



# GUIDELINES FOR OPENING UP IDAHO

Governor Brad Little, with the help of the Department of Health and Welfare and guidance issued by President Donald Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has established a data-driven approach to opening up Idaho's economy. This approach reduces the risk of COVID-19 to Idaho's most vulnerable populations and preserves capacity in our healthcare system, while opening up businesses safely. From an economic standpoint, Idaho's rebound from COVID-19 starts with employee and consumer confidence, which leads into business stability and growth and eventually promotion and attraction.

[REBOUND.IDAHO.GOV](https://rebound.idaho.gov)

# MEETING IDAHO CRITERIA MEANS ADVANCING TO A STAGED APPROACH

All criteria below must be met before Idaho advances to the next stage of reopening. The Idaho Division of Public Health and the Governor's Coronavirus Working Group will review the criteria every two weeks to assess if criteria are met, or continue to be met, so Idaho can move to the next stage. **To advance to the next stage, all criteria must be met. If the criteria indicates trends are beginning to move the wrong direction, or there is evidence that a stage has adversely impacted rates, stages may have to be extended or reversed.** Dates shown in the document are estimated timelines only.

## IDAHO CRITERIA

### SYNDROMIC

Downward trend or low numbers of COVID-19-like illness patient visits as tracked by Emergency Departments within a 14-day period

**MEASURED BY:** NSSP (Idaho's syndromic tracking system). Displayed on website as "Number of Emergency Department Visits for COVID-Like Illness."

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 20 visits/day on average over same 14-day period

AND

Downward trend or very low numbers of patients with COVID-19-like illness admitted from Emergency Departments within a 14-day period

**MEASURED BY:** NSSP (Idaho's syndromic tracking system). Displayed on website as "Number of emergency Department Patients with COVID-like Illness Symptoms Admitted to the Hospital."

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 2 patients/day on average over same 14-day period

### EPIDEMIOLOGIC

Downward trend or low levels of documented COVID-19 cases reported within a 14-day period

**MEASURED BY:** NBS (Idaho's integrated disease reporting system). Displayed on the website as "COVID-19 by Date Reported."

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 20 patients per day on average reported statewide over the same 14-day period

OR

Downward trend of positive COVID-19 PCR tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (including flat or increasing volume of tests)

**MEASURED BY:** NBS (Idaho's integrated disease reporting system). Will be displayed on the website

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 5 percent laboratory PCR positivity on average over same 14-day period

### HEALTHCARE

Treat all patients without needing to use crisis standards of care

**MEASURED BY:** Governor's Order for Crisis Standards of Care in place; reports from hospitals

AND

Available ventilators, intensive care unit beds, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to safely care for additional COVID-19 patients in hospitals

**MEASURED BY:** Idaho Resource Tracking System (IRTS) (through the Division of Public Health) and displayed on the website

**METRIC:** At least 50 available (unused) ventilators, 50 ICU beds, and available 10-day supply of N95 masks, surgical masks, face shields, gowns, and gloves

AND

Robust COVID-19 testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers

**MEASURED BY:** NBS (Idaho's integrated disease reporting system). Numbers of reported cases among healthcare workers; will be displayed on the website

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 2 healthcare workers reported/day on average over same 14-day period

AND

Low numbers of hospital admissions

**MEASURED BY:** hospital reports from most recent 14-day period downloaded from HHS Protect

**METRIC:** Hospital admissions of confirmed COVID-19 patients less than 4 per day on average over 14-day period



## STRATEGIES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND CAPABILITIES NEEDED

The State of Idaho must remain focused on achieving the following core preparedness responsibilities.

### TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING:

- Ability to quickly set up safe and efficient screening and testing sites for symptomatic individuals, including those with mild symptoms
- Contact tracing in place for all COVID-19 positive results
- Screening and testing locations in all regions of the state in place that serve older individuals, rural and lower income populations, and racial and ethnic minorities, such as Native Americans and Hispanics

### PLANS AND STRATEGIES:

- State and local preparedness plans are in place including surge plans
- Crisis Standards of Care Plan established
- Long-Term Care Task Force operational to support long-term care facilities
- Testing strategy developed
- Contact tracing strategy developed

### HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY:

- Ability to quickly supply sufficient PPE, medications, and critical medical equipment to handle dramatic surge if needed
- Ability to quickly test symptomatic healthcare workers
- Ability to surge intensive care unit capacity

# STAGED OPENING (AFTER IDAHO CRITERIA IS MET)

Until we have targeted, case-based interventions for each infectious person, an effective vaccine, or effective treatment, we must maintain some level of community interventions to slow the spread of COVID-19. This includes heightened protections for the health and safety of workers in critical industries, people living and working in high-risk facilities (e.g. senior care facilities), and all other employees.

