Executive Order Info

This order serves as a minimum requirement that must be followed – cities, counties, and businesses are allowed and encouraged to create more strict rules and regulations but they cannot do less.

1. Mandates all Mississippians avoid social gatherings or other non-essential gatherings in groups of 10 or more, except in the following circumstances:
   a. Essential Businesses or Operations providing essential services or functions may operate at such a level as necessary to provide essential services or functions and shall not be subject to any 10 person gathering limitation or any other limitation or restriction but shall take reasonable measures to ensure compliance with the CDC and the Mississippi Department of Health recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19 including social distancing, sending sick employees home, separating and sending home employees who appear to have respiratory illness symptoms. Essential Businesses are defined as:
      i. Essential Government functions including public safety and first responders, law enforcement, fire prevention and response, courts and court personnel, military, emergency management personnel, corrections, probation and parole, child protection, child welfare, EMT, 911 call center employees, all workers and vendors that support law enforcement and emergency management operations and services;
      ii. Essential healthcare operations including hospitals/clinics, research and laboratory operations, nursing homes, residential health care facilities, congregate care facilities, assisted living facilities, elder care, medical wholesale and distribution, home health workers and aides, medical supply and equipment manufactures and providers, medical waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, other ancillary healthcare services;
      iii. Essential infrastructure including utilities including power generation, nuclear facilities, utility poles and components, fuel and transmission, petroleum producers, suppliers and distributors, supply chain companies, telecommunications, electronic security, and life safety services, wireless communication, communications sales and customer support, telecommunication and data centers, cybersecurity operations, flood control, operation of dams, aviation, airports, ports, roads, and highways, mass transit, automotive sales and report, vehicle rental services, taxi and network providers, freight and passenger rail, pipelines, transportation infrastructure, public water and wastewater, hazardous waste disposal, hotels and commercial lodging services;
      iv. Manufacturing including food processing and production, pharmaceuticals, food additives, medical equipment, medical devices and supplies, technology, biotechnology, chemical products, telecommunications products, automotive production and suppliers, healthcare, energy, steel and steel products, fuel and petroleum exploration and production, lubricants, greases and engine oils, mining, national
defense, sanitary and cleaning products, household products, personal care products, products used by any other Essential Business or Operation;

v. Agriculture and farm including food cultivation, livestock, cattle, poultry and seafood operations, livestock auctions, feedlots, dealers and brokers of livestock, livestock transporters, farmer’s markets, feed stores, report of agriculture equipment, gas, diesel and petroleum suppliers, aquaculture, horticulture, chemicals including pesticides, herbicides and fertilizer producers and distributors, forest products businesses, including those involved in forestry operations, logging, manufacture of lumber and paper products, meat processing facilities, rendering facilities and transporters, feed processing facilities, veterinary services;

vi. Essential retail including all supermarkets, food and beverage stores, food providers, convenience stores, pharmacies, hardware and building materials, gas stations, restaurants or bars (but only to the extent that (1) not more than 10 people are gathered in such restaurants or bars in a single space at the same time where individuals are in seated or otherwise in close proximity to each other; or (2) for curbside pick-up, carryout, or delivery:

vii. Essential services including trash collection, mail, and shipping services, home report, automotive sales and report, warehouse, distribution and fulfillment centers, laundromats/laundry service;

viii. Media including newspapers, digital news sites, television, radio and other media services;

ix. Education including educators supporting public and private K-12 schools, colleges and universities, educational institutions, for purpose of facilitating distance learning, performing crucial research or other essential functions including public schools preparing and transporting free and reduced meals to eligible students within their respective districts;

x. Financial services including banks and related financial institutions, insurance, payroll, accounting, processing financial transactions, services related to financial markets;

xi. Professional services including legal services, accounting services, insurance services, real estate services (including appraisal and title services);

xii. Providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged populations including businesses, religious and secular non-profit organizations, food banks, foster care, homeless shelters and congregate care facilities;

xiii. Construction and construction related services including building and construction, lumber, building materials and hardware, electricians, plumbers, exterminators, cleaning and janitorial, HVACR and water heating industry, painting, moving and relocating services, other skilled trades, and other related construction firms and professionals for maintaining essential infrastructure;

xiv. Essential services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation and essential operations of residences and essential businesses and essential business operations, including law enforcement, fire prevention and response,
firearm and ammunition manufacturers and retailers, building code enforcement, security, emergency management and response, building cleaning including disinfection, automate sales and repair, mortuaries and cemeteries;

xv. Defense Industrial Base including employers and personnel who support the essential products and services required to meet national security commitments to the Federal Government and the US Military, including personnel working for companies and their subcontractors, who perform under contract to the Department of Defense providing materials and services to the Department of Defense and government-owned/contractor-operated and government-owned/government-operated facilities;

xvi. Vendors that provide essential services or products, including logistics and technology support, child care programs and services, medical waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, services needed to ensure the continuing operation of Essential Business or operation, operation of government agencies, and to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public;

xvii. Religious entities including religious and faith-based facilities, entities and groups, religious gatherings provided that they adhere to the CDC and the Mississippi Department of Health recommendations and guidance to prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

xviii. Other categories as defined by the US Homeland Security and Infrastructure Agency and the MS Department of Health, MEMA, and other agency approved by the State of Mississippi

2. Mandates restaurants, bars, or other dining establishments shall suspend dine-ins services unless able to reduce capacity to allow no more than 10 people to be gathered in a single space at the same time where individuals are seated or otherwise in close proximity to each other. However, the use of drive-thru, carryout, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged.

3. Persons shall not visit hospitals, nursing homes, and retirement or long-term care facilities unless:
   a. To provide critical assistance;
   b. To visit residents receiving imminent end-of-life care; or
   c. Otherwise as directed by the healthcare facility, provided in the professional opinion of the supervising physician or other supervising healthcare professional at such facility that such visits can be accomplished without unreasonable risk to staff or other residents of such facilities

4. Essential employees of governmental entities should work from home to the extent feasible in order to minimize the interaction and risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 by employees, it is also recommended and encouraged that all Mississippi businesses and non-profit entities utilize to the maximum extent possible, work from home or other telework procedures.