

[Home](#) > [COVID-19](#)

Enhancing public health and workplace safety measures in the provincewide shutdown

Learn about the second declaration of emergency to address COVID-19 in Ontario.

[Download PDF](#)

An accessible version of the PDF will be posted within the next week.

On this page

1. [Context: provincewide shutdown](#)
2. [Overview: timing and geographical application](#)
3. [Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act](#)
4. [EMCPA Enforcement Supports](#)
5. [General public health and workplace safety measures for all businesses, organizations and facilities](#)
6. [General public health measures for all individuals](#)
7. [Organized public events and social gatherings \(including religious services, rites or ceremonies\), schools, child care, post-secondary institutions and day camps](#)
8. [Approach in schools and child care](#)
9. [Businesses permitted to open and sector specific public health and workplace safety measures:](#)
10. [CMOH advice to Ontarians for the provincewide shutdown](#)
11. [Plan for a return to the COVID-19 response framework](#)
12. [Appendix A: List of eligible workers \(child care only\)](#)

The information contained in this document is intended to communicate a summary of information about measures proposed to come into effect in Ontario or in areas of Ontario between Tuesday January 12, 2021 and Thursday, January 14, 2021. The material is not legal advice and does not purport to be or to provide an interpretation of the law. In the event of any conflict or difference between this summary information and any applicable legislation or regulation, the legislation or regulation prevails.

Context: provincewide shutdown

- COVID-19 morbidity (illness) and mortality (death) are at the highest levels since the start of the pandemic.
- Growth in COVID-19 cases has accelerated and is over 7% on the worst days.
- Daily mortality is increasing under current restrictions and is projected to double from 50 to 100 deaths per day between now and end of February.
- Escalating case counts have led to increasing hospitalization rates and ICU occupancy which has resulted in further disruptions to scheduled surgeries and procedures. ICU occupancy is now over 400 beds and is projected to be approximately 500 beds by mid-January/approximately 1,000 beds by early February in more severe, but realistic scenarios.
- Despite restrictions, a substantial minority of people in high-rate regions are acting in a way that will increase COVID-19 transmission.
- Urgent action is required to significantly reduce the number of contacts people are having, in order to:
 - Prevent extensive illness and death
 - Protect our health care system; and
 - Resume in-person learning in schools.

Overview: timing and geographical application

When does the provincewide shutdown start?

There will be a combination of measures that come into effect between Tuesday January 12, 2021 and Thursday, January 14, 2021, including a provincial declaration of emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, *orders under that Act*, and amendments to regulations under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*.

Where, and how long, are the provincewide shutdown restrictions in effect?

The enhanced public health and workplace safety measures are in effect for all of Ontario and are anticipated to be in place until at least Thursday, February 11, 2021.

Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act

- The Ontario government is declaring a second provincial emergency in response to COVID-19 under the

Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) to ensure that necessary measures and restrictions can be put in place to keep Ontarians safe and immediately respond to the ongoing threat of COVID-19.

- A declaration of emergency automatically terminates 14 days after being made unless terminated earlier or extended. The province will monitor key public health indicators to determine whether or not to extend the emergency.
- A declaration of a provincial emergency allows the government to make new emergency orders under the EMCPA if the orders meet the legal test for necessity and other criteria.
- Orders will also continue under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020 (ROA)* with updates to the stage orders, along with enforcement.

EMCPA Enforcement Supports

- Under the provincial emergency, the following enhanced enforcement authorities will be in place:
 - All provincial offences officers, including police officers, will have the authority to disperse crowds indoors as well as outdoors. For example, when a group of more than five people who are not from the same household are gathering outdoors, they can be required to leave and the premise may be closed.
 - Similar to the provision under ROA, individuals have a duty to identify when a police officer has reasonable and probable grounds that an offence under EMCPA has been committed.
- Additionally, enforcement personnel will have the authority to issue tickets to individuals, employees and corporations in retail settings and businesses if found not complying with an order (e.g. staff member or customer not wearing a face covering.)

General public health and workplace safety measures for all businesses, organizations and facilities

Public health advice, recommendations and instructions

Businesses or organizations must operate in compliance with the advice, recommendations, and instructions of public health officials, including any advice, recommendations or instructions on physical distancing, cleaning or disinfecting, and working remotely. Check with your local public health unit for any additional advice, recommendations or instructions.

Work from Home Except Where Necessary

Each person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall ensure that any person who performs work for the business or organization conducts their work remotely, with limited exception, for instance, where the nature of their work requires them to be on-site at the workplace.

Physical distancing and line management

Businesses or places must not permit patrons to line up inside the businesses or place, or to line up or congregate outside of the business or place unless they are maintaining a physical distance of at least two metres from other groups of persons and wearing a mask or face covering that covers their mouth, nose and chin unless they are entitled to an exception set out in the regulation.

