

[West Virginia Strong, the Comeback in Jefferson County](#)

As the Governor has announced, the State is slowly allowing re-opening of businesses week by week. His [West Virginia Strong – The Comeback](#) plan outlines guidance and specific dates in which businesses are allowed to reopen. This document is intended to collect and simplify the State's various business requirements during the course of the re-opening. This means that some provisions in the document are in effect now, some are in effect on May 18, 2020 (the beginning of Week 4), and some go into effect on Thursday, May 21, 2020. The dates for the provisions are specifically described at various points throughout the document below, and the specific dates for each of those business categories is listed.

The following are some Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What businesses can be open right now?

- a. All Businesses classified as Essential in the [Governor's Order 9-20](#). Some examples of these businesses are generally classified as:
 - i. Healthcare
 - ii. Grocery stores and Pharmacies
 - iii. Food, Beverage, and Agriculture This includes farms and Restaurants, but note that Restaurants may only serve customers via drive through and outdoor seating.
 - iv. Essential Government Functions
 - v. Human Service Organizations and Child Care Facilities and Providers
 - vi. Essential Infrastructures
 - vii. Manufacture, Distribution, and supply chain for Critical Products and Industries
 - viii. Gas Stations and some other Transportation and Travel related
 - ix. Hardware and Supply Stores
 - x. Critical Trades
 - xi. Mail and Shipping
 - xii. Religious Entities
 - xiii. Laundry
 - xiv. Professional Services
 - xv. Note that the categories listed are SOME of the GENERAL categories, you should look at the language of the 9-20 Order for additional businesses and specifics.

- b. The following entities that are listed in the Governor's Safer at Home plan as permitted to open in Week 2 ***beginning Monday, May 4th***:
 - i. [Small Businesses with fewer than 10 employees](#)
 - ii. [Restaurants with takeaway service or outdoor dining](#)
 - iii. [Religious entities and funeral homes](#)
 - iv. [Barbershops, hair salons, nail salons, pet grooming, and other professional services regulated by the WV Board of Barbers and Cosmetologists](#)

- c. The following entities that are listed in the Governor's Safer at Home plan as permitted to open in Week 3 **beginning Monday, May 11th**:
 - i. [Wellness Centers operated by or with West Virginia licensed health care providers](#)
 - ii. [Drive-in movie theaters](#)
 - iii. [Outdoor guided fishing and rock climbing](#) (*Effective as of May 15th*)

- d. The following entities that are listed in the Governor's Safer at Home plan as permitted to open in Week 4 **beginning Monday, May 18th**:
 - i. [Fitness Centers](#)

- e. The following entities that are listed in the Governor's Safer at Home plan as permitted to open in Week 4 **beginning Thursday, May 21st**:
 - i. [Indoor Dining at Restaurants](#)
 - ii. [Large/specialty Retail Stores](#)
 - iii. [State Park Campgrounds for in-state residents only](#)
 - iv. [Hatfield McCoy Trail System](#)
 - v. [Outdoor recreation rentals](#) (Kayaks, bicycles, boats, rafts, canoes, ATs, and similar equipment)
 - vi. Outdoor motorsport and powersport racing with no spectators
 - vii. [Tanning businesses](#)
 - viii. [Whitewater rafting](#)
 - ix. [Ziplining](#)

- f. NOTE that businesses that are specifically mentioned in the Governor's West Virginia Strong; The Comeback plan as opening during a subsequent week are not allowed to re-open under the small business category and must wait until further guidelines are issued for that specific category of business.

- g. [Executive Order 14-20](#), requiring out-of-state travelers to self-quarantine, will be lifted on May 21. The Governor's guide to safely operating lodging facilities can be viewed [here](#).

2. What Social Distancing Requirements are Currently Imposed on Businesses?

- a. All businesses included in Weeks 1-4 will be required to operate with physical distancing measures in effect and will also be required to implement efforts to increase sanitation and the use of face coverings. See the links above for the requirements for each industry.
 - i. In addition to the guidelines outlined by the Governor, all non-essential businesses, with the exception of indoor dining, permitted to open must continue to follow the requirements of [W.Va. 64 CSR 114](#). These requirements include:
 - 1. No more than 2 members of the public may enter a business per 1,000 square feet of customer floor space at any given time.
 - 2. Businesses of less than 1,000 square feet shall not permit that space to be occupied by more than 5 persons, including employees, at any given time.

3. For businesses whose sales are comprised of at least 80% grocery food products or more, no more than 3 members of the public may enter per 1,000 square feet of customer floor space.
 4. All businesses should track the number of people who enter and leave to control capacity.
 5. Display directives to public at each point of entry
 - b. All businesses permitted to open (as well as all citizens) should continue to practice social distancing measures, including wearing masks in public and limiting non-essential travel.
3. **What about Telework?**
 - a. Employers should, to the maximum extent possible, continue to allow employees to work remotely.
4. **What are the “Hot-Spot” restrictions?**
 - a. The most relevant additional “Hot-Spot” Restrictions are:
 - i. Social gatherings should be limited no more than 5 individuals. This restriction does not apply to businesses.
 - ii. The Health Department can issue additional restrictions if needed, but has not done so at this time.
5. All residents should comply with the Governor’s [Safer at Home Order](#).

Please note that the above is a summary, and may not address all issues. Additionally, the rules are created by the State government and are constantly evolving to meet the needs of the crisis, and therefore may be subject to change or re-interpretation. For additional information please visit <https://governor.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx>. Consult with the Board of Health with more specific questions.