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Business Operations Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Updated September 16, 2020

What is the Blueprint for a Safer Economy?

On August 28, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom introduced the Blueprint for a Safer Economy to become effective at 12:01 AM on Monday, August 31, 2020. Every county in California has been assigned to a tier based on two metrics: the number of new cases per 100,000 residents and the testing positivity rate, or percentage of tests that come back positive. At a minimum, counties must remain in a tier for at least three weeks before moving forward. Data is reviewed weekly and tiers are updated every Tuesday. If a county's metrics worsen for two consecutive weeks, it will be assigned a more restrictive tier.

The four tiers in order of most restrictive to least restrictive are:

Tier 1: Widespread (Purple)

Tier 2: Substantial (Red)

Tier 3: Moderate (Orange)

Tier 4: Minimal (Yellow)

For more information on tier and sector guidelines, visit:

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Dimmer-Framework-August_2020.pdf

For more information on the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, including State Frequently Asked Questions, visit: <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>

What tier is Napa County assigned to?

Effective at 12:01 AM on Monday, August 31st, Napa County will be in Tier 2: Substantial (Red). Some businesses will be allowed to reopen for indoor operations in a limited capacity and in strict compliance with State guidance. While this document will address some specific business sectors, to see the status of additional business sectors or activity in Napa County, visit:

<https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>



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Can restaurants open for indoor operations in Napa County?

Yes, restaurants may open for indoor operations at a maximum of 25% of capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer, beginning August 31, 2020. The State has not defined what it means by “capacity,” but the County understands it as the occupancy of the dining area that was approved by the city or county building department. Restaurants may also continue outdoor dining with appropriate physical distancing protocols. Restaurants must strictly comply with state guidance documents for both indoor and outdoor dining.

Can wineries open for indoor operations in Napa County?

Wineries must continue outdoor only. State guidance for wineries must be strictly followed.

Any retail operations can open at 50% maximum capacity. State guidance for retail must be strictly followed.

Can tasting rooms open for indoor operations in Napa County?

If “sit down dine-in meals” are served in the same transaction in which alcohol is sold, then a tasting room qualifies as a “dine-in restaurant” and can open at 25% maximum capacity. State guidance for dine-in restaurants must be strictly followed.

If “sit down dine-in meals” are not served, then indoor operations are not permitted and must continue outdoor only.

Any retail operations can open at 50% maximum capacity. State guidance for retail must be strictly followed.

Can breweries, brewpubs and bars open for indoor operations in Napa County?

No, bars, breweries and brewpubs that do not provide a meal must remain closed for both indoor and outdoor operations.

Can gyms, fitness studios and dance studios open for indoor operations in Napa County?

Yes, gyms and fitness studios may open for indoor services at a maximum of 10% capacity (i.e., at this time, we believe capacity is the occupancy approved by the city or county building department) and in strict compliance with state guidance.

What personal services may resume indoor operations?

Hair salons, barbers, nail salons, massage therapy, tattoo parlors and other personal services may open for indoor operations on August 31, 2020 with strict adherence to state guidance and with appropriate modifications. Sauna and steam rooms must remain closed.



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Can retail operations continue indoors?

Yes, retail operations may continue at a maximum of 50% of capacity with strict adherence to state guidance and with appropriate modifications. The State has not defined what it means by “capacity,” but the County understands it as the occupancy of the facility that was approved by the city or county building department.

Can non-essential offices operate indoors?

No, non-essential offices must continue remote work.

Can hotels, inns, and other lodging operate at this time?

Yes, hotels, inns and other lodging may operate at this time with strict adherence to state guidance.

Physical distancing and face covering protocols are required. Amenities like bars, saunas, steam rooms, and indoor pools must remain closed. Indoor fitness centers may operate at a maximum of 10% of capacity. The State has not defined what it means by “capacity,” but the County understands it as the occupancy of the fitness center that was approved by the city or county building department. Dining operations must follow the capacity limitations and modifications noted above for restaurants.

Can campgrounds operate at this time?

Yes, campgrounds may operate at this time with strict adherence to State guidance.

Physical distancing protocols, including wearing a face covering indoors in common areas and outdoors when six feet of distance from non-household members cannot be achieved, are required.

