

Safer at Home Public Health Order 20-28

Key principles

- Restaurants and bars remain closed to in-person service, and venues that allow for large gatherings, such as movie theaters, remain closed
- Critical businesses remain the same, authorizing some business not on the critical list to reopen if they meet specific requirements
 - Retail
 - Field services, including real estate
 - Office-based businesses
 - Personal services, e.g. personal beauty services, massage therapists, dog groomers
 - Limited healthcare settings, e.g. acupuncturists, chiropractors, optometry, physical therapy
- All businesses and government functions must meet minimum standards pertaining to disease prevention measures
- Medical, dental, and veterinary services are addressed in a separate public health order

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: THREE OPTIONS - BUSINESSES: LOCAL RULES

A

MATCH THE STATE GUIDELINES

- Implement the guidelines of Safer at Home to match the state

B

MORE PROTECTIONS

- Going farther than the state, including but not limited to stay at home orders or additional protective measures.

C

LOCAL FLEXIBILITY

- To relax guidelines further than the state, local governments need to have very low case counts and/or demonstrate proof of 14 consecutive days of decline of infection of COVID-19 in the jurisdiction.
- The application must include a written COVID-19 suppression plan approved by the appropriate local public health authority, all hospitals within the jurisdiction and elected leadership.

EXECUTIVE ORDER - SAFER AT HOME

Safer at Home will include a local variance process that allows communities to tailor social distancing policies to local conditions to promote community wellness and economic stability

Any county may apply for a variance from part or all of the Executive Order if it meets the following criteria and submits an alternative COVID-19 suppression plan to be approved or denied by CDPHE:

- 1) The local public health agency endorses the alternative plan;
- 2) Local hospitals can verify that they have the capacity to serve all people needing their care; and;
- 3) The county commissioners (or other county-level governing body) vote affirmatively to adopt the alternative plan in place of the Safer At Home Executive Order.

Local conditions to be considered in variance process: (a) low number of new cases per day; (b) cases declining for the past 14 days; (c) high and increasing or stable doubling time of cases; and (d) having an early warning system in place to swiftly detect an increase in community spread to prevent a breach of local hospital system capacity

LOCAL VARIANCES

To apply to CDPHE for a local variance from the Safer at Home requirements, counties need to:

- 1) Specifically identify each provision of the executive order or public health order for which a variance is sought and propose alternate restrictions that meet the intent of the orders
- 2) Create a COVID-19 suppression plan that contains information addressing all of the following:
 - a) Provide data concerning the prevalence of COVID 19 within the county demonstrates that COVID 19 cases are low enough to be contained by an epidemiological response,
 - b) Local hospitals verify that they have the capacity to serve all people needing their care,
 - c) A description of the local containment measures proposed, and
 - d) Identify the conditions that will be used to determine whether the variance is providing protection equal to the public health order, and the triggers for tightening restrictions

Use CDPHE's online variance application process at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/safer-at-home/local-orders-variances>