



# SAFER AT HOME FAQs

## HOW LONG WILL THIS LAST?

- THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER STARTS ON MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2020 AT 8:00 AM AND CONTINUES UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020 AT 8:00 AM.
- YOU CAN VIEW THE SAFER AT HOME EXECUTIVE ORDER ON GOVERNOR REEVES' WEBSITE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDERS AT [GOVERNORREEVES.MS.GOV/COVID-19](http://GOVERNORREEVES.MS.GOV/COVID-19)

## WHAT AREA DOES IT COVER?

- THE ENTIRE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

## CAN I GO TO WORK?

- YES, YOU MAY LEAVE YOUR HOME TO TRAVEL TO AND FROM YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS IF THE BUSINESS IS PERMITTED TO BE OPEN OR RE-OPEN UNDER THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER.
- ALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE ALLOWING THEIR EMPLOYEES TO WORK FROM HOME OR TELEWORK TO ALL EXTENT POSSIBLE.

## CAN I GO TO THE GROCERY STORE?

- OF COURSE. WE ASK THAT YOU MAKE A LIST AND BUY YOUR GROCERIES AND SUPPLIES IN AS FEW TRIPS AS POSSIBLE—ONCE A WEEK, NOT ONCE A DAY.
- WHILE AT THE GROCERY STORE, YOU SHOULD PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING, INCLUDING MAINTAIN A MINIMUM DISTANCE OF SIX FEET BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS AND AVOID CONGREGATING IN COMMON AREAS.

## CAN I GO TO THE DOCTOR/DENTIST?

- YES. TRAVEL FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY IS PERMITTED.
- HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, INCLUDING DENTISTS, MAY RESUME PERFORMING SOME NON-EMERGENT, ELECTIVE MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDANCE FROM THE MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND CDC.

## CAN I GO TO THE PHARMACY TO FILL MY PRESCRIPTION?

- YES. TRAVEL FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY IS PERMITTED.

## CAN I GO TO SCHOOL OR TAKE MY CHILD TO SCHOOL?

- SCHOOL BUILDINGS ARE CLOSED FOR THE REST OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR.
- TRAVEL TO OR FROM SCHOOLS IS ALLOWED FOR PURPOSES OF RECEIVING MATERIALS FOR DISTANCE LEARNING, TO RECEIVE MEALS, AND FOR OTHER EDUCATION-RELATED PURPOSES.

## CAN I GET MY HAIR AND NAILS DONE?

- NO. SALONS, BARBERSHOPS, AND OTHER SIMILAR PERSONAL CARE AND GROOMING FACILITIES REMAIN CLOSED DURING THIS SAFER AT HOME ORDER, EXCEPT FOR THE LIMITED PURPOSE OF RETAIL SALES BY DRIVE-THRU, CURBSIDE PICK-UP, AND/OR DELIVERY SERVICES.



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## **CAN I EXERCISE OR WORK OUT?**

- FITNESS AND EXERCISE GYMS WILL REMAIN CLOSED.
- INDIVIDUAL OUTDOOR RECREATION IS ENCOURAGED. THIS WOULD INCLUDE RUNNING, BIKING, OR WALKING BY YOURSELF OR WITH THOSE YOU LIVE WITH.
- NO GROUP RECREATION OR ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FOOTBALL, SOCCER, OR BASKETBALL GAMES ARE PERMITTED.

## **CAN I GO FISHING?**

- YES. FISHING FROM YOUR BOAT OR FROM THE BANKS OF STATE PARK LAKES, STATE LAKES, AND RESERVOIRS IS PERMITTED WITH APPROPRIATE SOCIAL DISTANCING SUCH AS MAINTAINING A MINIMUM OF SIX FEET DISTANCE BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS.

## **CAN I GO FOR A BOAT RIDE?**

- YES. RECREATIONAL BOATING WITH APPROPRIATE SOCIAL DISTANCING TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE INSIDE THE BOAT IS PERMITTED.
- THE NUMBER OF PERSONS IN THE BOAT ARE LIMITED TO THE GREATER OF TWO OCCUPANTS OR 50% OF THE OCCUPANCY LIMIT OF ALL MULTI-PERSON BOATS.

## **CAN I VISIT A FAMILY MEMBER IN THE HOSPITAL OR NURSING HOME?**

- NO. MOST VISITS ARE NOT ALLOWED. FOR THE SAFETY OF RESIDENTS, PATIENTS, AND STAFF, VISITS TO HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES ARE PROHIBITED EXCEPT TO VISIT THOSE INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING IMMINENT END-OF-LIFE CARE, OR AS OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY THAT HEALTHCARE FACILITY.