Screening

Businesses or organizations must operate in compliance with the advice, recommendations instructions issued by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health on screening individuals. This includes:

- Workplaces must screen any workers or essential visitors entering the work environment. See the [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Workplaces](#) for more information

Personal protective equipment including eye protection

Personal protective equipment that provides protection of the eyes, nose, and mouth, is required if a worker is required to come within 2 metres of another person who is not wearing a face covering and not separated by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier.

Capacity limits

All businesses or facilities must limit capacity so that every member of the public is able to maintain two metres of physical distancing from every other person, and limit the number of people occupying any room that is open to the public to 50% capacity of the particular room. Some businesses or facilities have additional capacity restrictions that apply beyond the general capacity requirements.

All businesses or facilities that engage in retail sales to the public must post a sign in a location visible to the public that states the maximum capacity they are permitted to operate under.

Please Note:

- The maximum number of persons permitted in a business or facility that is operating at 50 per cent capacity is determined by taking the total square metres of floor space accessible to the public in the business or facility, not including shelving and store fixtures, dividing that number by 8 and rounding the result down to the nearest whole number
- The maximum number of persons permitted in a business or facility that is operating at 25 per cent capacity is determined by taking the total square metres of floor space accessible to the public in the business or facility, not including shelving and store fixtures, dividing that number by 16 and rounding the result down to the nearest whole number

Cleaning and disinfection

Cleaning and disinfection

Businesses or places that are open shall ensure that equipment, washrooms, locker rooms, change rooms, showers that are accessible to the public are cleaned and disinfected as frequently as is necessary to maintain a sanitary condition.

Face coverings

Businesses or organizations must ensure that masks or face coverings are worn by any person (including members of the public and workers) in the indoor area of the business or organization, with limited exceptions.

Safety plans

Requirement for all businesses open to prepare and make available a [COVID-19 safety plan](#). A copy of the plan shall be made available to any person for review upon request, and be posted where it would come to the attention of individuals working in or attending the business.

General public health measures for all individuals

Stay-at-Home

Physical Distancing

Every person in a place of business or facility that is open to the public shall maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person except from their caregiver or other members of the person's household, with limited exceptions.

Face Coverings

Every person in the premises of a business or organization that is open shall ensure that they wear a mask or face covering that covers their mouth, nose and chin, when they are in indoor areas of the premises, with limited exemptions.

Accessing Closed Indoor and Outdoor Recreational Amenities

No person shall use an indoor or outdoor recreational amenity that is required to be closed.

Organized public events and social gatherings (including religious services, rites or ceremonies), schools, child care, post-secondary institutions and day camps

Events and gatherings

No indoor organized public events and social gatherings, except with members of the same household (the people you live with). Individuals who live alone and single parents may consider having exclusive, close contact with another household to help reduce the negative impacts of social isolation.

Limit for outdoor organized public events and social gatherings, must comply with public health advice on physical distancing:

- 5 people outdoors

Weddings, funerals and other religious services, rites or ceremonies

Weddings, funerals and other religious services, rites or ceremonies where physical distancing can be maintained and in compliance with rules on face coverings:

- 10 people indoors
- 10 people outdoors

Drive-in services, rites or ceremonies permitted, subject to certain conditions.

Virtual services permitted.

Post-secondary institutions

- Post-secondary institutions open for virtual instruction, with limited exceptions where in-person instruction is required (e.g., clinical training, trades). Subject to physical distancing with limited exceptions
- In-person teaching (each instructional space at the institution at one time) and in-person examinations cannot exceed 10 persons, with limited exemptions for:
 - Diagnostic cardiac sonography and diagnostic medical sonography
 - Diagnostic ultrasound
 - Medical imaging
 - Medical laboratory assistant and Medical laboratory technician
 - Medical radiation technology
 - Medicine
 - Mental health and addictions services, including psychology services, social work services and counselling services
 - Nursing
 - Paramedic

- Personal support worker, supportive care worker, home care worker or a similar occupation
- Pharmacy/pharmacy technician
- Public health inspector, if the program is accredited by the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors
- Rehabilitation sciences (nutrition, speech language pathology, occupational science, and physiotherapy)
- Respiratory therapy
- Subject to additional requirements for in-person teaching that involves singing or the playing of brass or wind instruments

Day camps for children

Closed.

