

SHELTER IN PLACE
City of Dallas Summary of Dallas County's Order, Essential
Activities, and Essential Businesses¹
Effective 11:59 p.m., March 23, 2020

I. IN GENERAL.

- All individuals currently living within Dallas County are ordered to shelter at their place of residence. Residences include hotels, motels, shared rentals, and similar facilities.
- All businesses operating within Dallas County, except Essential Businesses are required to cease all activities at facilities.
- All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except as provided in the Order.
- A restaurant with or without drive-in or drive-through services; drive-in restaurant; drive-through restaurant; and microbrewery, micro-distillery, or winery may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-in or drive-through services as allowed by law.
- Religious and worship services may only be provided by video and teleconference. Religious institutions must limit in-person staff to 10 people or less when preparing for or conducting video or teleconference services, and all individuals must maintain a social distancing of six feet.
- All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Dallas. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.

II. ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES.

Individuals may leave their residence only to perform the following Essential Activities:

- To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies needed to work from home).

¹ This summary is the City of Dallas' interpretation of the Dallas County Order to Shelter in Place.

- To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others (for example, food, pet supply, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences.
- To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet (for example, walking, biking, hiking, or running).
- To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order.
- To care for a family member or pet in another household.

III. ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES.

ESSENTIAL HEALTHCARE OPERATIONS.

- Hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services.
- Home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children.
- Because this exemption is meant to be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare, the following are deemed essential healthcare operations:
 - Chiropractic providers.
 - Physical therapy providers.
- Veterinary care is included under this exception, but not elective veterinary medical, surgical, and dental procedures.
- There is no requirement that essential healthcare operations be provided via telemedicine.

ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS.

- All services provided by local governments needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public.

ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

- Public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), financial institutions, defense and national security-related operations.
- Airlines and airports are essential infrastructure.
- Landscaping companies are essential to the construction of residential and commercial properties.
- Tile manufacturing is a necessary operation for residential and commercial construction.

- Ride share companies (i.e. Uber, Lyft) are essential critical infrastructure as public transportation.

ESSENTIAL RETAIL.

- Grocery stores, warehouse stores, big-box stores, bodegas, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, farmers' markets that sell food products and household staples.
- Food cultivation, including farming, fishing, and livestock.
- Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods, or services directly to residences.
- Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery or carry out.
- Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. In addition, obtaining necessary supplies for family or household members is an essential activity.
- Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers.
- Gas stations, auto-supply, auto and bicycle repair, hardware stores, and related facilities.
- Auto repair is included as a facility related to gas stations, auto-supply, auto and bicycle repair, hardware stores. Auto dealers are included as a related facility to auto repair.
- The following retail stores that sell food products and/or household staples are included as essential:
 - Department stores.
 - Neighborhood markets.
 - Retail stores located within a hotel.
 - Pet supply stores.
- Manufacturing facilities that produce personal hygiene products are essential businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home.
- Plant nurseries are essential businesses that supply other Essential Businesses with the support of supplies needed to operate.

PROVIDERS OF BASIC NECESSITIES TO ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS.

- Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.
- Food pantries are included.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN ESSENTIAL OPERATIONS OF RESIDENCES OR OTHER ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES.

- Trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, building cleaning and maintenance, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries.
- Plumbers, electricians, exterminators.
- Apartment leasing offices are essential to manage the operations of residences.
- Pool service companies are essential to the operation of residences.

- Security personnel required for maintaining the safety of residences and Essential Businesses.
- Management companies for public improvement districts are essential for the operation of residences and other Essential Businesses.
- Computer and cell phone repair businesses supply other Essential Businesses with the support of supplies needed to operate.
- Attorneys, together with their clients, shall determine what legal services are necessary to comply with legally mandated activities.

NEWS MEDIA.

- Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services.

CHILDCARE SERVICES.

- Childcare facilities providing services that enable exempted employees to work as permitted.

IV. OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS.

Hotels are a “place of residence” under the Order and are considered an Essential Business. The Order applies only to individuals currently living within Dallas County; any individual “living” in a hotel must shelter in place at the hotel and abide with the order for the duration of the order. As to those individuals not currently living in Dallas County i.e., out of town visitors, these individuals are not subject to the order.

Because the order specifically applies to all individuals currently living within Dallas County, an individual must shelter in place unless an exemption applies. This includes all individuals who live within Dallas County but work in another county.

The order does not require individuals to carry documentation as proof that they are employed by an essential business.

The order does not require Essential Businesses to take the temperature of employees that report to work.

Social gatherings of any number of people are not permitted under the order unless it is to care for a family member or pet in another household.

V. NONESSENTIAL BUSINESSES.

- Institutions of higher education.
- Print shop.
- Estate sales/garage sales.
- Car washes.

- Real estate appraisers and inspectors.
- Movers.