

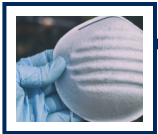
## GENERAL GUIDANCE

Linn County Public Health recommends phased reopening for businesses and social establishments. This recommendation is in alignment with the CDC and other national organizations. Guidance across three phases is determined by key disease and resource metrics.

Data associated with each phase and phase status can be found on Linn County Public Health's COVID-19 response page, <https://bit.ly/PhaseMetrics>. Business specific guidance is also available at <https://www.linncounty.org/1413/Reopening-Guidance>.

A phased approach enables businesses to reopen while protecting the health and safety of employees, patrons, and the general public.

## Recommended Criteria during Community Spread



### Phased Reopening Metrics

The first phase is necessary to slow community spread of COVID-19 and avoid overwhelming the local healthcare system. During this phase, recommendations are for limited operations when reopening. In order to recommend moving to **Phase Two**, the criteria below must be met.

Phase One	
<b>Epidemiology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreased test positivity rate for at least 14 days</li> <li>Sustained reduction in number of cases for at least 14 days</li> <li>Decrease in deaths for at least 14 days</li> </ul>
<b>Health Care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient PPE for all health care workers even if cases double</li> <li>Sufficient face masks available to provide to patients seeking care, even if cases double</li> <li>More discharges than admissions for COVID-19 within a 7 day period</li> </ul>
<b>Public Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All cases interviewed for contact elicitation</li> <li>Contacts elicited for at least 90% of cases</li> <li>Capacity to monitor all confirmed cases and their contacts</li> <li>Capacity* to test all people who are symptomatic</li> </ul>

\* Testing capacity is influenced by a loosening of testing criteria, availability of nasal swabs to obtain sample, and the availability of PPE.



Move to **Phase Three** if the criteria above is met, a reduction in cases for an additional 14 days is observed, and a vaccine is available.

Phase Two		→	Phase Three
<b>Epidemiology</b>	Sustained reduction in cases for an <b>additional</b> 14 days		All previous criteria is met and vaccine is available
<b>Health Care</b>	Same as Phase One		
<b>Public Health</b>	Same as Phase One		



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Linn County, Iowa

## GENERAL GUIDANCE



### Health Protocols for Individuals

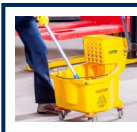
- Wash hands often, cover your cough and sneezes, stay home when ill, and avoid touching your face.
- Maintain at least a six foot distance from others not within the same household.
- The use of a mask, or facial cloth covering, is encouraged to protect those that you may come into contact with and unable to maintain a social distance of six feet or greater.
- Wash or disinfect hands upon entering a business and after interacting with others.
- Individuals, aged 65 or older, and those at higher risk for COVID-19 should stay home.
- Avoid gatherings of more than 10 people. The larger the gathering, the greater the chance for transmission of the virus.
- Self-isolate when ill, no matter how mild the illness.



### Health Protocols for Businesses

- Screen employees upon arrival for COVID-19 symptoms, including temperature checks (send home anyone with temperature of 100.4 or greater): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Employees demonstrating symptoms are sent home.
- Employees must stay home when ill, no matter how mild the illness.
- Review and suspend employee leave policies that penalize employees for staying home when ill.
- Require any employee in direct contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 to self-isolate according to CDC guidance.
- Promote remote and tele-work practices for as long as possible.
- Stagger employee work stations to socially distance employees. If unable to ensure social distancing, place physical barriers, such as Plexiglas dividers between employees. Dividers should also be placed between employees and customers being served. Use flat barriers, such as tape on the floor, as a reminder to distance from others.
- Discourage employee use of communal items such as phones, desks, offices, or other work tools.
- Provide hand washing station or hand sanitizer at the entrance. If appropriate, provide sanitizing wipes for disinfection of carts and baskets.
- Increase regular housekeeping, including routine cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces, equipment, and surface cleaning.
- Provide elevated personal protective equipment for employees including masks or cloth covering, increased hand washing, and gloves (if appropriate). Gloves are only appropriate if handling food/beverages, cleaning facilities, or trash disposal.
- Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans, etc.
- Frequently disinfect high traffic areas and high touch surfaces, such as credit card docks, carts/baskets, and restrooms.
- Limit cash transactions and encourage alternate payment options.
- Follow CDC Guidelines for Cleaning:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

## GENERAL GUIDANCE



### Closing Guidance

- Check state and Linn County Public Health notices daily about transmission in the community and adjust operations accordingly.
- In the event a person diagnosed with COVID-19 is determined to have been in the building and poses a risk for community transmission, it is strongly advised to close for deep cleaning.
  - \* Deep cleaning is defined as cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces regardless of frequency of use or contact.

### Mitigation Guidance

Action	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
<b>High-Risk Employees</b>	Provide telework options, if applicable	Provide telework options, if applicable	Continue normal activities
<b>High-Risk Patrons</b>	Avoid, continue to stay home when able	Avoid, continue to stay home when able	Resume normal activities
<b>Wash hands often</b>	Continue	Continue	Continue
<b>Cover Coughs/Sneezes</b>	Continue	Continue	Continue
<b>Stay home when ill</b>	Continue	Continue	Continue
<b>Require use of mask/cloth covering if social distancing is not possible</b>	Continue	Continue	Discontinue
<b>Encourage other types of employees use mask/cloth covering</b>	Continue	Continue	Discontinue
<b>Promote flexible work options</b>	Continue for as long as possible	Continue for as long as possible	Normal operations
<b>Stagger work stations to socially distance employees</b>	Continue for as long as possible	Continue for as long as possible	Normal operations
<b>Facilities PPE</b>	Gloves, mask or cloth face covering, increased hand hygiene	Gloves, mask or cloth face covering, increased hand hygiene	Job-appropriate PPE
<b>Surface/object cleaning</b>	Continue	Continue	Continue
<b>Isolation of cases</b>	Continue	Continue	Continue
<b>Social distancing markers in place for patrons</b>	Continue	Continue	Discontinue
<b>Employee Health Checks</b>	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Communal Use Items</b>	Limited	Limited	Normal
<b>Hand wash station or hand sanitizer available at entrance</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Cash Transactions</b>	Limited	Limited	Normal
<b>Disinfection of high traffic areas and high-touch surfaces</b>	Frequent	Frequent	Normal

\* Gloves are recommended for those handling or serving food/beverages, cleaning facilities, or when disposing of trash.