Approach in schools and child care

Schools

- Schools in grey zones as of December 18, 2020, remain closed until February 10, 2021 - Windsor, Toronto, Peel, York and Hamilton.
- The Chief Medical Officer of Health will provide advice and an announcement will be made by January 20, 2021 regarding the return to in-person learning in all other PHUs.
- The following new health and safety measures will be introduced to further support protect students province-wide:
 - Mandatory masking for students in Grades 1-3.
 - Masking requirements outdoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained.
 - Enhanced screening protocols will be introduced where recommended by the CMOH. To support this, [Ontario's COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool](#), will be updated to reflect the new screening criteria.
 - Expanded targeted testing

Child care

- Child care for non-school aged children (and JK and kindergarten children not enrolled in school immediately prior to December 21, 2020) will remain open including child care offered in licensed centres and in home-based settings (licensed and unlicensed).
- For regions where schools reopen for in-person learning on January 25, emergency child care for school-aged children of front-line workers will end on January 22. Before and after school programs will be authorized to resume on January 25.
- For regions where schools reopen for in-person learning on February 10, emergency child care for school-aged children of front-line workers will end on February 9. Before and after school programs will be authorized to resume on February 10.
- In addition to the robust health and safety practices already in place in child care settings, the following new health and safety measures will be introduced to further protect children province-wide:
 - Enhanced screening to align with screening requirements at schools
 - Voluntary participation in targeted, asymptomatic testing

Businesses permitted to open and sector specific public health and workplace safety measures:

Refer to [O. Reg. 82/20^{\[1\]}](#) for details.

Supply chain

Businesses that supply businesses or places that are permitted to open within Ontario, or that supply businesses or services that have been declared essential in a jurisdiction outside of Ontario, with the support, products, supplies, systems, or services, including processing, packaging, warehousing, distribution, delivery, and maintenance necessary to operate.

Meeting or event space

Only permitted to open for:

- The operation of child care centres and authorized recreational and skill building programs within the meaning of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*
- Court services
- Government services
- Mental health and addictions support services (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous) permitted to a maximum of 10 people
- Social services

Contact information recording required.

Short-term rentals

Short-term rentals (e.g., cottages, cabins):

- Only to be provided to individuals who are in need of housing

Refer to the Services section for details on motels, hotels, lodges, resorts and other shared rental accommodation, including student residences.

Restaurants, bars, and other food or drink establishments

Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments

- Take out, drive through, and delivery permitted only
- Includes the sale of alcohol

Driving instruction

In-person driving instruction

- No in-person driving instruction permitted except:
 - For instruction for drivers of commercial motor vehicles
 - Where the instruction is part of the Ontario Driver Certification Program administered by the Ministry of Transportation and involves the operation of motor vehicles for which:
 - A class of driver's licence other than Class G, G1, G2, M, M1 or M2 is required
 - An air brake endorsement is required
 - Or that is provided by a private career college, in accordance with certain conditions

Retailers

Supermarkets, convenience stores, indoor farmer's markets and other stores that primarily sell food

- Open for in-person retail, subject to:
 - Members of the public being able to maintain two metres physical distance from every other person in the business or facility and complying with face covering rules
 - The number of persons occupying any room that is open to the public does not exceed 50% capacity of the particular room
- Curbside pick-up and delivery permitted

Pharmacies

- Open for in-person retail, subject to:
 - Members of the public being able to maintain two metres physical distance from every other person in the business or facility and complying with face covering rules
 - The number of persons occupying any room that is open to the public does not exceed 50% capacity of the particular room
- Curbside pick-up and delivery permitted

Discount retailers and big box stores that sell groceries

- Open for in-person retail, subject to:
 - Members of the public being able to maintain two metres physical distance from every other person in the business or facility
 - The number of persons occupying any room that is open to the public does not exceed 25% capacity of the particular room
- Curbside pick-up and delivery permitted

Other retailers:

- Distancing and face covering rules apply
- Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Gas stations and other fuel suppliers

Safety supply stores, businesses that sell, rent or repair assistive/mobility/medical devices, and optical stores that sell prescription eyewear to the public:

- By appointment only
- Curbside pick-up and delivery permitted
- Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Stores that sell liquor, including beer, wine and spirits:

- Limit the number of persons occupying any room that is open to the public in the business does not exceed 25% of the particular room
- Curbside pick-up and delivery permitted
- Operating hours of 9am to 8pm

Shopping malls:

- Closed for in-person retail. Members of the public are only permitted to enter the mall to:
 - Access businesses and organizations permitted to be open (e.g., pharmacy, dentist); food court open for take-away, or by appointment only to facilitate pick-up as set out below
 - Access court services and government services
- Shopping mall may establish:
 - A single designated location inside the shopping mall for order pick-up by patrons. Pick-up inside the shopping mall must be by appointment only
 - Any number of designated locations outside the shopping mall for curbside pick-up by patrons

- Members of the public not permitted to loiter in any area of the shopping mall that is not related to the purpose of their visit
- Must open no earlier than 7 a.m. and close no later than 8 p.m., except to provide access to grocery stores/supermarkets, pharmacies, and health care providers that only have public entrances that face the interior of the mall

Cannabis retail stores operating under the authority of a retail store authorization issued under the Cannabis Licence Act, 2018:

- By curbside pick-up or delivery only; Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- An item may only be provided for curbside pickup if the patron ordered the item before arriving at the business premises

Garden centres:

- Curbside pick-up and delivery permitted; Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- An item may only be provided for curbside pickup if the patron ordered the item before arriving at the business premises

