

Advisory Note for the Resumption of Nightlife Businesses

Updated as at 25 April 2022

1. On 4 April 2022, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Home Affairs announced that nightlife businesses would be permitted to fully reopen from 19 April 2022 with safeguards in place.

Resumption of Nightlife Businesses

2. All nightlife establishments are subjected to Safe Management Measures (SMMs) imposed on food and beverage (F&B) establishments, retail liquor establishments, and live performances, where applicable, including vaccination-differentiated SMMs (VDS) and ensuring that self-service buffets are not carried out at the premises. Operators may refer to the latest advisory for SMMs at F&B establishments [here](#).

3. With effect from 26 April 2022, all nightlife businesses will be required to adhere to the following key SMMs:

- a) **Mask-wearing**: Mask-wearing is required for indoor settings, even where there is/are singing and/or dancing among patrons. Masks may be removed for the consumption of food and beverages, and should be put back on immediately after eating or drinking.
- b) **Supervised ART test**: For nightlife establishments where dancing among patrons is one of the intended activities, a negative Antigen Rapid Test (ART) supervised by an MOH-approved test provider, either in-person or remotely, will be required for patrons before entering the premises. The COVID-19 test will be valid for 24 hours from the time of the test result. The patron must get tested before the start of his/her visit; and at most 24 hours before the end of the attendance at the event or activity. This requirement will apply mainly to nightclubs and discotheques, but will also apply to any other establishments, including F&B, bars/pubs and karaoke businesses, intending to offer dancing among patrons, for instance, by providing a common area or stage. The list of MOH-approved COVID-19 test providers is available [here](#).
- c) **VDS**: While there will no longer be any limits on group sizes and safe distancing, VDS will still be required at all nightlife premises. Where dancing among patrons is one of the intended activities, full VDS checks, including checking for a negative ART, must continue to be implemented at entrances of the nightlife premises.
- d) **Capacity limits**: For nightlife establishments where dancing among patrons is one of the intended activities, a capacity limit of 75% will apply.

4. Establishments that intend to offer singing or dancing by patrons; as well as any live performance of music, variety act, singing or dancing, must have the relevant Public Entertainment (PE) licences to do so i.e., Category 1 PE Licence.

Pilot for Bars and Pubs

5. The pilot to reopen bars and pubs, which commenced in December 2020, ceased on 19 April 2022 – the same day the nightlife sector reopened. Bars and pubs involved in the pilot are able to resume nightlife operations in accordance with the requirements listed under paragraphs 2 to 4.

Nightlife Establishments that have (Temporarily) Pivoted to other Operations

6. With effect from 19 April 2022, nightlife establishments that temporarily pivoted to F&B operations are permitted to resume nightlife operations. Correspondingly, the conditional permit issued for the resumption of F&B operations for pivoted nightlife establishments was rescinded the same day. Operators will no longer be required to obtain a conditional permit in order to reopen.

7. From 19 April 2022, operators that have an active SFA Foodshop licence and an unexpired endorsement by URA for a temporary conversion to pivot to F&B operations are not be required to submit a fresh application for a Foodshop (Pub/Bar/Nightclub/Disco) licence in order to resume nightlife operations. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) will be updating your licence to a Foodshop (Pub/Bar/Nightclub/Disco) licence automatically. You can continue operating the business on and after 19 April 2022 while SFA updates the licence. A notification will be sent via GoBusiness once the update is completed. There is no action required from you except to print out your licence when you receive the notification. **However, operators must ensure that they have the valid land-use approval and licences, including, but not limited to the liquor and PE licences from the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) and Singapore Police Force (SPF) respectively before resuming their nightlife business from 19 April 2022.**

8. For establishments that had previously obtained URA's approval to change the use of their premises to other uses, e.g., gym, restaurant, co-working spaces, etc., planning permission from URA is required for the proposed conversion to nightlife use (e.g., bars/pubs, nightclubs/karaoke lounges). Operators may submit a Change of Use application [here](#). If planning permission is granted, operators must also ensure that they have the valid licences, including, but not limited to SFA's Foodshop (Pub/Bar/Nightclub/Disco) license, SPF's liquor and PE licences, before resuming their nightlife business from 19 April 2022.

9. All nightlife operators must adhere to all prevailing SMMs that are applicable to your business activities. Agencies, including the SPF, will continue to monitor the operations of nightlife operators and will take firm enforcement action against establishments and individuals who breach SMMs.