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Why are we doing this?

This is a critical intervention to reduce the harm from the spread of the coronavirus in our community. As of April 27, 2020, there are over 900,000 cases of COVID-19 and over 53,000 deaths nationwide. In California, there are over 43,000 cases and 1,750 deaths. In our County, there are 294 cases and five deaths with further significant increases in transmission likely. The Order is intended to increase social distancing and reduce person-to-person contact outside of household units to the extent possible. The goal is to both slow the spread of the virus while enabling essential activities to continue.

What are the social distancing requirements for businesses?

All businesses continuing to operate in the County are required to draft and post a Business Social Distancing Protocol at or near their public and employee entrances that shall be easily viewable by the public and employees. The Protocol ensures a 6-foot social distance between everyone not in the same household for the duration of the transaction and is intended to lower the risk of transmission for both employees and patrons. A Protocol template is available at <http://www.schsa.org/corona-virus/ph-order/>. The Protocol explains how the business will implement the following safety procedures, which will include the following, as applicable:

- a. Limiting the number of people who can enter the facility at one time to prevent crowds from gathering and ensuring that people in the facility can easily maintain a minimum 6-foot distance from one another;
- b. Marking 6-foot increments in customer lines and other areas where lines may form at the facility;
- c. Providing soap and water, hand sanitizer, or effective disinfectant at or near the entrance of the facility and in high frequency locations;
- d. Disinfecting payment portals, pens, and styluses after each use;
- e. Regularly disinfecting other high touch surfaces;
- f. Posting a sign at the entrance of the facility informing all employees and customers that they:
 - i. should not enter if they have a cough or fever;

- ii. should stay 6 feet away from others;
- iii. should not shake hands; and
- iv. should not engage in unnecessary physical contact.

Any additional social distancing measures being implemented

Where can I get copy of the Business Social Distancing Protocol?

The Business Social Distancing Protocol template is available at <http://www.schsa.org/corona-virus/ph-order/>.

When must a business post the Business Social Distancing Protocol?

All businesses continuing to operate in the County must post a Business Social Distancing Protocol starting April 24, 2020 at 5 a.m.

Am I required to mark all of the checkboxes on the Business Social Distancing Protocol?

No. Businesses must only implement the applicable measures listed in the Sample Social Distancing Protocol. If a particular measure is not applicable, the business must be prepared to explain why the measure does not apply to the business.

Are governmental entities required to implement the Business Social Distancing Protocol?

Governmental entities are encouraged to implement the Business Social Distancing Protocol.

What happens if a business operating in the County does not post a Business Social Distancing Protocol?

Failure to post a Business Social Distancing protocol is a violation of the Order. The Public Health Officer believes that enforcement through education is preferable, but that other means of enforcement may be employed, as deemed appropriate by the law enforcement agency.

I run an essential business, as defined by the Order. Do I need to get an official letter of authorization from the County to operate?

No. You do not need to obtain any specific authorization from the County to continue to operate.

I own or manage a non-essential business, what am I allowed to do?

Under the County's Order, if you are not an essential business, you may not continue normal operations. However, you are permitted to perform Minimum Basic Operations, which include:

- a. Maintaining and protecting the value of business inventory and facilities;
- b. Providing security, safety, and sanitation;
- c. Processing payroll and employee benefits; and

d. Providing for the delivery of existing inventory directly to residences or businesses. While performing Minimum Basic Operations, owners, employees, and contractors must maintain social distancing and maintain a social distancing protocol.

Are trucking/shipping companies allowed to continue to operate?

Yes. Businesses providing mailing and shipping services are allowed to operate. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can liquor stores remain open?

Yes, if the liquor store also sells food. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can a company that builds cabinets for residential homes continue to operate?

Yes. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can stores that sell pet food stay open?

Yes, they may continue to operate as long as the sale of pet food, pet supplies, and/or pet pharmaceuticals are a substantial part of their business.

Is a pet grooming business allowed to stay open?

No. Pet grooming businesses are non-essential businesses.

Can stores that repair and sell electronics necessary to support essential business and those working from home (i.e., phone and laptop repair) stay open?

Yes. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

I am a real estate agent. Can I continue to work?

