



**Athens City-County**  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT



## **Athens County Business Reopening Guidelines**

**Beginning on May 1, 2020**, hospitals and outpatient facilities, dentist offices, and veterinary clinics may reopen subject to the Sector Specific COVID-19 Information and Checklist for Businesses/Employers set forth in Section 21 of the Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order.

**Beginning on May 4, 2020**, manufacturing, distribution, and construction businesses may reopen, subject to the Sector Specific COVID-19 Information and Checklist for Businesses/Employers set forth in Section 21 of the Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order.

**Beginning on May 4, 2020**, general office environments may reopen, subject to the Sector Specific COVID-19 Information and Checklist for Businesses/Employers set forth in Section 21 of the Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order.

**Beginning on May 12, 2020**, retail establishments and facilities may reopen, subject to the Sector Specific COVID-19 Information and Checklist for Businesses/Employers set forth in Section 21 of the Director's Stay Safe Ohio Order. Currently closed retail establishments and facilities, that will restrict their operations to curbside pickup, delivery or appointment only (limited to 10 customers at any one time) may reopen effective May 1 at 11:59 p.m.

### **Sector Specific Requirements for Reopening:**

[Manufacturing](#)

[Consumer, Retail and Services](#)

[Health Care & Hospitals](#)

[General Office Environments](#)

Read the full [RESPONSIBLE RESTART OHIO PLAN](#)

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### **Local Contacts and Resources:**

**Athens City/County Health Department: 740-447-5926**

Jack Pepper, Administrator; [jpepper@athenspublichealth.org](mailto:jpepper@athenspublichealth.org)

**Athens County Economic Development Council - 740-597-1420**

Sara Marrs-Maxfield, Executive Director; [sara@athenscountyohedc.com](mailto:sara@athenscountyohedc.com)

Mollie Fitzgerald, Assistant Director: [mollie@athenscountyohedc.com](mailto:mollie@athenscountyohedc.com)

**Athens Area Chamber of Commerce - 740-591-4111**

Dani Underhill, President: [dani@athenschamber.com](mailto:dani@athenschamber.com)

Dawn Worley-Sims, Director of Operations: [dawn@athenschamber.com](mailto:dawn@athenschamber.com)

**Athens County Convention & Visitors Bureau – 740-592-1819**

Paige Alost, Executive Director: [palost@athensohio.com](mailto:palost@athensohio.com)



# Ohio's Safe Business Practices for Getting Back to Work



**1. Require masks** for employees and clients/customers.



**2. Conduct daily employee screenings at the start of each shift and after breaks** by employers and employees (self-evaluation) to determine if "fit for duty."



**3. Maintain good hygiene** at all times – hand washing and social distancing.



**4. Clean and sanitize** workplaces, especially high-touch areas through workday and at the close of business or between shifts.



**5. Limit capacity** to whichever is lower:

- Level of confidence in assuring employee and customer health/social distancing best practices, or
- 50% of normal capacity.
- And, use appointment setting where possible to limit congestion.



MIKE DEWINE  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



Department  
of Health

Find industry-specific required criteria at  
[coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

## FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR EMPLOYEES AND RECOMMENDED FOR CUSTOMERS

Businesses must allow all customers, patrons, visitors, contractors, vendors and similar individuals use facial coverings, except for specially documented legal, life, health, or safety considerations and limited documented security considerations.

### EMPLOYEE EXCEPTIONS:

- Facial coverings in the work setting are prohibited by law or regulation.
- Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards.
- Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons.
- Facial coverings are in violation of a business's documented safety policy.
- Facial coverings are not required when the employee works alone in an assigned work area; or
- There is a functional (practical) reason for an employee not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.

Business's must provide written justification, upon request, explaining why an employee is not required to wear a facial covering. At a minimum, facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

## **GENERAL COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR BUSINESSES/EMPLOYERS**

1. Strongly encourage as many employees as possible to work from home by implementing policies in areas such as teleworking and video conferencing, subject to the discretion of the employer;
2. Actively encourage sick employees to stay home until they are free of fever (without the use of medication) for at least 72 hours (three full days) AND symptoms have improved for at least 72 hours AND at least seven days have passed since symptoms first began. Do not require a healthcare provider's note to validate the illness or return to work of employees sick with acute respiratory illness; healthcare provider offices and medical facilities may be extremely busy and not able to provide such documentation in a timely way;
3. Ensure that your sick leave policies are up to date, flexible, and non-punitive to allow sick employees to stay home to care for themselves, children, or other family members. Consider encouraging employees to do a self-assessment each day to check if they have any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, or shortness of breath);
4. Separate employees who appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms from other employees and send them home immediately. Restrict their access to the business until they have recovered;
5. Reinforce key messages - stay home when sick, use cough and sneeze etiquette, and practice hand hygiene - to all employees, and place posters in areas where they are most likely to be seen. Provide protection supplies such as soap and water, hand sanitizer, tissues, and no-touch disposal receptacles for use by employees;
6. Frequently perform enhanced environmental cleaning of commonly touched surfaces, such as workstations, countertops, railings, door handles, and doorknobs. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. Provide disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces can be wiped down by employees before each use; and
7. Be prepared to change business practices if needed to maintain critical operations (e.g., identify alternative suppliers, prioritize customers, or temporarily suspend some of your operations).
8. Comply with all applicable guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ohio Department of Health regarding social distancing.

## **BUSINESS TO REMAIN CLOSED AT THIS TIME**

**According to the new Director's Order, the following businesses are to remain closed until the Order is amended or rescinded:**

1. Schools. The Second Amended Director of Health Order signed April 29, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that closed all K-12 schools in the State remains in effect;
2. Restaurants and Bars. The Director of Health Order signed March 15, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that closed restaurants and bars to all but carry-out and delivery activities in the State remains in effect;
3. Personal Appearance/Beauty. The Director of Health Order signed March 19, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that closed hair salons, day spas, nail salons, barber shops, tattoo parlors, body piercing locations, tanning facilities, massage therapy locations and like businesses in the State remains in effect.;
4. Adult Day Support or Vocational Habilitation Services in a Congregate Setting. The Amended Director of Health Order signed March 21, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that prohibited adult day support or vocational habilitation services in a congregate setting in the State remains in effect;
5. Older Adult Day Care Services and Senior Centers. The Director of Health Order signed March 24, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that prohibited older adult day care services and closed senior centers in the State remains in effect;
6. Child Care Services. The Director of Health Order signed March 24, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that prohibited childcare services, except for facilities with a Temporary Pandemic Child Care License, in the State remains in effect; and
7. Entertainment/Recreation/Gymnasiums. The Director of Health Order signed March 21, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that closed all indoor family entertainment businesses and venues such as laser tag facilities, roller skating rinks, ice skating rinks, arcades and indoor miniature golf facilities, as well as, adult and child skill or chance game facilities in the State remains in effect. The Amended Director of Health Order signed March 17, 2020, or as it may be subsequently amended, that closed auditoriums, stadiums, arenas, parades, fairs, festivals, bowling alleys, health clubs, fitness centers, workout facilities, gyms, yoga studios, indoor trampoline parks, indoor water parks, movie and other theatres (excluding drive-in theatres), performance theatres, all public recreation centers, and indoor sports facilities in the State remains in effect.

Review the Ohio Health Department's [Dispute Resolution Form](#). Contact the Athens County Health Department for specific questions related to closures.