

COVID-19 Update 3/19/2020

CDPHE Issues Order Limiting All Gatherings/Meetings to 10 People!



Effective at 12:01 AM on March 19, 2020, all mass gatherings shall be limited to no more than ten (10) people. Gatherings subject to this Order include, but are not limited to, community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based events, sporting events with spectators, concerts, conventions, fundraisers, parades, fairs, festivals, and any similar event or activity that brings together (10) or more persons in a single room or space at the same time in a venue such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, private club, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space.

This Order takes effect at 12:01 AM on March 19, 2020 and remains in effect for (30) days, unless otherwise extended in writing by the Executive Director.

Congress Finalizes COVID-19 Response Act: *Prepare To Provide Paid Sick Leave & FMLA*

The Senate passed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act today, an economic stimulus plan aimed at addressing the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on Americans and introducing paid sick leave and an expanded family and medical leave act to the nation's employers. An earlier version of this Act (H.R. 6201) was previously passed by the House in the early hours of Saturday, March 14 before being significantly altered late Monday, March 16. The bill now awaits President Trump's signature, which is expected later today or tomorrow as he has already publicly supported the bill. Once he signs the bill, it will become effective in 15

days.

[Click here to read more from our partners at Fisher & Phillips, LLP](#)

Governor's Order to Close Restaurants & Gymnasiums, Theaters & Casinos:

Earlier this week, Governor Jared Polis issued an [executive order](#) closing all on-site restaurants, theaters, gymnasiums, and casinos for the next 30 days. In the short time after the order was released last night, it was interpreted to have exempted hotel restaurants; however, that is not the case. **ALL restaurants in the state must close for on-premise dining and may only offer to-go and room service.**

[Click here for the Colorado Department of Environmental Health & Sustainability's Implementation Order](#), which includes important information for those who choose to continue operating for to-go or room service.

In addition, the Governor's order requires that all gymnasiums close for 30 days. Unfortunately, they did not define gymnasium and **out of an abundance of caution, we suggest that you close your fitness center until you can consult with an attorney.**

[Click here for the full order](#). Please don't hesitate to contact [Amie Mayhew](#) with questions or for more information.

Resources For Employers & Employees

As many of you are facing the difficult task of laying off employees, below is information and links to resources that might be useful:

Unemployment Benefits

Individuals who have been released from employment can [click here](#) to file a claim for regular unemployment and job attached (Job attached means that you are expected to return to your most recent employer after a separation of up to 16

weeks.) unemployment. Individuals are eligible to file a claim as early as their last day of work.

Work-Share Program

The Work-Share program provides an alternative to laying off employees by allowing them to keep working, but with fewer hours. While an employee is working fewer hours, they may be eligible to collect parts of their regular unemployment benefits.

Requirements for employers:

1. You must have reduced the normal weekly work hours by at least 10%, but by no more than 40%.
2. The reduction must affect at least two out of all employees in the business, or a minimum of two employees in a certain unit.
3. You must have paid as much in premiums as the DOL paid your former employees in unemployment insurance benefits.

[Fact sheet on the Work-Share program](#)

[Application for the Work-Share Program](#)

Assistance Programs

As unemployment benefits do not cover all of the individuals wages, some may find themselves in need of additional resources. Colorado PEAK is an online service for Coloradans to screen and apply for medical, food, cash and early childhood assistance program. [Click here to apply for benefits through Colorado PEAK.](#)

[CDLE Assistance Program Resource List](#)



COVID-19 Website

[Click here to view the state of Colorado's official COVID-19 website.](#) This page is updated several times each day with new orders, statistics and press releases.