



City of McAllen | COVID-19 Brief

Governor Greg Abbott moves to next phase of reopening May 8

Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced the reopening of more businesses this week, to include hair salons and barber shops with restrictions on May 8, and gyms and exercise facilities on May 18.

- Effective Friday, May 8: Hair salons, nail salons, tanning salons, and barber shops will be allowed to open with restrictions, including one customer per stylist and appropriate social distancing. The governor also strongly recommended masks for both stylists and customers, and using a reservation system to avoid grouping of walk-ins in waiting areas.
- Effective Monday, May 18: Gyms and exercise facilities will be able to reopen with 25% capacity. Initial restrictions will include showers and locker rooms remaining closed, requirements for customers to wear gloves covering their whole hand, and the disinfection of all equipment after each use. Distancing will be required as well, and any equipment brought in (such as a yoga mat), must be disinfected before and after use.
- Non-essential manufacturing and other offices will be welcome to reopen Monday, May 18 to the greater of the following: five employees, or 25% of their workforce, provided that social distancing can be maintained.
- Guidelines are still being worked out for bars, and the governor has requested owners to reach out and provide feedback.
- Weddings, funerals, memorials, and burials may now take place with the same regulations as religious services for a seated arrangement, with receptions following the regulations of restaurants.
- Gov. Abbott also reaffirmed that while outdoor seating areas at restaurants do not have the same 25% capacity restrictions as indoor spaces, other regulations such as spacing between tables still apply.
- Gov. Abbott clarified that regulations currently applied to state parks also apply to the state's beaches, lakes and rivers, including river rafting; those restrictions



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include maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from others, and having no more than five (5) in a group unless your party are all members of your household.

To view the Governor's guidelines: <https://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas>

Governor's phase one reopening follow 25 percent rule

Under GA-18, Texas fully moved into Phase 1 of the reopening process starting with restaurants, in-store retail businesses, and movie theaters being allowed to operate at 25 percent capacity. Museums and libraries are also allowed to reopen at their discretion keeping in mind social distancing.

Outdoor sports are allowed as long as there are no more than four people in a group. Vulnerable populations are still recommended to stay home for their safety. Facial coverings are no longer mandated but are encouraged. Social distancing of 6-feet is still recommended.