Motor vehicle sales

- Includes cars, trucks and motorcycles; recreational vehicles including motor homes; trailers and travel trailers; boats and other watercraft; and other motorized vehicles, including power-assisted bicycles, golf carts, scooters, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles
- By appointment only
- Members of the public must not be permitted where products are neither sold nor displayed for sale
- Subject to certain conditions related to test drives
- Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Outdoor markets

- Includes farmer's markets and holiday markets only if they primarily sell food to the public
- Must require members of the public to remain outdoors at all times, including for curbside pick-up or delivery
- Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

General Retail (all other retail, including hardware stores, pet food, computer stores, etc.):

- Curbside pick-up or delivery only (in-person retail shopping not permitted)
- An item may only be provided for curbside pickup if the patron ordered the item before arriving at the business premises
- Sales must be exclusively made so patrons are not required to enter the indoor area of the business, including curbside pick-up or delivery
- Operating hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Services

Rental and leasing services, including automobile, commercial and light industrial machinery and equipment rental

- By appointment only

Gas stations and other fuel suppliers

Automated and self-service car washes

Laundromats and drycleaners

Snow clearing and landscaping services

Security services for residences, businesses and other properties

Domestic services

- Only to support children, seniors or vulnerable persons, including housekeeping, cooking, indoor and outdoor cleaning and maintenance services

Vehicle and equipment repair and essential maintenance and vehicle and equipment rental services

- By appointment only

Courier, postal, shipping, moving and delivery services

Funeral and related services

Staffing services including providing temporary help

Veterinary services

- For services that are necessary for the immediate health and welfare of the animal only, or provided through curb side pick-up and drop-off of the animal

Other businesses that provide for the health and welfare of animals, including farms, boarding kennels, stables, animal shelters and research facilities

Businesses that provide pet training exclusively for service animals

Hotels, motels, lodges, cabins, cottages, resorts and other shared rental accommodation, including student residences

Seasonal recreational facilities

- Any indoor pools, indoor fitness centres, or other indoor recreational facilities that are part of the operation of these businesses, are closed
- Pre-arranged booking for short-term rentals prohibited with exceptions for housing requirements

Seasonal campgrounds

- Must be made available only for trailers and recreational vehicles used by individuals in need of housing or are permitted to be there by seasonal contract
- Only campsites with electricity, water service and facilities for sewage disposal may be provided for use
- All recreational and other shared facilities, excluding washrooms and showers must be closed
- Other areas of the seasonal campground must be closed to the general public and must only be opened for the purpose of preparing the seasonal campground for reopening

Community centres

- Permitted to open for:
 - The operation of child care centres and authorized recreational and skill building programs within the meaning of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*
 - Mental health and addictions support services (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous) permitted to a maximum of 10 people
 - Social services

Cheque cashing services

Financial services

- Capital markets and related securities trading and advisory services
- Banking/credit union activities including credit intermediation
- Insurance
- Land registration services
- Pension and benefits payment services
- Financial services including payroll and payment processing and accounting and tax services

Real estate (including pre-sale construction)

Real estate (including pre-sale construction)

- No open houses - showing a property permitted by appointment only

Telecommunications and IT infrastructure/service providers

Information Technology (IT) services, including online services, software products and the facilities necessary for their operation and delivery

Telecommunications providers and services (phone, internet, radio, cell phones etc.) and facilities necessary for their operation and delivery

- Retail stores operated by a telecommunications provider or service may only permit members of the public to enter the premises by appointment and only for repairs or technical support

Newspapers, radio and television broadcasting

Maintenance

Maintenance, repair and property management services that manage and maintain the safety, security, sanitation and operation of institutional, commercial, industrial and residential properties and buildings.

Transportation services

- Businesses and facilities that provide transportation services, including:
 - Transportation services provided by air, water, road, and rail, including taxis and other private transportation providers, and
 - Support services for transportation services, including:
 - logistical support, distribution services, warehousing and storage, truck stops and tow operators, and
 - services that support the operations and safety of transportation systems including maintenance and repairs
 - Marinas, boating clubs and other organizations that maintain docking facilities for members or patrons with conditions
 - Businesses that provide and support online retail, including by providing warehousing, storage and distribution of goods that are ordered online

Manufacturing

- Businesses that extract, manufacture, process and distribute goods, products, equipment and materials, including businesses that manufacture inputs to other manufacturers (e.g. primary metal/ steel, blow molding, component manufacturers, chemicals, etc.) that feed the end-product manufacturer), regardless of whether those other manufacturers are inside or outside of Ontario, together with businesses that support and facilitate the movement of goods within integrated North American and global supply chains

Agriculture and food production

- Businesses that produce food and beverages, and agricultural products including plants, including by

farming, harvesting, aquaculture, hunting and fishing

- Businesses that process, manufacture or distribute food, beverages, crops, agricultural products, animal products and by-products
- Businesses that support the food or agricultural products supply chains and the health and safety of food, animals and plants

