishments must take reasonable social distancing, hygiene, and public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with guidance issued by the IDPH.

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