



PHASE 1 GUIDANCE ON OUTDOOR SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Overview

This document provides guidance for outdoor social gatherings. All individuals should follow the [general guidelines for individuals for Phase 1](#). This does not apply to outdoor religious services or fellowship, which are governed by [Guidance for Communities of Worship](#).

Section 1: OUTDOOR GATHERINGS UP TO 250 PEOPLE

Starting at 8:00 a.m. on June 1, 2020

Gatherings in **fully unenclosed outdoor spaces up to two hundred and fifty (250) people** (e.g. outdoor weddings and receptions, outdoor graduations, funerals, etc.) are permitted in Phase 1 under the following conditions:

- **Outdoor gatherings should only be carried out if there is strict adherence to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, including:**
 - Proper hand hygiene
 - Adequate social distancing
 - All other social distancing measures outlined in the [Phase 1 Reopen Plan](#).

The following industries and activities addressed in the Phase 1 Reopen Plan must operate in accordance with that guidance ([Click here](#) to view industry-specific guidance):

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| ▪ <i>Arts and Culture Industry</i> | ▪ <i>Realty</i> |
| ▪ <i>Food and Drink establishments</i> | ▪ <i>Casinos</i> |
| ▪ <i>Retail</i> | ▪ <i>Racetracks</i> |
| ▪ <i>Malls</i> | ▪ <i>Parks and Recreation</i> |
| ▪ <i>Consumer Services (hair salons, barber shops, tanning salons, exercise facilities)</i> | ▪ <i>Child Care</i> |
| | ▪ <i>Youth Sports</i> |
- Venues interested in holding a social gathering of up to 250 individuals must include mechanisms to limit attendance and enforce social distancing between people and the use of face coverings.
 - Any food service, including any catered events, shall operate within the same parameters for [Food and Drink Establishments](#) as set by the [Nineteenth Modification to the State of Emergency](#) and the [Phase 1 Reopen Plan](#). Buffet, family style, and any other self-service food is prohibited.

- Concessions selling only pre-packaged food must ensure social distancing in lines, use contactless transaction or deliver food directly to seated customers.
- [Cloth face coverings](#) must be worn in accordance with the [Thirteenth Modification to the State of Emergency](#).
- At all times, individuals who are not part of the same household should maximize physical distance from others and remain six (6) feet apart.
- Individuals must regularly wash their hands and must stay home when sick.
- Hand sanitizing stations should be supplied at any entrance or exit and at various locations within the event. Hand sanitizer must be composed of at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol.
- Bathrooms and high contact surfaces must be disinfected every 15 minutes to 2 hours.
- The gathering or event must comply with all other applicable state, county and local laws for gatherings and events.
- Gatherings are permitted to occur in tents as long as the tents have a maximum of 2 opposing walls.

Section 2: OUTDOOR GATHERINGS OVER 250 PEOPLE

Starting at 8:00 a.m. on June 1, 2020

Larger gatherings of more than two hundred and fifty (250) people offer more opportunities for person-to-person contact and therefore pose greater risk of COVID-19 transmission, according to CDC guidance. Social, community, recreational, and leisure events of more than 250 people (“large gatherings and events”) are prohibited at all locations and venues, including but not limited to parades, festivals, graduation ceremonies, conventions, fundraisers, sporting events and fairs.

However, hosts of planned outdoor large gatherings and events may apply to host a large gathering or event by submitting a plan to covid19faq@delaware.gov at least seven (7) days prior to the anticipated event. Plan approval is subject to the discretion of the Division of Small Business or Department of Education, who in consultation with the Division of Public Health, will consider how to prevent, reduce the spread of, and suppress COVID-19 in relation to any gathering or event permitted.

At a minimum, the plan must meet the following requirements:

- **The plan must show a strict adherence to guidelines in “Section 1: Outdoor Gatherings up to 250 People.”**
- The plan must consider information regarding the number of people attending who are at greater risk of more serious illness after contracting COVID-19. Older adults and persons with pre-existing health conditions are thought to be at increased risk.

- The plan must consider information regarding the density of attendees within a confined area. Based on what is currently known about the virus, spread from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts, meaning within six (6) feet for ten (10) minutes.
- The plan must contain information regarding enforcement of social distancing.
- The plan must consider information regarding the level of transmission in the local community and the level of transmission in the [areas](#) from which attendees will travel.
- The plan must consider local traffic patterns and parking capacity needs.
- The plan must [follow all requirements for food and drink establishments](#) outlined in the [Phase 1 Reopen Plan](#), including but not limited to maintaining social distancing between individuals from different households in lines.
- The gathering or event must comply with all other applicable state, county and local laws for gatherings and events.