Construction

- Permitted construction activities or projects and related services, including land surveying and demolition services.
- Construction projects and services associated with the healthcare sector and long-term care, including new facilities, expansions, renovations and conversion of spaces that could be repurposed for health care space.
- Construction projects and services required to ensure safe and reliable operations of, or to provide new capacity in, provincial and municipal infrastructure, including transit, transportation, energy, mining and justice sectors beyond the day-to-day maintenance.
- Construction projects and services that support the operations of, and provide new capacity in schools, colleges, universities, municipal infrastructure and child care centres within the meaning of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*.
- Construction projects under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program
- Construction projects and services that support the operations of Broadband internet and cellular technologies and services.
- Critical industrial construction activities required for,
 - the maintenance and operations of petrochemical plants and refineries,
 - significant industrial petrochemical projects where preliminary work has already commenced,
 - industrial construction and modifications to existing industrial structures limited solely to work necessary for the production, maintenance, and/or enhancement of Personal Protective Equipment, medical devices (such as ventilators), and other identified products directly related to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Construction projects that are due to be completed before **July 2021** and that would provide additional capacity in the production, processing, manufacturing or distribution of food, beverages or agricultural products.
- Construction projects that were commenced before **January 12, 2021**, and that would,
 - i. provide additional capacity for businesses that provide logistical support, distribution services, warehousing, storage or shipping and delivery services, or
 - ii. provide additional capacity in the operation and delivery of Information Technology (IT) services or telecommunications services.
- Residential construction projects where,
 - a footing permit has been granted for single family, semi-detached and townhomes
 - the project is a condominium, mixed use or other residential building, or
 - the project involves renovations to residential properties and construction work was started before January 12, 2021.
- Construction to prepare a site for an institutional, commercial, industrial or residential development, including any necessary excavation, grading, roads or utilities infrastructure.
- Construction and maintenance activities necessary to temporarily close construction sites that have paused or are not active and to ensure ongoing public safety.
- Below-grade multi-unit residential construction projects, such as apartments and condominiums. The Ontario government also provided that businesses must follow public health measures and should review the workplace safety guidelines.

Construction on any project intended to provide either,

- affordable housing, or
- shelter or supports for vulnerable persons,

If the project is being funded in whole or in part by, or is being undertaken by, any of the following:

- A. the Crown in right of Canada or in right of Ontario,
- B. an agency of the Crown in right of Canada or in right of Ontario,
- C. a municipality,
- D. a service manager as defined in the *Housing Services Act, 2011*, or
- E. a registered charity and not for profit within the meaning of the *Income Tax Act (Canada)*.

Enhanced with:

- Workplace testing

Additional enforcement to ensure compliance

Resources and energy

- Businesses that provide and ensure the domestic and global continuity of supply of resources, including, resource exploration, mining, forestry, aggregates, petroleum, petroleum by-products and chemicals

resources, exploration, mining, refining, aggregates, petroleum, petroleum by products and chemicals

- Electricity generation, transmission, distribution and storage and natural gas distribution, transmission and storage

Community services

Businesses that deliver or support the delivery of community services including:

- Sewage treatment and disposal
- Collecting, transporting, storing, processing, disposing or recycling of any type of waste
- Potable drinking water
- Critical infrastructure repair and maintenance including roads, dams, bridges etc..
- Environmental rehabilitation, management and monitoring, and spill clean-up and response
- Administrative authorities that regulate and inspect businesses
- Professional and social services that support the legal and justice system
- Government services including but not limited to policing and law enforcement, fire and emergency services, paramedics, coroner and pathology services, corrections and court services, licences and permits
- Allotment gardens or community gardens

Facilities for indoor or outdoor sports and recreational fitness activities

- Closure of all indoor and outdoor sports and recreational fitness facilities except for:
 - Facilities operated or for the sole use of high performance athletes, including parasport athletes, and specified professional leagues (e.g., NHL, CFL, MLS, NBA) and
 - Facilities opened solely for specified purposes (e.g. child care)
- Community centres and multi-purpose facilities (e.g., YMCA) allowed to be open for permitted activities (e.g., child care services, mental health and addiction support services [limited to 10 people maximum], social services)
- All subject to conditions

Outdoor recreational amenities

- No person is permitted to use an indoor or outdoor recreational amenity that is required to be closed
- Outdoor recreational amenities permitted to open, subject to conditions, include (weather permitting):
 - Parks and recreational areas
 - Baseball diamonds
 - Batting cages
 - Soccer, football and sports fields
 - Tennis, platform tennis, table tennis and pickleball courts
 - Basketball courts
 - BMX parks
 - Skate parks
 - Golf courses and driving ranges
 - Frisbee golf locations
 - Cycling tracks and bike trails
 - Horse riding facilities
 - Shooting ranges, including those operated by rod and gun clubs
 - Ice rinks
 - Snowmobile, cross country, dogsledding, ice-skating and snow-shoe trails
 - Playgrounds
 - Portions of parks or recreational areas containing outdoor fitness equipment
 - Tobogganing hills and skating trails

Refer to subsequent slide for public health and workplace safety measures.

