



Riley County Issues New Local Health Order for Phase 1.5

(RILEY COUNTY, KS – May 15, 2020) Riley County Local Health Officer Julie Gibbs issued Order No. 8 which goes into effect at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, May 18. This order is issued in response to the Governor's Phase 1.5 Plan to Reopen Kansas. The new order replaces the previous Local Health Order No. 7 but keeps the requirement that restaurants close by 10:00 p.m.

Local Order No. 8 removes the restrictions on child care providers.

All businesses and locations that are allowed to reopen under the Governor's Plan are required to take proactive measures to ensure compliance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as industry-specific guidance published by trade groups. Nothing in this order should be interpreted to require that any business must open if they choose not to.

Key Phase 1.5 highlights from the Governor's Order:

- Mass gatherings of more than 10 individuals continue to be prohibited;
- Nail salons, barber shops, hair salons, tanning salons, tattoo parlors and other personal service businesses where close contact cannot be avoided may open, but only for pre-scheduled appointments or online check-in;
- Fitness centers and health clubs may open, but in-person group classes may not occur and locker rooms must be closed except as necessary to use restroom facilities.
- In-person commencement or graduation ceremonies may occur with no more than 10 individuals in a room, gymnasium, or facility at one time as long as 6-foot social distancing is maintained. Outdoor drive-through graduation ceremonies during which no more than 10 individuals are in the same area outside of their vehicles at a time (i.e. school administration, graduate, family members, etc.) are allowed.

Under Phase 1.5, the following, unless they are repurposed for use in an essential function under the Kansas Essential Function Framework, shall remain closed to the public:

- Bars and night clubs, excluding already operating curbside and carryout services;
- Non-tribal Casinos;



- Theaters, museums, and other indoor leisure spaces (trampoline parks, arcades, etc.);
- Community centers;
- Outdoor and indoor large entertainment venues with capacity of 2,000 or more;
- Fairs, festivals, carnivals, parades;
- Swimming pools (other than backyard pools);
- Organized sports facilities, sports tournaments, sports games, and sports practices; and
- Summer camps.

For more information about Riley County's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, visit the Riley County website at <https://www.rileycountyks.gov/covid19>, follow RCHD on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Rileycountyhealthdepartment/> and Twitter @RileyCoHealth.

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FAQ for Phase 1.5

Why do restaurants have to close at 10:00 p.m.?

Guidance from the Manhattan Area Recovery Task Force revealed that restaurant kitchens typically close by 10:00 p.m. To comply with the Governor's Order, which does not allow bars and nightclubs to open during this phase, the Local Health Officer and Incident Command Staff made the decision to close restaurants at the time kitchens close.

Why can't group fitness reopen?

The Governor's Phase 1.5 restrictions do not allow group fitness classes. Organized sports facilities, tournaments, and practices as well as group sessions are not allowed until at least June 1. Once Phase 2 is reached, you may be able to resume at that time, but you will have to wait until those restrictions and guidelines are released a few days before.

Can personal trainers assist patrons in gyms?

Yes. According to the Governor's guidance, personal trainers and one-on-one sessions are not specifically prohibited, and can therefore operate.



Can locker rooms in gyms open?

No. Locker rooms must remain closed except to allow patrons to use restroom facilities.

Are playgrounds open in Phase 1.5?

The State does not explicitly disallow playground equipment. The decision to allow children to use playground equipment will continue to be under the purview of local governments and/or the organizations that may own this equipment. Riley County and the State's only restriction is that all businesses or facilities that are allowed to operate must maintain social distancing and follow fundamental cleaning guidelines. Groups larger than 10 are not allowed during Phase 1.5.

Playgrounds that can't maintain these guidelines should not reopen.

Are wedding receptions permitted in Phase 1.5?

This depends on two factors: the venue in which the wedding reception is held AND the ability of that reception to adhere to social distancing and mass gathering guidelines.

For example, if a reception is held at a large venue or a community center, it would not be allowed because those facilities are not allowed in Phase 1.5. Similarly, if a wedding reception cannot avoid instances in which groups of 10 or more individuals are gathered together within 6-feet, it cannot occur. In other words, if a reception cannot maintain social distancing guidelines, it cannot occur.

Are self-serve drinks and buffets allowed in Phase 1.5?

Self-serve drinks and buffets are not recommended under FDA and KDA guidelines, but are not prohibited under Phase 1.5.

Can more than 10 people be in a building?

Yes, the 10 person limit applies to groups of people gathered closely together, not to the total number of people allowed in a building.

Are golf carts still limited to one person each?

Yes, golf carts can carry multiple people in Phase 1.5. However, strangers should not ride together if that can be avoided.



Are salon employees and customers required to wear masks?

Yes. Employees and clients performing personal services are required to wear masks.

Can customers sit in waiting areas?

Yes, waiting areas are not closed in Phase 1.5. Social distancing rules still apply and strangers should stay 6 feet apart. It's a good idea to ask customers to wait in their cars until their appointment begins.

Are walk-in clients allowed at personal service businesses?

No. All customers at salons, tattoo shops, and other personal service businesses must make appointments. No walk-in service is allowed.

Do businesses need to limit the number of customers in their shops at one time?

All businesses should limit the number of customers to avoid crowding and allow for proper social distancing, at least 6 feet of space between customers or groups of customers.

What is the difference between a bar and a restaurant?

The categories are determined by the type of license held. A restaurant will carry a category 1 or 2 license issued by the state. Any business with just a category 3 license is considered a bar and is not allowed to open.