



# GUIDELINES FOR OPENING UP IDAHO

Governor Brad Little, with the help of the Department of Health and Welfare and guidance issued by President Donald Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has established a data-driven approach to opening up Idaho's economy. This approach reduces the risk of COVID-19 to Idaho's most vulnerable population and preserves capacity in our healthcare system, while opening up businesses safely. From an economic standpoint, Idaho's rebound from COVID-19 starts with employee and consumer confidence, which leads into business stability and growth and eventually promotion and attraction.

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# MEETING IDAHO CRITERIA MEANS ADVANCING TO A STAGED APPROACH

All criteria below must be met before Idaho advances to the next stage of reopening. The Idaho Division of Public Health and the Governor's Coronavirus Working Group will review the criteria every two weeks to assess if criteria are met, or continue to be met, so Idaho can move to the next stage. **To advance to the next stage, all criteria must be met. If the criteria indicates trends are beginning to move the wrong direction, or there is evidence that a stage has adversely impacted rates, stages may have to be extended or reversed.** Dates shown in the document are estimated timelines only.

## IDAHO CRITERIA

### SYNDROMIC

Downward trend or low numbers of COVID-19-like illness patient visits as tracked by Emergency Departments within a 14-day period

**MEASURED BY:** NSSP (Idaho's syndromic tracking system). Displayed on website as "Number of Emergency Department Visits for COVID-Like Illness."

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 20 visits/day on average over same 14-day period

AND

Downward trend or very low numbers of patients with COVID-19-like illness admitted from Emergency Departments within a 14-day period

**MEASURED BY:** NSSP (Idaho's syndromic tracking system). Displayed on website as "Number of emergency Department Patients with COVID-like Illness Symptoms Admitted to the Hospital."

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 2 patients/day on average over same 14-day period

### EPIDEMIOLOGIC

Downward trend or low levels of documented COVID-19 cases reported within a 14-day period

**MEASURED BY:** NBS (Idaho's integrated disease reporting system). Displayed on the website as "COVID-19 by Date Reported."

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 20 patients per day on average reported statewide over the same 14-day period

OR

Downward trend of positive COVID-19 PCR tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (including flat or increasing volume of tests)

**MEASURED BY:** NBS (Idaho's integrated disease reporting system). Will be displayed on the website

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 5 percent laboratory PCR positivity on average over same 14-day period

### HEALTHCARE

Treat all patients without needing to use crisis standards of care

**MEASURED BY:** Governor's Order for Crisis Standards of Care in place; reports from hospitals

AND

Available ventilators, intensive care unit beds, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to safely care for additional COVID-19 patients in hospitals

**MEASURED BY:** Idaho Resource Tracking System (IRTS) (through the Division of Public Health) and displayed on the website

**METRIC:** At least 50 available (unused) ventilators, 50 ICU beds, and available 10-day supply of N95 masks, surgical masks, face shields, gowns, and gloves

AND

Robust COVID-19 testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers

**MEASURED BY:** NBS (Idaho's integrated disease reporting system). Numbers of reported cases among healthcare workers; will be displayed on the website

**METRIC:** Downward trend over most recent reported 14-day period, OR less than 2 healthcare workers reported/day on average over same 14-day period



## STRATEGIES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND CAPABILITIES NEEDED

The State of Idaho must remain focused on achieving the following core preparedness responsibilities.

### TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING:

- Ability to quickly set up safe and efficient screening and testing sites for symptomatic individuals, including those with mild symptoms
- Contact tracing in place for all COVID-19 positive results
- Screening and testing locations in all regions of the state in place that serve older individuals, rural and lower income populations, and racial and ethnic minorities, such as Native Americans and Hispanics

### PLANS AND STRATEGIES:

- State and local preparedness plans are in place including surge plans
- Crisis Standards of Care Plan established
- Long-Term Care Task Force operational to support long-term care facilities
- Testing strategy developed
- Contact tracing strategy developed

### HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY:

- Ability to quickly supply sufficient PPE, medications, and critical medical equipment to handle dramatic surge if needed
- Ability to quickly test symptomatic healthcare workers
- Ability to surge intensive care unit capacity

# STAGED OPENING (AFTER IDAHO CRITERIA IS MET)

Until we have targeted, case-based interventions for each infectious person, an effective vaccine, or effective treatment, we must maintain some level of community interventions to slow the spread of COVID-19. This includes heightened protections for the health and safety of workers in critical industries, people living and working in high-risk facilities (e.g. senior care facilities), and all other employees.

All Idahoans have a responsibility to protect themselves and others. Each stage, while allowing for additional businesses and practices to open and loosen, is grounded in the following basic practices for individuals and businesses:

## PROTOCOLS

### ALL STAGES – INDIVIDUALS SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Engage in physical distancing of at least six feet
- Wear face coverings in public places
- Stay home if sick
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Disinfect surfaces and objects regularly

### ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH STAGE.

### ALL STAGES – EMPLOYERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Maintain the six-foot physical distancing requirements for employees and patrons
- Provide adequate sanitation and personal hygiene for employees, vendors, and patrons
- Ensure frequent disinfection of the business as well as regular cleaning, especially of high-touch surfaces
- Identify how personal use items such as masks, face coverings, and gloves may be required by employees, vendors, and/or patrons
- Provide services while limiting close interactions with patrons
- Identify strategies for addressing ill employees, which should include requiring COVID-19 positive employees to stay at home while infectious, and may include keeping employees who were directly exposed to the COVID-19 positive employee away from the workplace, and the closure of the business until the location can be properly disinfected
- On a case-by-case basis, include other practices appropriate for specific types of businesses such as screening of employees for illness and exposures upon work entry, requiring non-cash transactions, etc.