

Sector Rules and Certification for Reopen

[Overview \(/DECD/Content/Coronavirus-Business-Recovery/Sector-Rules-and-Certification-for-Reopen\)](#).

Provided by:

[Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development \(/DECD\)](#)

Overview

All businesses subject to reopening rules are required to **self-certify** (https://service.ct.gov/recovery/s/?language=en_US) prior to opening. Visit [here](https://service.ct.gov/covidreport) (<https://service.ct.gov/covidreport>) for a searchable list of businesses that have self-certified.

Due to the increasing rate of COVID-19 in Connecticut, Governor Lamont has ordered the entire state to roll back to Phase 2.1 rules – a slightly modified version of the previously enacted Phase 2 rules – effective at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, November 6. A comparison of Phases 2, 2.1 and 3 rules can be found below.

Also effective at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, November 6th, the following business sectors will be subject to a 10:00 p.m. closing time 7 days per week.

- Restaurants (last service for in-person dining at 9:30 p.m., although takeout and delivery may continue)
 - 24-hour diners may reopen for indoor dining for breakfast at 5:00 a.m.
- Entertainment and recreation venues (e.g. movie theaters, bowling alleys, performing arts theaters)
- Indoor and outdoor events at commercial venues

Please note that events previously scheduled to take place prior to November 9 may still take place in accordance with the Phase rules that were in place in their municipality prior to the announcement of Phase 2.1. Please see [here](#) for a list of municipalities who have reverted to Phase 2 election under EO 9G/EO 9J.

Employers are reminded to maximize telework to the extent possible, and those over 65 and with chronic conditions are urged to remain home as much as possible.

Phase Comparisons

Industry	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 2.1 - Effective 11/6/20
Restaurants	Up to 50% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	Up to 75% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	Up to 50% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers Max of 8 people/table
Personal Services	Up to 50% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	Up to 75% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	See Phase 3 rules
Libraries	Up to 50% capacity indoors	Up to 75% capacity indoors	See Phase 3 rules
Outdoor Event Venues (e.g. Amphitheaters, Race Tracks)	Up to 25% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 25% with social distancing and masks required
Indoor Performing Arts Theaters	Closed	Up to 50% capacity with 6 ft spacing between parties	Up to 50% capacity with 6 ft spacing between parties, capped at 100 people
Indoor Recreation	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required, movie theaters and similar entertainment venues capped at 100 people
Private, Social and Recreational Gathering Sizes – Commercial Venue	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 100 people	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 100 people Outdoor – Cap of 150 people	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 50 people
Private, Social and Recreational Gathering Sizes – Private Residences	Indoor -- Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 100 people	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 150 people	Indoor – Cap of 10 people Outdoor – Cap of 10 people

Graduations	Indoor – Not allowed Outdoor – One time exemption capped at 150 people with masks and social distancing required	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 200 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – Up to 50% capacity or 6 ft spacing, no capacity limit with masks and social distancing required	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 100 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – See Phase 3 rules
Religious Gatherings	Indoor – Up to 25% capacity capped at 100 people Outdoor – Capped at 150 people	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 200 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – Up to 50% capacity or 6 ft spacing, no capacity limit with masks and social distancing required	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 100 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – See Phase 3 rules

Phase 2.1 Reopen Rules by Sector (effective 12:01 a.m. Nov. 6, 2020)

***** sector-specific guidance coming soon *****

- Amusement Parks
- Film, Television and Digital Media Production
- Hair Salons & Barbershops
- Hotels / Lodging
- Indoor Events and Performing Arts Venues
- Indoor Recreation
- Libraries
- Museums, Zoos, and Aquariums
- Offices
- Outdoor Events
- Personal Services
- Restaurants
- Retail & Malls

- Senior Centers
- Sports and fitness facilities (e.g., gyms, fitness centers, pools, etc.)

Social Clubs to follow all rules applicable to their operation (e.g. Restaurant, Pool).

Driving Schools to follow Office rules (see above). For on-road training, there can be two-people per car, both must wear masks, windows must be rolled down, and thorough cleanings are required between customers.

Short-term housing rentals are recommended to follow hotels/lodging rules above.

Gatherings

Type	Capacity Limits	Notes
Private, Social and Recreational Gathering Sizes – Commercial Venue (e.g. weddings, office meetings, parties)	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 50 people	Face masks and social distancing required
Private, Social and Recreational Gathering Sizes – Private Residences (e.g. weddings, parties)	Indoor – Cap of 10 people Outdoor – Cap of 10 people	Face masks and social distancing required
Graduations	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity – Cap of 100 Outdoor – Up to 50% capacity or 6 ft spacing, no capacity limit	Face masks and social distancing required
Religious Gatherings	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity – Cap of 100 Outdoor – Up to 50% capacity or 6 ft spacing, no capacity limit	Face masks and social distancing required. Click here for guidelines.
Outdoor Event Venues (e.g. Amphitheaters, Race Tracks)	Up to 25%	If an outdoor event venue is holding a private gathering, they are subject to the 50-person limit under outdoor private gatherings (see above) Face masks and social distancing required
Fairs, Festivals, and Carnivals	Up to 25% of last year's attendance	Face masks and social distancing required

Outdoor Organized Gatherings
– Open to the public (e.g.
Fireworks, Concert in Municipal
Park)

Cap of 500 people.
– 15 feet of space blanket to
blanket

Event organizer responsible for
compliance with guidance.

For events that cannot
accommodate the 15 foot
requirement:
– 6 feet of space may be used, but
customers must be masked
except while eating and drinking,
and lines clearly marking seating
areas must be drawn.

Click [here](#) for sample seating
layout.

General Business Rules

General business rules shall only apply to University Research and Outdoor Recreation activities (defined below).

- **General Business Rules** *(updated 8/14)*
- University Research
- Outdoor Recreation activities are defined as the following:
 - Equestrian (subject to Dept. of Agriculture [guidance](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOAG/COVID/COVID-19_Equine-Phase-1-Reopen-Guidance.pdf?la=en&hash=FCBA7ED5104A9FF5E8238270084FFE6B) (https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DOAG/COVID/COVID-19_Equine-Phase-1-Reopen-Guidance.pdf?la=en&hash=FCBA7ED5104A9FF5E8238270084FFE6B))
 - Mountain Biking
 - Camping
 - Head, Party, and Tour Boats (50% capacity or one passenger/family per six feet of rail space)
 - Charter Fishing (50% capacity or one passenger/family per six feet of rail space)
 - Sport Fishing (50% capacity or one passenger/family per six feet of rail space)
 - Go Kart Race Tracks
 - Rock Climbing Walls
 - Golf
 - Driving Ranges
 - Tennis/Paddleball/Pickleball
 - Group Training (up to 100 people), outdoors maintain 6 feet
 - Race Tracks
 - Campgrounds - follow all rules applicable to their operation (e.g. Retail, Pool)
 - Outdoor Shooting Range

- Kayaking, Sailing, Canoeing and Stand-up Paddleboarding
- Dirt Biking
- Mini Golf
- Batting Cages
- Archery
- Rope Courses
- Ziplines
- Volleyball (2 vs. 2 only)
- Elm City Party Bike (with barrier between employees and riders)
- Outdoor Skating Rinks (50% capacity for free skating sessions and lessons). Hockey must follow rules for sports and fitness facilities (see above).
- Skiing, Snowboarding and Snow Tubing



Are you starting a new business in CT? Do you need help managing your current one? Check out **Business.CT.Gov** (<https://business.ct.gov/>) -- your one-stop shop for all your business needs.

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