



**United States Department of State**

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

May 6, 2020

## **NOTICE**

### **Reopening of Florida (COVID-19)**

The Governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis, has determined that the reopening of Florida will occur in three phases in-line with the associated guidelines released by the White House, with Phase 1 having started May 4, 2020.

The Governor's plan for Florida's Recovery called "Safe.Smart.Step-by-Step." provides for reopening closed businesses, parks and beaches across the state in a careful, phased approach.

Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties did not reopen on May 4, 2020, due to a higher incidence of COVID-19 infections in these areas. The Governor expects these counties will move to phase one "very soon" and will continue to consult with the Re-Open Florida Task Force on all re-opening phases. Detailed information on Florida's Plan for Recovery Report is available at the link below:

[https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/covid19/NEW%20SLIDES%20FOR%205.4\\_al.pdf](https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/covid19/NEW%20SLIDES%20FOR%205.4_al.pdf)

The Governor also issued the following Executive Order to effectuate the reopening plan:

[https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/orders/2020/EO\\_20-112.pdf](https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/orders/2020/EO_20-112.pdf)

The following restrictions shall remain in place:

Schools continue distance learning

Visits to Senior Living Facilities are prohibited

Elective Surgeries can resume

Sports arenas and movie theatres will remain closed

Restaurants may offer outdoor seating with six feet of space between tables and indoor seating at 25% capacity

No changes for bars, gyms and personal services such as hair dressers and barbers

Vulnerable individuals should avoid close contact with people outside the home

Phase one maintains current Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including vulnerable individuals continuing social distancing while in public, avoiding groups of 10 or more and using face masks in public when you can't maintain six feet away from others

### **How does this impact foreign missions and their members?**

Foreign missions may continue to operate in Florida. However, all foreign missions are expected to adopt strategies aimed at mitigating the spread of COVID-19, such as maximizing opportunities for their members to work from home (“telework”), applying social distancing of at least six feet, and avoiding local travel unless required for purposes of protecting health, safety, and protection of property.

When not performing those functions, foreign mission personnel and their dependents are expected to fully comply with the requirements of the Governor's order, as well as any other applicable orders issued by local or municipal authorities.

### **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