



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 5, 2020

NOTICE

West Virginia Strong – The Comeback (COVID-19)

On Monday, April 27, 2020, the Governor of West Virginia, Jim Justice unveiled his comprehensive plan to reopen various aspects of the state and its economy, putting West Virginia on the road to recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The plan is called “West Virginia Strong – The Comeback” and allows businesses in certain sectors to reopen in phases over the next six weeks if the rate of positive COVID-19 cases in the state remains low.

Opening Criteria

If the statewide cumulative percent of positive test results (available at [Coronavirus.wv.gov](https://coronavirus.wv.gov)) remains below 3% from Monday, April 27, through Wednesday, April 29, the six-week reopening process will begin.

The Week 1 phase of reopenings began on Thursday, April 30. From there, each phase of the reopening process for Weeks 2-6 will begin on Monday of each subsequent week. Case numbers will continue to be monitored throughout the entire reopening process.

Detailed information concerning “West Virginia Strong – The Comeback” is available at <https://governor.wv.gov/Pages/The-Comeback.aspx>.

Questions or Issues

Inquiries concerning the impacts of COVID-19 and the associated responsive effort on the operation of foreign missions in the United States should be transmitted by electronic mail to OFM-EmergencyMgt@state.gov.

Resources

- Compilation of circular diplomatic notes and notices released by OFM concerning COVID-19: <https://www.state.gov/circular-notes-and-notice-covid-19/>

Follow OFM on social media: Facebook.com@ofmdc and Twitter @OFM_Ambassador



Safer at Home

GOVERNOR JUSTICE'S UPDATED STATEWIDE COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR WEST VIRGINIA
This Safer at Home Order will be modified each week during The Comeback Reopening Plan

STAY AT HOME <small>Current order expires on Sunday, May 3rd at 11:59 p.m.</small>	SAFER AT HOME <small>Goes into effect on Monday, May 4th at 12 a.m.</small>
<p>ORIGINAL</p> <p>INDIVIDUALS Directed to stay at home unless performing an essential activity.</p> <p>ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES Exempt and can operate.</p> <p>SMALL BUSINESSES Exempt and can operate if 5 employees or less and do not invite the public into the business.</p> <p>RESTAURANTS Open for takeaway and delivery of food and/or beverage only.</p> <p>HEALTHCARE Exempt but with restrictions.</p> <p>PET GROOMERS Closed for all purposes.</p> <p>BARBERSHOPS, HAIR & NAIL SALONS Closed for all purposes.</p> <p>CHURCHES Essential and can remain open. Churches are encouraged to practice proper social distancing.</p> <p>PUBLIC GATHERINGS Groups over 10 are prohibited.</p> <p>ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE POPULATION Directed to remain at home to the greatest extent possible.</p>	<p>UPDATES</p> <p>INDIVIDUALS Strongly encouraged to stay at home unless performing an essential activity.</p> <p>ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES Exempt and can continue to operate.</p> <p>SMALL BUSINESSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can operate if business has 10 employees or fewer AND with limited customer interaction and customer contact. • Businesses must ensure that proper social distancing and hygiene practices are maintained. <p>RESTAURANTS Open for outdoor service for outdoor dining service, and for takeaway and delivery of food and/or beverage.</p> <p>HEALTHCARE In Week 1, elective medical procedures allowed to resume, outpatient healthcare open.</p> <p>PET GROOMERS Allowed to open, and should use proper social distancing and hygiene practices.</p> <p>BARBERSHOPS, HAIR & NAIL SALONS Allowed to open and operate in accordance with guidance from the Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring appointments with adequate time in between to properly clean and disinfect. • Customers to wait in their vehicles or otherwise not enter until the business is ready to provide services to the customer. <p>CHURCHES Remain essential and can remain open. Churches are encouraged to practice proper social distancing, and additional guidance is now available at governor.wv.gov.</p> <p>PUBLIC GATHERINGS Groups over 25 are prohibited.</p> <p>ELDERLY AND VULNERABLE POPULATION Strongly encouraged to remain at home to the greatest extent possible.</p>
Released April 30, 2020 for Week 2	Visit governor.wv.gov for more information and to read the Order