

Reopen Elmore



Safer at Home Amended Order General Information

December 9, 2020

Alabama is currently under a Safer at Home order.

On Wednesday, December 9, 2020, Governor Kay Ivey issued the twentieth supplemental emergency proclamation containing an amended Safer at Home Order. This amended order includes a statewide mask requirement which will expire on January 22, 2020.

The full order may be found here:
<https://governor.alabama.gov/assets/2020/12/Safer-at-Home-Order-Final-12.9.2020.pdf>

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Facial Coverings for Individuals

Effective July 16, 2020, at 5:00 P.M., each person shall wear a mask or other facial covering that covers his or her nostrils and mouth at all times when within six feet of a person from another household in any of the following places:

- An indoor space open to the general public,
- A vehicle operated by a transportation service,
- An outdoor public space where ten or more people are gathered.

Facial-Covering Requirement is Subject to the Following Exceptions:

Exceptions for Practical Necessity

The facial-covering requirement does not apply to:

- Any child six years of age or younger or any child who has not yet entered the second grade;
- Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him or her from wearing a facial covering;
- Any person while consuming food or drink, or seated at a restaurant to eat or drink;
- Any person who is obtaining a service (for example, a medical or dental procedure) that requires removal of the facial covering in order to perform the service; or
- Any person who is required to remove the facial covering to confirm his or her identity, such as for security or screening purposes.
- Any person who is actively engaged in exercise in a gym or other athletic facility if he or she maintains six feet of separation from persons of another household;
- Any person who is directly participating in athletic activities in compliance with paragraph 11 of this order
- Any person who is in a swimming pool, lake, water attraction, or similar body of water, though wearing a face covering or social distancing is strongly encouraged if safe and practicable.
- Any person who is seeking to communicate with another person where the ability to see the person's mouth is essential for communication (such as when the other person has a hearing impairment); or
- Any person speaking for broadcast or to an audience if the person maintains six feet of separation from persons from another household.
- Any person who is voting, though wearing a face covering is strongly encouraged; or
- Any person who cannot wear a facial covering because he or she is actively providing or obtaining access to religious worship, though wearing a face covering is strongly encouraged.

- Any first responder (including law enforcement officers, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel) if necessary to perform a public-safety function; or
- Any person performing a job function if wearing a face covering is inconsistent with industry safety standards or a business's established safety protocols.

Masks or other facial coverings can be factory-made, homemade, or improvised from household items such as scarves, bandanas, or t-shirts. For instructions on how to make a facial covering at home, see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s "How to Make Cloth Face Coverings," available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-make-cloth-face-covering.html>.

Retailers

Effective November 8, 2020, all retail stores shall comply with the following rules:

- Social distancing. An employee of the retail store may not knowingly allow customers or patrons to congregate within six feet of a person from another household.
- Sanitation. The retail store shall take reasonable steps to comply with guidelines on sanitation from the CDC and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

Close-Contact Service Providers

Effective November 8, 2020, close-contact service providers shall comply with the following rules:

- Social distancing. Employees shall not knowingly allow clients or persons accompanying a client to congregate within six feet of a person from another household. However, clients or persons accompanying a client who are not from the same household may be closer than six feet apart if they (i) are complying with the facial-covering requirement in paragraph 2 and (ii) are separated by curtains or other partitions, as large as practicable, that are impermeable to respiratory droplets and aerosols.
- Facial coverings. Each employee shall wear a mask, or other facial covering that covers his or her nostrils and mouth, at all times while providing services within 6 feet of a client.
- Hand sanitation. Employees shall wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water immediately before providing services within 6 feet of a client.
- Sanitation. A close-contact service provider shall take reasonable steps, where practicable, to regularly disinfect frequently used items and surfaces.

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Athletic Facilities

Effective November 8, 2020, athletic facilities—such as fitness centers and commercial gyms, spas, etc.—shall comply with the following rules:

- Social distancing.
 - Employees shall not knowingly allow clients or persons accompanying a client to congregate within six feet of a person from another household. However, clients or persons accompanying a client who are not from the same household may be closer than six feet apart if they (i) are complying with the facial-covering requirement in paragraph 2 and (ii) are separated by curtains or other partitions, as large as practicable, that are impermeable to respiratory droplets and aerosols.
 - Employees shall not knowingly allow patrons or guests to participate in athletic activities in violation of paragraph 11.
 - Employees shall take reasonable steps to prevent people from congregating in lobby areas, break rooms, and other common areas.
- Limits on facility access. Athletic facilities shall prohibit patrons and guests from accessing hot tubs, steam rooms, saunas and other recreational water or spa facilities. Pools may be open subject to the social-distancing rules of this paragraph.
- Facial coverings. Each employee shall wear a mask or other facial covering that covers his or her nostrils and mouth at all times while in regular interaction with clients or guests.
- Sanitation. An athletic facility shall take reasonable steps, where practicable, to regularly disinfect frequently used items and surfaces.

Entertainment Venues

Effective November 8, 2020, entertainment venues shall comply with the following rules:

- Social distancing.
 - Employees shall not knowingly allow patrons or guests to congregate within six feet of a person from another household.
 - Employees shall take reasonable steps to prevent people from congregating in lobby areas, break rooms, and other common areas.
- Facial coverings. Each employee shall wear a mask or other facial covering that covers his or her nostrils and mouth at all times while in regular interaction with clients or guests.
- Sanitation. An entertainment venue shall take reasonable steps, where practicable, to regularly disinfect frequently used items and surfaces.

Restaurants & Similar Establishments

Effective November 8, 2020, all food service establishments and retail food stores permitted by the Alabama Department of Public Health shall operate as follows:

- Such establishments may continue to offer food for take-out or delivery provided the social distancing protocols, including maintaining a consistent six-foot distance between persons, are followed.
- Such establishments are strongly encouraged to offer online ordering and curbside pickup of food.
- Hospital food service areas and cafeterias operated by an educational institution described in paragraph 14 are excluded from this paragraph provided they have their own social distancing plan.
- Insofar as such establishments offer on-premises consumption of food or drink, they shall limit the party size at tables to no more than eight persons and maintain at least six feet of separation between people seated at different tables, booths, chairs, or stools. However, people at different booths or tables may be seated closer than six feet apart if they are separated by solid partitions, as large as practicable, that are impermeable to respiratory droplets and aerosols. Games played at such establishments, such as pool and darts, may be played if players maintain 6 feet of distance from other players, game equipment is not shared by players during game play, and equipment is sanitized in between uses.
- Each employee shall wear a mask or other facial covering that covers his or her nostrils and mouth at all times while in regular interaction with patrons or guests.
- Such establishments operating buffets, salad bars, and self-serve drink stations shall (i) ensure that at least one employee's duties include maintaining six feet of distance among customers using the buffet, salad bar, or self-serve drink station and (ii) provide hand sanitizer and encourage customers to apply it before using the buffet, salad bar, or selfserve drink station.