



TEXAS STATE SENATOR

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SENATE PAGE

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SPECIAL EDITION - 9



The next phase of reopening Texas begins this week with public pools, barbershops, and hair, nail, and tanning salons having the opportunity to reopen as early as Friday, May 8, if they meet the minimum guidelines set forth in the Governor's Executive Order issued Tuesday, May 5. On May 18, gyms and exercise facilities, non-essential manufacturing, and certain in-office services may resume services with 25% occupancy. All Texas businesses are essential, and I look forward to a swift reopening of the remainder of our economy.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and thank you for all you are doing to lead in your homes, your jobs, and your communities.



COVID-19 STATS

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The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is [tracking COVID-19 cases](#) and updates its site with the latest information each day by noon (CST).

- Texas has 35,390 confirmed cases of COVID-19 out of 455,162 tests.
- There are 839 confirmed cases of COVID-19 involving Collin County residents out of 9,138 tests, and
- There are 4,869 confirmed cases of COVID-19 involving Dallas County residents out of 33,985 tests.

STATE OF TEXAS UPDATES

[Governor's Executive Order](#)

The Governor issued another **Executive Order** this week announcing his next phase of reopening Texas. This order is effective immediately and will continue through May 19.

Starting on Friday, May 8, 2020 the following will be opened:

- Cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops, and nail salons may open but should follow guidelines set forth in Open Texas;
- Tanning Salons may open but should follow guidelines set forth in Open Texas; and
- Swimming pools may operate if outdoor or indoor but must follow occupancy levels set forth.

Starting on Monday, May 18, 2020 the following will be opened:

- Services provided in an office may operate with the greater of five individuals or 25% of the total office workforce;
- Non-essential manufacturing [services] at 25% occupancy; and
- Gyms and exercise facilities and classes, whether indoor, outdoor, individual, or group, at a 25% occupancy.

Current reopened services consist of the following:

- In-store retail at 25% occupancy;

- Dine-in at restaurants at 25% occupancy (no occupancy limit on outside eating);
- Movie theaters at 25% occupancy;
- Shopping malls at 25% occupancy;
- Museums and libraries at occupancy of 25%;
- Golf course operations;
- Local government operations;
- Services provided by one individual in an office setting (this will be expanded on May 18);
- Wedding venues and services required to conduct weddings subject to either guidelines of church or at 25% of indoor occupancy (it's strongly encouraged to hold weddings outside); and
- Wedding receptions subject to guidelines on restaurants or to 25% indoor capacity, if held indoors. Again, it's strongly suggested to host a reception outdoors.

[The Lt. Governor's Report, "Texans Back to Work Task Force"](#) provides protocols and recommendations for regulatory changes by industry to ensure the safety of consumers, employees, and employers so that Texans can get back to work.

The Task Force was guided by these principles:

- Balance the need to protect our citizens from both the health risks from COVID-19 and the health risks from economic instability, including depression, suicide, hunger, malnutrition, and health conditions such as cancer, heart disease, and other illnesses exacerbated by lack of timely access to medical care.
- Safely and effectively reopen and restore our Texas economy to 100% in the not too distant future.
- Make necessary changes to government rules, policies and procedures to prepare Texas to better respond to major challenges and to have a healthy and prosperous future.

TEA Guidelines for Graduation

The Texas Education Agency provided **[guidance for high school graduation ceremonies](#)**. There are four types of ceremonies with guidance for each:

1. Completely virtual;
2. Hybrid ceremonies (small groups coupled with virtual);
3. Vehicle ceremonies (cars); and
4. Outdoor ceremonies (football stadiums with social distancing).

Check with your local school district or school to learn more about the plans for senior graduation ceremonies.