Are in-person residential real estate viewings allowed?

Residential viewings are limited to scheduled property viewings to a potential buying party, as set forth by the State. Virtual showings should be utilized whenever possible.

Where can I find the guidance I should be following to reopen or continue business operations?



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Businesses that are allowed to open are required to, at a minimum, meet the posted State of California standards, and may follow best management practices that exceed State standards.

In the event that the State of California expressly permits a business sector to reopen but does not provide guidance, Napa County will develop and post guidance to allow the sector to reopen safely. When guidance is released from the State of California, it will be posted on the County's website and will be the controlling guidance that should be followed.

The standards and guidance can be found at the County's website at <https://www.countyofnapa.org/2840/Industry-Guidance>. If guidance is not available for a specific industry, these businesses should not reopen. Best management practices prepared by local Chambers of Commerce can also be found at the County's website. <https://www.countyofnapa.org/2840/Industry-Guidance>

Is there anything I need to do in order to establish I am meeting the State standards?

Yes. Businesses that allowed to operate are required to: 1) prepare and post the Checklist for your business type (if applicable); and 2) prepare and post your Social Distancing Protocol as required by the County's Shelter-at-Home order.

The Social Distancing Protocol can be found in Appendix A of the County's current Shelter-at-Home Order at: <https://www.countyofnapa.org/2813/Shelter-at-Home-Order>

Are face coverings required?

On June 18, 2020, the State of California issued new face covering requirements. In general, face coverings are required indoors in all buildings open to the public, when waiting in line to access a public building, and outdoors when six feet of distance cannot be maintained from those not in your household. There are exclusions, like when eating and drinking, or when you are engaged in outdoor activities, and there are exceptions for certain populations, like young children or people who have conditions that make it harder to breathe. For more information on face covering requirements, visit: <https://www.countyofnapa.org/2813/Shelter-at-Home-Order>.

In addition, the State has revised its guidance for open business sectors to include the face-covering requirement. Please check for updated guidance in your sector to see what is required.

Can faith-based services resume?

Places of worship may resume indoors at 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is less. Places of worship may also operate outdoors with physical distancing and in compliance with State



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guidance.

Can residential cleaning and repair services continue at this time?

Yes, residential cleaning, repair and maintenance may continue as long as physical distancing and face covering protocols are followed.

Is this Health Order mandatory or is it just guidance?

This Order is mandatory. All persons and other entities are required to comply if they do not fall within the exemptions that are specified in the Order.

What happens if my business does not comply with the requirements?

State and local health orders are issued under the authority of law. Failure to comply with the health orders is both a misdemeanor and a public health nuisance. The County tries to secure cooperation with education about the requirements and may help you figure out ways your business can come into compliance. Repeat violators, however, may be subject to one or more administrative citations, fines and penalties, a civil action, a restraining order, and may even be required to pay the County's enforcement costs and attorneys' fees. A misdemeanor is a criminal offense that is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. The County does not want any business to face penalties, but it is critical for everyone to follow the health orders to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect themselves, their loved ones, friends, neighbors, and the whole community.

Are swimming pools able to open?

Yes, public and semi-private (i.e. homeowners associations) swimming pools are permitted subject to the rules of the facility/association, proper maintenance including disinfection, and adherence to physical distancing protocols. Outdoor pools are addressed in the State's campground and outdoor recreation guidance: <https://www.countyofnapa.org/2840/Industry-Guidance>. Saunas and steam rooms must remain closed.

Private residential pools may only be used by the members of the household. Gatherings are not permitted under State's Stay At Home Order.

Can businesses make reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities?

Yes, provided the accommodation does not require knowingly jeopardizing the health or safety or others. In addition, a business cannot deny services to a customer who falls within an



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exception to the mask requirement, although a business may be able to provide its service in a different manner.

I still have questions, whom should I contact?

Businesses are encouraged to work with and through their local Chamber of Commerce or industry group to answer questions. Questions for the County can be emailed to coronavirus@countyofnapa.org. Questions or concerns about physical distancing, face covering, or hygiene practices at any business or facility should be raised directly to the manager.