A permitted outdoor recreational amenity may only open if:

- Any person who enters or uses the amenity maintains a physical distance of at least two metres from other person using the amenity (excluding members of the same household)
- Team sports, or other sports or games where people may come within two metres of each other, are not practiced or played within the amenity
- Any locker rooms, change rooms, showers and clubhouses remain closed, except to the extent they provide access to equipment storage, a washroom or a portion of the amenity that is used to provide first aid

Ski hills are closed.

Research

- Businesses and organizations that maintain research facilities and engage in research, including medical research and other research and development activities

Health care and social services

- Organizations and providers that deliver home care services or personal support services to seniors and

- persons with disabilities
- Regulated health professionals
- Professionals or organizations that provide in-person counselling services
- Organizations that provide health care including retirement homes, hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, independent health facilities and mental health and addictions counselling supports
- Laboratories and specimen collection centres
- Manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and retailers of pharmaceutical products and medical supplies, including medications, medical isotopes, vaccines and antivirals, medical devices and medical supplies
- Manufacturers, distributors and businesses that provide logistical support of or for products and/or services that support the delivery of health care in all locations
- Organizations that provide critical personal support services in home or residential services for individuals with physical disabilities
- Organizations that support the provision of food, shelter, safety or protection, and/or social services and other necessities of life to economically disadvantaged and other vulnerable individuals
- Businesses that are primarily engaged in the provision of health and safety training with conditions

Media industries

Sound recording, production, publishing and distribution businesses

Film and television production, including all supporting activities such as hair, makeup and wardrobe:

- No studio audiences permitted to be on the film or television set
- No more than 10 performers may be permitted to be on the film or television set
- Set must be configured and operated in such a way as to enable persons on the set to maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from other persons, except where necessary for the filming of the film or television production
- Persons who provide hair or makeup services must wear appropriate personal protective equipment
- Singers and players of brass or wind instruments must be separated from any other performers by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier

Film and television postproduction, visual effects and animation studios

Book and periodical production, publishing and distribution businesses

Commercial and industrial photography

- Does not permit retail studios to open

Interactive digital media businesses, including:

- Computer system software or application developers and publishers, and
- Video game developers and publishers

Entertainment

Concert venues, theatres and cinemas

- Closed, including drive-in or drive-through events

Libraries

Libraries may open:

- For contactless curbside, delivery, and pick-up
- For permitted services (e.g., child care services, mental health and addiction support services to a limit of 10 persons [AA meetings], provision of social services)
- If they ensure that circulating materials returned to the library are disinfected or quarantined for an appropriate period of time before they are recirculated
- Contact information recording required

Museums and cultural amenities

Closed

Horse racing

- Training only, no races, no members of the public (i.e., spectators)

Night clubs and strip clubs

- Only permitted to open if they operate as a food or drink establishment, subject to conditions that apply to restaurants and bars, etc.,

Zoos and aquariums

Zoos and aquariums:

- Closed to the public
- Permitted to operate for the care of animals

Amusement parks, water parks

Closed.

Bathhouses and sex clubs

Closed.

Tour and guide services

Closed.

Motorsports

Closed.

Personal care services

Closed.

Casinos, Bingo Halls and Gaming Establishments

Closed.

CMOH advice to Ontarians for the provincewide shutdown

General

- Ontarians should stay home to the fullest extent possible
- Trips outside of the home should be limited and only for essential purposes (accessing health care and medication, grocery shopping, child care, exercise alone or people in your household (the people you live with) and in the community where you live, walking pets when required, and supporting vulnerable community members to meet the needs above)
- Remote work should happen in **all industries** to the greatest extent possible
 - Employers should enable and support workers to work remotely and accommodate household needs related to virtual education and dependent care
- Face coverings should be tightly fitted to cover the nose, mouth and chin. Scarves and bandanas are insufficient

Close contact, gatherings and events

- **Indoor organized public events and social gatherings are not permitted except with members of the same household.** Limit close contact to your household (the people you live with):
 - Families should not visit any other household or allow visitors in their homes
 - Individuals who live alone and single parents may consider having exclusive, close contact with another household to help reduce the negative impacts of social isolation
 - Virtual gatherings or events are the safest way to visit or recognize occasions with people outside your household, especially during the holiday season
- Maintain two metres of physical distancing from everyone outside of your household (who you do not live with)
- Wear a face covering indoors; outdoors if physical distancing cannot be maintained; or if wearing one is required

Travel within Ontario

- Stay home. Travel outside your region should be limited to only essential purposes.

