



LYDA KREWSON  
Mayor



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# City of St. Louis Department of Health

## “Stay at Home” Order - Frequently Asked Questions

*Last Updated: March 23, 2020*

We understand there may be some lingering questions regarding the mandatory #COVID19 Stay at Home order Mayor Lyda Krewson and the City’s Department of Health issued on Saturday, March 21.

So we'd like to try and provide some basic answers and direction for you:

Q: When does this order take effect and how long will it last?

A: The order goes into effect at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 23 and will continue until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22. It will be re-evaluated at that time.

Q: What is the purpose or the intent of this order and who does it apply to?

A: The order applies to individuals in the City of St. Louis. The intent is to further restrict social mixing & ensure the maximum number of people stay at home in order to slow the spread of #COVID19.

Q: What's staying open?

A: Grocery stores, pharmacies, healthcare facilities, convenience stores, gas stations, banks/financial institutions, hardware stores, laundromats, mailing/shipping services, transportation services/rideshare, the airport, construction, shelters for women, children & unhoused individuals, government, long-term care facilities, hotels, etc...

Q: What has to close?

A: Non-essential businesses must stop operating. Places like massage parlors, gyms/fitness centers, hair/nail salons, barbershops, movie theaters, entertainment establishments & other similar related businesses.

Q: What about daycare and child care?

A: Per the order, childcare facilities that provide services to emergency first responders and all emergency personnel are exempt and considered an essential business.

Q: What about church and other places of worship?

A: They are considered essential and are allowed to hold services, but they must adhere to a previous City order restricting public gatherings and events to no more than 10 people.

Q: Do I physically have to go to work on Monday?

A: Many workers are already working remotely or telecommuting due to COVID-19. Each individual is encouraged to check with their employer to see if they are considered an essential business or service in the City. Employers seeking guidance can reference our order or contact the Department of Health at (314) 657-1499.

Q: What if I don't comply with this order?

A: We believe most people want to people will comply because they want to help us slow the spread of COVID-19.

However, we will enforce the order if violations are brought to our attention. It is a class A misdemeanor to violate this order.

Q: Am I allowed to go visit a loved one or hang out with a friend?

A: Nonessential social mixing is prohibited. Per the order, individuals living within the City must remain inside their home except for essential activities related to employment, health/safety & outdoor exercise

Q: Speaking of outdoor exercise, can I go for a run or walk the dog?

A: Yes! Outdoor exercise is good for our mental and physical health. It is permitted so long as you maintain social distancing of at least six feet apart from another person.

Q: What about my loved ones in a care facility?

A: Per the order, long-term care facilities, home-based care & shelters are essential. However, many have visitor restrictions in place. We'd advise calling ahead or communicating through text, calls, FaceTime.

Q: Is public transportation still running?

A: Yes! Though there may be reduced hours or service, the order considers roads/highways, airports, light rail, buses, ride shares, taxis & Amtrak essential. Check the individual schedules in advance, though!

Q: Does this have any effect on bars & restaurants in the City?

A: Bars and restaurants, as most have been doing, must continue to only offer curbside, carry out, delivery and/or window drive-thru service for food and drink.

Still need clarification about the Stay at Home order?

Department of Health staff would be happy to help clarify. You can also call them at (314) 612-5100 to seek further guidance or direction.