All Idahoans have a responsibility to protect themselves and others. Each stage, while allowing for additional businesses and practices to open and loosen, is grounded in the following basic practices for individuals and businesses:

## PROTOCOLS

### ALL STAGES – INDIVIDUALS SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Engage in physical distancing of at least six feet
- Wear face coverings in public places
- Stay home if sick
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Disinfect surfaces and objects regularly

### ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH STAGE.

### ALL STAGES – EMPLOYERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Maintain the six-foot physical distancing requirements for employees and patrons
- Provide adequate sanitation and personal hygiene for employees, vendors, and patrons
- Ensure frequent disinfection of the business as well as regular cleaning, especially of high-touch surfaces
- Identify how personal use items such as masks, face coverings, and gloves may be required by employees, vendors, and/or patrons
- Provide services while limiting close interactions with patrons
- Identify strategies for addressing ill employees, which should include requiring COVID-19 positive employees to stay at home while infectious, and may include keeping employees who were directly exposed to the COVID-19 positive employee away from the workplace, and the closure of the business until the location can be properly disinfected
- On a case-by-case basis, include other practices appropriate for specific types of businesses such as screening of employees for illness and exposures upon work entry, requiring non-cash transactions, etc.



## INITIAL STAGE

Before May 1

### INDIVIDUAL

- **All Idahoans, including vulnerable Idahoans,** continue to self-quarantine, except for certain essential activities and work to provide essential business and government services or perform essential public infrastructure
- **Gatherings** of individuals outside the home are prohibited
- Prohibit non-essential **travel** and adhere to [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following essential travel
- Unless on essential business, people entering Idaho are required to **self-quarantine for 14 days**. If a person is in Idaho for less than 14 days, they must self-quarantine for the duration of their visit

### EMPLOYER

**See “Specific Types of Employers” in the right column for places of worship, restaurants, bars, gyms, daycares, senior living facilities, and salons**

- Continue to encourage **telework**, whenever possible and feasible with business operations
- **Employees** who are considered vulnerable individuals should continue to self-quarantine. Special accommodations for these employees should be made in the workplace if they are unable to work from home
- **Non-essential businesses**, other than those excluded in the amended order, develop plans for reopening and ability to meet business protocols
- Non-essential **travel** prohibited

### SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Visits to **senior living facilities and congregate facilities (e.g. jails and corrections)** are prohibited and those employees and providers who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene and infection prevention
- **Bars and nightclubs** are closed
- **Restaurants** continue with takeout and delivery.
- **Places of worship** develop plans for reopening and ability to meet protocols
- **Indoor gyms** and recreation facilities are closed
- **Close contact services – hair/nail/massage/cosmetic** are closed
- **Large venues** (e.g. movie theaters and sporting venues) are closed
- **Daycare**, if closed, develop plans for reopening to meet business protocols and work with local public health districts and DHW

Every two weeks: re-evaluation against criteria to determine feasibility to advance from one stage to the next.

\*\*\*ALL CRITERIA MUST BE MET TO MOVE TO THE NEXT STAGE AND DATES ARE ESTIMATED TARGETS



## STAGE 1

After all criteria are met  
May 1 – May 15\*\*\*

### INDIVIDUAL

- **All vulnerable Idahoans** should continue to self-quarantine. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not always possible, they could carry the virus back home. Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents
- **Gatherings**, both public and private, should be avoided
- Minimize non-essential **travel** (individuals should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)
- Continue the **14-day self-quarantine** for people entering Idaho to prevent influx of out-of-state visitors

### EMPLOYER

**See “Specific Types of Employers” in the right column for places of worship, restaurants, bars, gyms, daycares, senior living facilities, and salons**

- Continue to encourage **telework**, whenever possible and feasible with business operations  
  
Return employees to work in phases, if physical distancing, personal protections and sanitation are feasible
- **Employees** who are considered vulnerable individuals should continue to self-quarantine. Special accommodations for these employees should be made in the workplace if they are unable to work from home
- **Non-essential businesses**, other than those excluded in the amended order implement plans for reopening demonstrating ability to meet business protocols
- Minimize non-essential **travel** (employers should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)

### SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Visits to **senior living facilities and congregate facilities (e.g. jails and corrections)** are prohibited and those employees and providers who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene and infection prevention
- **Bars and nightclubs** remain closed
- **Restaurants** dining rooms remain closed, develop plans for reopening and ability to meet business protocols in order to open in stage 2
- **Places of worship** can open and should adhere to physical distancing, sanitation protocol, and State and CDC guidance
- **Indoor gyms** and recreation facilities remain closed, develop plans for reopening and ability to meet business protocols in order to open in stage 2
- **Close contact services – hair/nail/massage/cosmetic** remain closed, develop plans for reopening and ability to meet business protocols in order to open in stage 2
- **Large venues** (e.g. movie theaters and sporting venues) are closed
- **Daycares** and organized youth activities and camps can reopen and should adhere to State and CDC guidance

Every two weeks: re-evaluation against criteria to determine feasibility to advance from one stage to the next.

