

FAQs related to June 11 amended Public Health Order

What businesses are allowed to re-open in this next phase?

Campgrounds, day camps, family entertainment centers (bowling alley, mini golf, batting cages, arcades and movie theaters), zoos/indoor museums, gyms/fitness facilities, hotels/lodging for tourism, and bars/wineries—with protocols in place to minimize transmission of and exposure to COVID-19.

Daycare centers are also included in this next phase from the State of California, but have already been permitted to reopen in Yuba-Sutter. Still, these facilities should review guidance from the California Department of Public Health to make sure they are in full compliance.

What is still not open?

In-person K-12 schooling is not yet permitted to reopen in Yuba-Sutter until the start of the new school year in mid-August.

The State of California has not permitted the reopening of nail salons, tattoo parlors, live performance theaters, theme parks and festivals.

What do I have to do to reopen my business?

All businesses that have been permitted to reopen –whether recently or “essential” businesses that have remained open this entire time – should review State guidances (<https://bit.ly/3cO7TSA>) as well as local protocols (<https://bit.ly/3dVdY00>) to ensure they are in compliance.

In short, these guidances outline protocols you should have in place to minimize exposure and risk. Protocols ensure physical distancing of 6 feet or more among patrons and staff; disinfection/sanitation; contactless methods as much as possible; symptoms screenings before shift start for each employee; and the wearing of facial coverings when adequate social distancing of 6 feet or more is not possible between non-household members.

Will businesses look different when I go out with my family and friends?

Yes. Businesses must have proper protocols in place to minimize exposure to and transmission of the virus. This means tables and seating will be spread out to ensure proper social distancing, and seating capacity will likely be less than what you're used to.

Businesses may also ask if you're sick upon entry, and some may require you wear facial coverings upon entry.

Please be patient with businesses who work to ensure the health and safety of patrons and staff as we navigate through this pandemic.

If we're opening up, then COVID-19 must not be as much a danger as before?

No. The State and Yuba-Sutter Public Health teams recognize that COVID-19 remains an ongoing threat. In recent days, the hospitalization rate in Yuba-Sutter has risen.

BUT—recognizing the totality of health and how important it is to go to work to provide for your family and buy necessary medications, and minimize the mental health ramifications of this crisis, Public Health officials believe residents can alter their behavior to make smart decisions that lessen the risk of being exposed to the virus and transmitting it to others.

Why are you putting these rules in place like wearing facial coverings?

Social distancing of 6 feet or more between non-household members, wearing a facial covering when social distancing is not possible, practicing good hand hygiene, asking everyone to stay home when sick, and requiring businesses to put protocols in place will help lessen the impact of COVID-19 when practiced all together.

One person wearing a facial covering won't do much; most residents practicing these tenets will make an impact for the better.

COVID-19 is highly contagious, so we look to the science of how it spreads, to determine how to combat it. Since it is spread through respiratory droplets (from coughing, sneezing, laughing, sneezing, talking, singing), these tenets help lessen the chances of those droplets being spread to others.

If I'm wearing a facial covering, why does it matter if I hang out a group of 10 versus at a concert of 100?

The virus is highly contagious, but also depends on how many people are in close physical contact for an extended period of time.

Your chances of getting COVID-19 passing by someone at the grocery store is less than getting it from a family member or friend—who you are more likely to be talking to/hugging/hanging out with in close proximity for a longer period of time.

When you hang out with a smaller group of people you know, that also helps with contact tracing. So, if you test positive for COVID-19, our Public Health team will have an easier time tracking down your contacts to tell them they were in contact with a positive case (privacy will be respected). Those people will be asked to be tested and quarantined to break the chain of transmission.

The ultimate goal is to keep residents from getting sick and experiencing severe symptoms, hospitalization and death. Another goal is to keep our local hospital from becoming overrun with cases, which can happen easily as we've seen a sharp increase in hospitalizations over the past several days.