Yes, but with limitations. The Order allows work by service providers that enable residential transactions (including rentals, leases, and home sales) including, but not limited to, real estate agents, escrow agents, notaries, and title companies. However, appointments and other residential viewing must occur virtually or, if a virtual viewing is not possible, by appointment with no more than two visitors at a time, both of whom reside within the same household or living unit, and one individual showing the unit (except that in person visits are not allowed when the occupant is present in the residence). In addition, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can painting of residential homes and/or businesses continue?

Yes, if required to maintain the habitability, sanitation, and operation of a residence or essential business. This does not include painting for cosmetic purposes.

Can a company that provides cleaning/power-washing services stay open?

The company can provide services to essential businesses but cannot provide services to non-essential businesses such as shopping malls and clothing stores unless such services are necessary for health and safety. In addition, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can plumbers, electricians, and HVAC services continue to operate?

Yes, they may continue to operate under the County's Order. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can car dealerships still operate?

Yes, but with limitations. Car dealerships are permitted to repair cars and sell auto supplies. Test drives are not allowed. Automobile sales are restricted to remote sales with delivery to a residence or essential business.

Can nurseries remain open?

Yes. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can a fruit or berry U-pick business remain open?

Yes. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can gardeners, landscapers, arborists, and/or tree trimmers still work?

Yes, but with limitations. These businesses must comply with social distancing requirements, clean shared equipment between each use, and crew members who are not members of the same household may not travel in the same vehicle.

Can car washes stay open?

Yes, but with limitations. Only automated or self-wash car washes may remain open. The car wash must sanitize all equipment touched by a patron after each use or provide materials for the patron to sanitize the equipment.

May hotels remain open?

Yes, but with limitations. Hotels may operate only to provide rooms for essential workers. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

I am a locksmith. Can I still provide services?

Yes. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can jewelry shops and/or pawn stores stay open to the public?

No. These businesses are specifically designated as non-essential businesses under the Order. These stores, however, can mail or have items delivered directly to customers' residences.

Can sporting goods stores stay open to the public?

No. These businesses are specifically designated as non-essential businesses under the Order. These stores, however, can mail or have items delivered directly to customers' residences.

Can tobacco and vaping stores stay open to the public?

No. These businesses are specifically designated as non-essential businesses under the Order. These stores, however, can mail or have items delivered directly to customers' residences.

Can home décor and party decoration stores stay open to the public?

No. These businesses are specifically designated as non-essential businesses under the Order. These stores, however, can mail or have items delivered directly to customers' residences.

Can auto repair shops and bicycle repair shops still operate?

Yes. However, all companies that remain open must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

May retail flower vendors continue to operate in the County?

No. Retail flower vendors do not qualify as an essential business. These businesses, however, can mail or have items delivered directly to customers' residences.

Can massage therapists remain open to the public?

No. Massage therapists do not qualify as essential workers. However, chiropractors and acupuncturists may continue to provide healthcare services as long as they comply with generally accepted industry standards regarding Personal Protection Equipment for the healthcare service provided.

Can a non-medical, elective prenatal ultrasound studio remain open to the public?

No. Prenatal ultrasound studios performing medical services may remain open. An elective prenatal ultrasound studio for non-diagnostic purposes does not qualify as an essential business.

Can gun stores remain open?

Yes. However, they must comply with social distancing requirements, including posting a social distancing protocol, as set forth in the County's Order.

Can a shooting range remain open?

Yes, but with conditions. Shooting ranges must comply with the Outdoor Sports Facility Social Distancing Plan available at <http://www.schsa.org/corona-virus/ph-order/>.

Can a golf course remain open?

Yes, but with conditions. Golf courses must comply with the Outdoor Sports Facility Social Distancing Plan available at <http://www.schsa.org/corona-virus/ph-order/>.

I am an Uber/Lyft Driver. Can I still work?

Yes, when providing rides for essential activities or providing rides to individuals performing essential services.

Are Dentists allowed to open?

Dental services - both routine and emergency - are allowed under the State and local Order as Essential Services. However, please refer to the California Dental Association for best practices and recommendations.

May outdoor group exercise or instructor led workouts such as yoga, interval training, or “boot camps” occur as an allowed outside activity?

Yes. However, there shall be no sharing of equipment; individuals must maintain greater than the recommended six-foot separation and observe all other social distancing requirements. No team sports are allowed at this time.

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