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## STAGE 2

If no significant increase in cases and criteria remain met  
May 16 – May 29\*\*\*

### INDIVIDUAL

- **All vulnerable Idahoans** should continue to self-quarantine. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that by returning to work or other environments where distancing is not always possible, they could carry the virus back home. Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents
- **Gatherings**, both public and private, of less than 10 people, where appropriate physical distancing and precautionary measures are observed can occur.
- Minimize non-essential **travel** (individuals should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)
- Encourage **14-day self-quarantine** for people entering Idaho from another country or from an area outside Idaho with substantial community spread or case rates higher than Idaho

### EMPLOYER

**See “Specific Types of Employers” in the right column for places of worship, restaurants, bars, gyms, daycares, senior living facilities, and salons**

- Continue to encourage **telework**, whenever possible and feasible with business operations

Return employees to work in phases, if physical distancing, personal protections and sanitation are feasible

- **Employees** who are considered vulnerable individuals should continue to self-quarantine. Special accommodations for these employees should be made in the workplace if they are unable to work from home
- All open **businesses** continue to follow plans.
- Minimize non-essential **travel** (employers should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)

### SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Visits to **senior living facilities and congregate facilities (e.g. jails and corrections)** are prohibited and those employees and providers who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene and infection prevention
- **Bars** remain closed. Bars should develop plans for reopening and ability to meet business protocols in order to open in stage 3
- **Nightclubs** remain closed. Nightclubs should develop plans for reopening as a bar in stage 3 with ability to meet business protocols and without close contact activities such as dancing
- **Restaurant dining rooms** can open once their plans have been submitted for approval by local public health districts
- **Indoor gyms** and recreation facilities can open if ability to meet business protocols
- **Close contact services – hair/nail/massage/cosmetic** can open if ability to meet business protocols
- **Large venues** (e.g. movie theaters and sporting venues) are closed

Every two weeks: re-evaluation against criteria to determine feasibility to advance from one stage to the next.

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## STAGE 3

If no significant increase in cases and criteria remain met  
May 30 – June 12th\*\*\*

### INDIVIDUAL

- **Vulnerable Idahoans** can resume public interactions, but should practice physical distancing, minimizing exposure to social settings where distancing may not be practical, unless precautionary measures are observed
- **Gatherings**, both public and private, of 10-50 people, where appropriate physical distancing and precautionary measures are observed can occur
- Non-essential **travel** can resume to locations that allow it and do not have ongoing transmission (individuals should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)
- Encourage **14-day self-quarantine** for people entering Idaho from another country or from an area outside Idaho with substantial community spread or case rates higher than Idaho

### SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Visits to **senior living facilities and congregate facilities (e.g. jails and corrections)** are prohibited and those employees and providers who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene and infection prevention
- **Bars** can open if ability to meet business protocols
- **Nightclubs** remain closed, except can open as a bar if business protocols are met. Develop plans for operating as a nightclub with diminished standing room occupancy in order to open in stage 4
- **Movie Theaters** can open if able to meet business protocols
- **Large venues** (e.g. sporting venues) remain closed, develop plans for operating with limited physical distancing protocols in order to open in stage 4

### EMPLOYER

See “**Specific Types of Employers**” in the right column for places of worship, restaurants, bars, gyms, daycares, senior living facilities, and salons

- Continue to encourage **telework**, whenever possible and feasible with business operations

Return employees to work in phases, if physical distancing, personal protections and sanitation are feasible

- **Employees** who are considered vulnerable individuals should continue to self-quarantine. Special accommodations for these employees should be made in the workplace if they are unable to work from home
- All open **businesses** continue to follow plans
- Non-Essential **travel** can resume to locations that allow it and do not have ongoing transmission (employers should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)

Every two weeks: re-evaluation against criteria to determine feasibility to advance from one stage to the next.

\*\*\*ALL CRITERIA MUST BE MET TO MOVE TO THE NEXT STAGE AND DATES ARE ESTIMATED TARGETS





## STAGE 4

If no significant increase in cases and criteria remain met  
June 13 – July 10\*\*\*

### INDIVIDUAL

- **Vulnerable Idahoans** can resume public interactions, but should practice physical distancing, minimizing exposure to social settings where distancing may not be practical, unless precautionary measures are observed
- **Gatherings**, both public and private, of more than 50 people, where appropriate physical distancing and precautionary measures are observed can occur
- Non-essential **travel** continues to locations that allow it and do not have ongoing transmission (individuals should adhere to [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)

### SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Visits to **senior living facilities and congregate facilities (e.g. jails and corrections)** can resume. Those who interact with residents and patients must be diligent regarding hygiene and physical distancing
- **Nightclubs** may operate with diminished standing-room occupancy, where applicable and appropriate
- **Large venues** (e.g. sporting venues) can operate under limited physical distancing protocols

### EMPLOYER

See “**Specific Types of Employers**” in the right column for **places of worship, restaurants, bars, gyms, daycares, senior living facilities, and salons**

- Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites, but continue to practice physical distancing, personal protections and sanitation for protection of workers, and continue to encourage telework when feasible
- Special accommodations for **employees** who are considered vulnerable should be made in the workplace
- All open **businesses** continue to follow plans
- Non-essential **travel** continues to locations that allow it and do not have ongoing transmission (employers should adhere to State and [CDC guidelines](#) regarding isolation following travel)

Every two weeks: re-evaluation against criteria to determine feasibility to advance from one stage to the next.

\*\*\*ALL CRITERIA MUST BE MET TO MOVE TO THE NEXT STAGE AND DATES ARE ESTIMATED TARGETS