Inter-provincial travel

- Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. Travel out of province should be limited to only essential purposes
- Individuals and families who arrive or return to Ontario during the Provincewide Shutdown period should self-isolate for 14 days upon arrival

Plan for a return to the COVID-19 response framework

- At the end of the Provincewide Shutdown period, the COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open will be re-enacted.
- While data will continue to be monitored weekly, the CMOH will review trends in key public health indicators in the final week of the Provincewide Shutdown period and indicators from each public health unit region will be assessed to determine the appropriate zone for each PHU region under the framework.
- The Chief Medical Officer of Health will assess and apply lessons learned thus far to the COVID-19 Response Framework to ensure appropriate and effective measures are in place to protect the health of Ontarians and enable economic recovery after the Provincewide Shutdown ends. This will include an assessment of how a revised approach for the safe re-opening of retail may be operationalized, according to the latest available evidence.

Appendix A: List of eligible workers (child care only)

1. An individual who is,
 - i. a regulated health professional, or
 - ii. an unregulated health care provider working in health care delivery, either directly or indirectly.
2. Individuals who work for manufacturers and distributors of pharmaceutical products and medical supplies,

- including medications, medical isotopes, vaccines and antivirals and medical devices.
3. A police officer as defined in the *Police Services Act*.
 4. A special constable appointed pursuant to section 53 of the *Police Services Act*.
 5. A member of a police force other than a police officer as defined in the *Police Services Act*.
 6. A First Nations Constable appointed pursuant to section 54 of the *Police Services Act* or a member of a police service in which policing is delivered by First Nations Constables.
 7. A provincial offences officer as defined in the *Provincial Offences Act*.
 8. An individual employed by the Ministry of the Attorney General or a municipality in Ontario who is required to work on site to support the administration of the Ontario Court of Justice, the Superior Court of Justice or the Court of Appeal for Ontario, including,
 - o court services representatives, court and client representatives, court clerks, court registrars, court reporters, enforcement officers and any other administrative officers and employees that are considered necessary for the administration of the courts,
 - o business professionals and Crown prosecutors of the Criminal Law Division, and
 - o employees of the Victim/Witness Assistance Program.
 9. An individual who provides essential justice-related frontline services to Indigenous persons involved in the justice system and who is employed by an Indigenous community or Indigenous organization through a program funded by the Ministry of the Attorney General, including,
 - o the Indigenous Courtwork Program,
 - o the Indigenous Bail Verification and Supervision Program, or
 - o the Indigenous Bail Beds Program.
 10. An individual who is engaged in the delivery of frontline victim services funded by the Ministry of the Attorney General under the Ontario Victim Services program.
 11. An individual employed as a firefighter as defined in the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*.
 12. An individual who is,
 - i. engaged in providing fire protection services as defined in the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*,
 - ii. employed in a fire department as defined in the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, or
 - iii. employed in the Office of the Fire Marshal and whose duties include being a fire investigator or supervising or managing fire investigators.
 13. A paramedic as defined in the *Ambulance Act*.
 14. A coroner as defined in the *Coroners Act*.
 15. A worker in a correctional institution as defined in the *Ministry of Correctional Services Act* or an independent contractor who supplies services to correctional institutions, including, but not limited to, employees of Trilcor.
 16. Probation and parole officers as described in the *Ministry of Correctional Services Act*, including institutional liaison officers, court liaison officers, individuals employed as assistant area managers and area managers of staff at probation and parole offices and the administrative and support staff at these offices.
 17. An individual employed in the Institutional Services Division of the Ministry of the Solicitor General, including a person employed in a correctional institution as defined in section 1 of the *Ministry of Correctional Services Act*.
 18. An individual employed in the Operational Support Division of the Correctional Services Recruitment and Training Centre in the Ministry of the Solicitor General who,
 - i. provides facilities or maintenance services, or
 - ii. is a Senior Staff Development Officer or Manager of Customized Training.
 19. An employee of Compass Group Canada Ltd. who works at or provides services in relation to the Cook Chill Food Production Centre.
 20. An individual employed in the Ministry of the Solicitor General who performs one or more of the following functions for the Institutional Services Division or Community Services Division:
 - i. Performing electronic monitoring services.
 - ii. Performing CPIC searches.
 - iii. Preparing community supervision orders.
 21. An individual employed in the Ministry of the Solicitor General at the Centre for Forensic Sciences who is involved in supporting and conducting forensic testing and analysis.
 22. An individual employed in the Ministry of the Solicitor General at the provincial Forensic Pathology Unit.
 23. An individual employed in the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre or at the Ministry of the Solicitor General's Emergency Operations Centre.
 24. An animal welfare inspector appointed pursuant to the *Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019* or an individual employed by the Ministry of the Solicitor General in the Animal Welfare Services Branch who is directly involved in supporting animal welfare inspectors.
 25. An individual employed in the operation of,
 - i. a place of secure custody designated under section 24.1 of the *Young Offenders Act (Canada)*, whether in accordance with section 88 of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act (Canada)* or otherwise, or
 - ii. a place of secure temporary detention as defined in subsection 2 (1) of the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017*.
 26. Persons, other than foster parents, who deliver or directly support the delivery of residential care, treatment and supervision to children and young persons residing in residential settings licensed under the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017*.
 27. An individual employed by a children's aid society designated under section 34 of the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017* to provide services necessary for the performance of a children's aid society's

