

Press Release

For Release: Immediately

Reno County, Kansas

May 1, 2020
Time: 5:00 p.m.

RENO COUNTY RESPONSE TO KANSAS AD-ASTRA: STATE PLAN TO REOPEN KANSAS

Over the last two weeks, the Reno County Health Department has been working with the Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce and the Reno County Economic Recovery Taskforce (RCERT) to present recommendations for reopening Reno County. On Thursday evening Governor Laura Kelly outlined the first phase of the reopening plan for Kansas local governments. This framework allows Kansas counties to retain the ability to enact more restrictive orders, but not less restrictive. Reno County, at this time, does not plan to place any further restrictions over and above that which is outlined in the Governor's phased plan timeline. Those phases and timelines are summarized in the attached spreadsheet and the full plan can be found at covid.ks.gov.

Based on the Governor Laura Kelly's guidelines, businesses, except those specified in the state plan, will be allowed to begin opening on May 4th as directed by Kansas executive order 20-29.

Businesses not specifically prohibited may open if they can:

- Maintain at least six feet of distance between individuals or groups.
- Follow fundamental cleaning and public health practices. Additional sector-specific best practices guidance is also strongly encouraged.
- Avoid instances in which groups of more than 10 people are in one location and unable to maintain a six-foot distance with only infrequent or incidental moments of close proximity.



Additional general guidelines included in the plan consist of:

- Encouraging telework whenever possible.
- Individuals are strongly encouraged to wear cloth masks and employers should follow industry-specific guidance on mask use in the workplace.
- Require any employees with symptoms to stay home.
- Minimize or eliminate non-essential travel.
- Reconfigure spaces in your business to enable people to be located at least 6-feet apart and incorporate physical barriers where possible.
- Provide signage at public entrances to inform all employees and customers of social distancing guidelines mandated within the business.

Establishments and activities not allowed to open in Phase One include bars and nightclubs (except those already providing curbside/carryout service), indoor leisure spaces (theaters, museums, etc.), casinos (non-tribal), fitness centers and gyms, personal service businesses where close contact cannot be avoided (hair and nail salons, barber shops, etc.), community centers, fairs, festivals, parades, graduations, public swimming pools, organized sports facilities, and summer camps.

Additional guiding principles have also been compiled by the RCERT sub-committees and will be posted at hutchchamber.com/coronavirus to aide in best practices with industry specific recommendations. As additional guidance is released by the State of Kansas, it will also be made available as well.

When determining if the state is ready to move to the next phase, Governor Laura Kelly will evaluate the state's disease spread, testing rates, death rates, hospitalizations, ability of state and local public health authorities to contain outbreaks and conduct contract tracing, and availability of personal protective equipment. Regardless of phase, the Reno County Health Officer retains the authority to impose additional public health interventions in any area that contains an emergent and significant public health risk.

On behalf of Reno County and the RCERT, Co-chairs Nicholas Baldetti and Debra Teufel wish to thank the over 300 individuals who contributed their valuable time and efforts toward the formulation of specific guidance toward the reopening of Reno County.

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Reopen Kansas Phases

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
No earlier than:	May 4 - May 17	May 18-May 31	June 1 - June 14	June 15-June 30
Mass Gatherings	10 Max	30 Max	90 Max	No state restrictions; Maintain social distancing where applicable
Individuals	Masks strongly encouraged in public settings; Maintain 6-ft social distance	Masks encouraged in public settings; Maintain 6-ft social distance	Adhere to personal hygiene guidelines (may choose to wear masks); Maintain 6-ft social distance	Adhere to personal hygiene guidelines; Remain home if sick
Teleworking	Strongly encouraged for all employees when possible	Strongly encouraged for all employees when possible	Employers may begin reducing teleworking and start bringing employees back to work in an office setting	Resume normal operations but follow mass gathering guidelines
Employers *Refer to hutchchamber.com/coronavirus for recommendations and best practices for certain industries	Businesses must avoid any instance in which groups of more than 10 individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain 6-ft of distance (this does not limit the total occupancy of a business, but requires that businesses limit mass gatherings in areas where physical distancing can't be maintained)	Businesses must avoid any instance in which groups of more than 30 individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain 6-ft of distance (this does not limit the total occupancy of a business, but requires that businesses limit mass gatherings in areas where physical distancing can't be maintained)	Businesses must avoid any instance in which groups of more than 90 individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain 6-ft of distance (this does not limit the total occupancy of a business, but requires that businesses limit mass gatherings in areas where physical distancing can't be maintained)	Follow any additional guidance for businesses and employees that is released.
Travel	Minimize or avoid nonessential travel; Follow KDHE travel and quarantine guidelines for travel to high-risk areas	Minimize or avoid nonessential travel; Follow KDHE travel and quarantine guidelines for travel to high-risk areas	Nonessential travel may resume but continue to follow KDHE travel and quarantine guidelines for travel to high-risk areas	Unrestricted

High Risk Individuals	Maintain stay-at-home except for essential needs	Maintain stay-at-home except for essential needs	Resume public interactions while practicing social distancing	Resume public interactions while practicing social distancing
Visits to long-term care facilities	Prohibited	Prohibited	Gradually reinstated	Gradually reinstated
Restaurants	Open, 10 per table, tables 6 ft apart, no max			
Casinos (non-tribal)	Closed	Open	Open	Open
Fitness Centers & Gyms	Closed	Open	Open	Open
Barbers/Salons/Tattoo/Massage	Closed	Open	Open	Open
Community Center	Closed	Open	Open	Open
Outdoor/Indoor Lg. Entertainment Venues	Closed	Closed	Open	Open
Fairs, Festivals, Parades, & Graduations	Closed	Closed	Open	Open
Swimming Pools	Closed	Open	Open	Open
Organized Sports	Closed	Open	Open	Open
Overnight Summer Camps	Closed	Closed	Open	Open
Licensed Childcare	Open	Open	Open	Open
Bars & Night Clubs	Closed	50% capacity	Open	Open
K-12 Education	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Higher Education	Open	Open	Open	Open
Libraries	Open	Open	Open	Open
Retail	Open	Open	Open	Open
Hospital Care (elective)	Open, up to practitioners			
Dentists/Health Care providers	Open, up to practitioners			
Unless specified in Exec Order	Open	Open	Open	Open
Theatres/Museums & Leisure Spaces	Closed	Open	Open	Open

****All of the above information is subject to change per state and county guidance and Reno County retains authority to impose equal or more stringent restrictions, except to essential functions in KEFF, depending on local indicators.***

**** High-risk individuals include those with underlying medical conditions, including, chronic lung disease, asthma, heart conditions, severe obesity, chronic kidney disease, liver disease, or otherwise immunocompromised.***

****Any employee exhibiting illness symptoms per the state guidelines should be required to stay home.***

****Senior communities are subject to regulations issued by state and federal health authorities that may be more restrictive than those outlined in the reopening plan from the Governor or Reno County Health Department. Please contact the senior community directly regarding restrictions they have in place.***