

EDMONTON REGION COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

The Government of Alberta added new mandatory public health measures to address rising COVID-19 spread and to protect the health system. The province-wide measures are in place starting **Dec 8** for mandatory masking and the ban on indoor and outdoor social gatherings. All other measures come into effect at 12:01 am on **Dec 13** and will be in place for at least four weeks.

Gatherings

- no indoor or outdoor social gatherings, public or private
- indoor and outdoor social close contact must be limited to those in the same household; does not apply to service visits from caregivers, health or child care providers and co-parenting arrangements
- individuals who live alone may have up to two non-household close contacts, who must be the same people for the duration of this restriction
- social gatherings in indoor workplaces, such as lunchroom gatherings, are also not allowed
- meetings are not social gatherings, but in-person attendance should be limited to the extent possible and physical distancing, guidance and public health measures followed
- funeral and wedding ceremonies are still limited to no more than 10 in-person attendees, and must follow all public health guidance in place; receptions are still not permitted

Indoor Public Masking

- public spaces include locations where a business or entity operates and is applicable to employees, visitors or the general public
- applies to all indoor workplaces and facilities outside the home
- farm operations are excluded
- masks should be worn in all indoor workplaces, except when alone in an office or cubicle safely distanced from others, or an appropriate barrier is in place
- there are no changes to student mask requirements in schools

School and Work

- grades K-6 are still in-person learning until their scheduled Winter Break, move to at-home learning after the winter break until Jan. 8, resume in-person classes Jan. 11
- grades 7-12 are still at-home learning until their scheduled Winter Break, resume in-person classes Jan. 11
- mandatory work from home measures unless employers determine the work requires a physical presence for operational effectiveness

Places of Worship

- limited to 15% of fire code occupancy for in-person attendance, with physical distancing and mandatory masks
- virtual or online services are recommended
- drive-in services where individuals do not leave their vehicles and adhere to guidance will be permissible

Retail and Grocery Stores

- reduce customer capacity to 15% of fire code occupancy at all times, with physical distancing and mandatory masks
- for businesses where 15% of their fire code is less than five customers, those small businesses are allowed up to five customers at a time, with physical distancing and mandatory masks
- shopping malls will be limited to 15% of fire code occupancy
- Albertans are encouraged to shop local, limit in-person visits and use curbside pick up, delivery and online services

Now Closed/Suspended

- restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges and cafes will be closed to in-person service; only take out, curbside pickup and delivery services are permitted
- entertainment businesses and entities - community halls and centres, indoor children's play centres and indoor playgrounds, theatres, auditoriums, concert halls, and community theatres, nightclubs, banquet halls and conference centres, indoor and outdoor festivals, concerts with the exception of drive-in events, tradeshow, and sporting events or competitions, remain closed
- casinos, bingo halls, gaming entertainment centres, racing entertainment centres, horse tracks, raceways, bowling alleys, pool halls, legions, and private clubs will be closed
- recreational facilities - fitness centres, recreation centres, pools, spas, gyms, studios, day and overnight camps, indoor rinks and arenas will be closed with all levels of team and individual sport suspended
- outdoor recreation is permitted, but facilities with indoor spaces except for washrooms will be closed
- entertainment businesses and entities - libraries, science centres, interpretive centres, museums, galleries, amusement parks and water parks - will be closed
- hotels may remain open but must follow restrictions - no spas, pools or in-person dining; room service only
- personal and wellness services, including hair salons, nail salons, massage, tattoos, and piercing, will be closed

Regulated health services, including physiotherapy or acupuncture, social or protective services, shelters for vulnerable persons, emergency services, childcare, not-for-profit community kitchens or charitable kitchens will remain open for in-person attendance.

More details about these new measures can be found at alberta.ca/COVID19

We're in this together. Stay safe, treat people with compassion, support your local businesses when you can and take care.