## **CAN I TRAVEL TO ASSIST ELDERLY FAMILY MEMBERS WITH GROCERIES, MEDICINES, AND MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS?**

- YES, TRAVEL CONTINUES TO BE PERMITTED TO CARE FOR THE ELDERLY, MINORS, DEPENDENTS, AND VULNERABLE PERSONS.

## **CAN MY UTILITIES BE SHUT OFF DURING THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER?**

- NO. AFTER THE GOVERNOR DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) ISSUED AN EMERGENCY ORDER PROHIBITING UTILITY SHUTOFFS.
- WHILE UTILITIES MAY NOT BE SHUTOFF DURING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY, YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO PAY YOUR UTILITY BILLS.
- YOU CAN VIEW THE EMERGENCY ORDER AT [WWW.MSEMA.ORG/NEWS/PUBLIC-SERVICE-COMMISSION-TO-PROHIBITING-UTILITY-SHUTOFFS/](http://WWW.MSEMA.ORG/NEWS/PUBLIC-SERVICE-COMMISSION-TO-PROHIBITING-UTILITY-SHUTOFFS/).

## **CAN I ATTEND MY CHURCH'S PARKING LOT SERVICES DURING THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER?**

- YES, YOU MAY TRAVEL TO ATTEND PARKING LOT CHURCH SERVICES WITH EVERYONE STAYING IN THEIR CARS.
- HOWEVER, WE CONTINUE TO ASK THAT CHURCH SERVICES BE HELD ONLINE AND REMOTELY TO HELP SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.



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## **CAN I BE EVICTED DURING THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER?**

- NO. ALL EVICTIONS CONTINUE TO BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED UNDER THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER.
- HOWEVER, YOU MUST STILL MAKE ANY RENTAL OR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW, INCLUDING THE DUTY TO AVOID DESTRUCTION TO PROPERTY, AND ALL PROVISIONS AND CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE RENTAL AGREEMENT OR MORTGAGE DOCUMENTS.

## **WHAT IF I'M LAID OFF WHILE MY BUSINESS IS CLOSED DURING THIS COVID-19 EPIDEMIC?**

- CONTACT THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AT [MDES.MS.GOV](http://MDES.MS.GOV) OR YOUR LOCAL WIN JOB CENTER FOR ASSISTANCE.
- YOU SHOULD ALSO CONSULT WITH YOUR EMPLOYER.

## **ARE FAMILY REUNIONS, WEDDINGS, OR FUNERALS PERMITTED UNDER THE SAFER AT HOME ORDER?**

- NO. ALL NON-ESSENTIAL, SOCIAL GATHERINGS OF 10 OR MORE WHERE INDIVIDUALS ARE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY MUST BE CANCELLED OR RESCHEDULED.

## **IF A FAMILY MEMBER HAS BEEN QUARANTINED BECAUSE OF A KNOWN CONTACT WITH AN ACTIVE DIAGNOSED CASE OF COVID-19, MAY I STILL VISIT HIM/HER?**

- NO. PLEASE CONSULT WITH THE APPROPRIATE MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICIALS ON SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS.

## **I HAVE A COURT APPEARANCE SCHEDULE DURING THIS SAFER AT HOME ORDER, MAY I ATTEND?**

- YES. ALL STATE COURTS CONTINUE TO BE OPEN TO FULFILL THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY DUTIES.
- PLEASE CONSULT WITH YOUR ATTORNEY AND COURT PERSONNEL TO BE SURE OF THE DATE AND TIME, OR TO LEARN IF IT HAS BEEN POSTPONED OR RESCHEDULED BEFORE TRAVELING.

## **WHAT IF MY CITY OR TOWN HAS ADOPTED MORE STRICT REGULATIONS?**

- COMBATING COVID-19 IN MISSISSIPPI IS A JOINT EFFORT WITH FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, AND LOCAL OFFICIALS WORKING TOGETHER.
- LOCAL OR COUNTY AUTHORITIES UNDERSTAND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY BEST AND MAY ADOPT AND ENFORCE RULES THAT ARE MORE STRICT, AS LONG THEY DO NOT PREVENT ANY ESSENTIAL BUSINESS OR OPERATION AS IDENTIFIED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1463 FROM PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND FUNCTIONS.