- functions, as set out in section 35 (1) of that Act.
28. An individual employed by a service agency as defined in section 1 of the *Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008*, to provide services and supports, within the meaning of section 4 of that Act, to adults with developmental disabilities.
 29. An individual who is engaged in the delivery of services funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services under the Violence Against Women Support Services or the Anti-Human Trafficking Community Supports programs.
 30. A staff member of a transfer payment recipient funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services who is engaged or employed to deliver interpreting or intervenor services for persons who are deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or deafblind.
 31. Persons employed in the Direct Operated Facilities Branch of the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.
 32. An individual who performs work that is essential to the delivery of core services in a municipality or First Nation community, as determined by the municipality or First Nation.
 33. An individual who performs work of a critical nature in their service area or community, as determined by the Minister of Education or his delegate in consultation with the relevant service system manager or First Nation as those terms are defined under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*.
 34. An individual who works in a child care centre or who otherwise provides child care in accordance with the requirements in this Order.
 35. A staff member of a school as defined in the Education Act who provides in-person instruction at a school to pupils with special education needs who cannot be accommodated through remote learning
 36. A member of the Canadian Armed Forces or an employee of the Department of National Defence.
 37. All persons employed in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry who are engaged in,
 - i. prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response or recovery actions, as applicable, with respect to,
 - A. fires as defined in the *Forest Fires Prevention Act*,
 - B. floods,
 - C. dam failures, or
 - D. emergencies relating to oil and gas exploration or production, hydrocarbon underground storage, and salt solution mining, or
 - ii. the provision of support services to Conservation Officers through the operation of the Ministry's Provincial Communications Unit.
 38. A person who holds a licence issued under section 13 of the *Private Security and Investigative Services Act, 2005* to act as a security guard.
 39. Staff as defined in the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010*.
 40. Licensees as defined in the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010* who are individuals and who work or provide services at a retirement home.
 41. Staff as defined in the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007*.
 42. An individual who is an inspector appointed under the *Food Safety and Quality Act, 2001* or a field-person or officer appointed under the *Milk Act*.
 43. An individual employed in the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development in Radiation Protection Services.
 44. An individual who is employed by any of the following entities to carry out work that is deemed by the entity to be critical to the ongoing generation, transmission, distribution and storage of electricity sufficient to meet the demands of the province of Ontario:
 - i. the Independent Electricity System Operator
 - ii. a generator, transmitter or distributor within the meaning of the *Electricity Act, 1998*
 45. An individual who performs work that is essential to the operation of,
 - i. a municipal drinking water system as defined in section 2 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*
 - ii. a non-municipal year-round residential system as defined in section 1 of Ontario Regulation 170/03 (Drinking Water Systems) made under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, or
 - iii. a wastewater treatment facility or a wastewater collection facility as those terms are defined in section 1 of Ontario Regulation 129/04 (Licensing of Sewage Works Operators) made under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* and to which that Regulation applies
 46. An employee of a hotel or motel that is acting as an isolation centre, health care centre, vaccine clinic or that is housing essential workers.
 47. An individual working in a homeless shelter or providing services to homeless persons.
 48. An individual who works for a business that processes, manufactures or distributes food or beverages.
 49. Members, officers and special constables appointed under the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act* who are working in Ontario.
 50. Officers as defined in the *Customs Act* (Canada) who are working in Ontario.
 51. Employees of the Canada Post Corporation who are working in Ontario.

As listed in [O. Reg. 82/20: RULES FOR AREAS IN STAGE 1](#)

- [1] ^ The regulation that establishes the rules for the Provincewide Shutdown is [O. Reg. 82/20](#). Clicking on this link will take you to the most recent version of the consolidated regulation published on e-Laws. The e-Laws currency date appears at the top of the consolidated regulation. Proposed amendments to regulations do not appear on e-Laws. Amendments to regulations are initially published as “source law” on the e-Laws website.



Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health works to help people stay healthy, delivering high-quality care when they need it and protecting the health system for future generations.

[about Ontario](#) [accessibility](#) [news](#) [privacy](#) [terms of use](#)

© Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2012-21

Contact Us



Topics

Arts and culture
Business and economy
Driving and roads
Education and training
Environment and energy
Government
Health and wellness
Home and community
Jobs and employment
Law and safety
Rural and north
Taxes and benefits
Travel and recreation

