

STAY HOME, WORK SAFE ORDER Key Messages – Mayor

Stay Home Order

Beginning at midnight tomorrow, March 24, 2020, Mayor Nirenberg is ordering all individuals living within the City of San Antonio to **stay home and only leave their homes to perform allowed activities**. There are four categories of allowed activities:

1. Activities related to maintaining the **health and safety of your family and your pets**. Examples are seeking emergency services, obtaining medical supplies or medication and visiting a health care professional. This includes caring for a family member or pet in another household.
2. Activities to obtain **necessary supplies for you, your family and household**, including groceries or food, pet supplies and pet food, supplies needed to work from home and consumer products, such as toilet paper and cleaning supplies.
3. **Working for an exempted business or government** that is providing services needed by the public during this crisis, which is explained in detail below.
4. **Outdoor activity, such as walking, running or cycling**, but only if you maintain social distancing, such as staying 6 feet away from other people.

All individuals should remain home, except for when securing healthcare, purchasing food and basic supplies, exercising outdoors, or working to provide these basic services to the public.

All public and private gatherings consisting of anyone other than your own household or family are prohibited.

Businesses Order

The Mayor also ordered **all businesses to close and stop operations** other than allowing employees to work from home, maintaining security and maintenance of the business' property and facilitating information technology services that allow employees to work from home.

There are some exemptions. Businesses and organizations that are providing products and services that are needed by the community during this crisis are exempted. The followed exempted businesses may continue operating, provided they exercise proper social distancing:

- **Healthcare operations**, including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmaceutical companies and veterinary offices;
- **Government functions** to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public, including first responders and emergency personnel; trash collection; and water and electric utilities;
- **Schools and education** personnel supporting public and private K-12 schools, colleges and universities who are facilitating distance learning;

- Companies providing or maintaining **infrastructure**, such as the construction of public works, housing and other infrastructure that supports critical needs, such as water, sewer, gas and electricity, internet and telecommunications;
- Businesses related to **transportation**, including gas stations, repair shops, car dealerships, manufacturers, public transportation, such as buses, taxis, rideshare companies and the airport;
- **Information technology** companies that provide and maintain internet and telecommunications systems
- Retail businesses that sell **food, gas and household products**, such as grocery stores, big box stores, farmers' markets, laundromats and drycleaners;
- **Charitable organizations** providing food, shelter and services to economically disadvantaged or vulnerable populations, including animals;
- **Hotels** and other temporary residence facilities;
- Businesses that provide **home maintenance and other services that individuals need to work from home**, such as mail and shipping companies, building maintenance, plumbers, electricians, exterminators and professional services, such as legal or accounting services necessary to comply with legally required activities, such as filing taxes;
- **News media**, including newspapers, television, radio and other media outlets providing information to the public;
- **Financial institutions**, such as banks, credit unions and title companies;
- **Childcare services**;
- **Worship services**, provided services are distributed by video, teleconference or other remote measures;
- **Funeral services**;
- Business and operations necessary to the 16 **critical infrastructure sectors** identified by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA.)

Only businesses and organizations that are providing these necessary products or services to the public during this public health crisis will be allowed to continue to operate. All other businesses shall close, but may allow employees to work from home.

Nursing Homes Order

The order prohibits nursing homes, retirement and long-term care facilities from allowing access to non-essential visitors unless they are providing medical assistance or visiting a friend or family member expected to pass away soon.

COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 testing continues to be available to those who have been pre-approved by a doctor. People who are sick should stay at home and not engage in any activity outside their residence unless related to treatment or healthcare. If you or a family member believes you have COVID-19 you should consult with a physician.

However, it is important to note that not everybody needs to be tested. A positive test does not change the medical treatment of the virus. Unless symptoms are severe or the patient is elderly or has other underlying health conditions, people who are experiencing the symptoms of COVID-19 should simply stay home, isolate, rest and recover. A positive test for COVID-19 will not change that.

Additional Orders

The order urges San Antonians to follow the orders of Governor Greg Abbott and avoid elective surgery and medical procedures.

The order also supports Judge Wolff's order to suspend rental evictions and foreclosures for the next 30 days so that individuals who have lost their source of income can remain in their homes during this health crisis.

Duration of the Order

The order is effective beginning at 11:59 pm on March 24, 2020 and with City Council approval, will be effective until 11:59 pm on April 9th.

For questions, visit the City of San Antonio website, sanantonio.gov, or call the COVID-19 hotline at (210) 207-5779.