#### Coronavirus Disease-19, Republic of Korea

Central Disaster Management Headquarters	
Central Disease Control Headquarters	
Korean	Chinese

Public Advice & Notice

### **Public Advice & Notice**

#### **Enhanced Social Distancing Campaign**

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# #COVID-19\_We Will Win Enhanced Social Distancing Campaign

Stay at home as much as possible to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

#### | Call to actions for all citizens |



Cancel or postpone all non-essential gatherings, dining out, social events, and travel plans.



Avoid leaving home except to purchase necessities, to get medical care, or to go to work.



If you have fever, cough, sore throat, or other respiratory symptoms, do not go to work. Stay home and get sufficient rest.



Avoid handshakes and other forms of physical contact.

Keep a 2-meter distance from each other.



Wash your hands, cover up your sneezes/coughs, and generally maintain strict personal hygiene.



Disinfect and ventilate your space every day.

#### | Call to actions for citizens in the workplace |



Wash your hands thoroughly with soap under running water.



Use your own personal cups and utensils.



Refrain from using changing rooms, indoor break rooms, and other public areas.



Avoid handshakes and other forms of physical contact. Keep a 2-meter distance from each other.



When eating meals together, maintain a distance and avoid sitting face to face.



Return home directly after leaving work.

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## Why is the two-week period of strengthened "social distancing" important?

Although the number of new confirmed cases has gone down in Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do, one hundred people or so continue to be diagnosed with COVID-19 on a daily basis nationwide, with mass outbreaks persisting as well.

Numerous cases of outbreaks caused by close contact at work, religious gatherings, and workout facilities have been identified, and the scope of these mass outbreaks continue to increase.

Meanwhile, the rapid global spread of the virus including in Europe, North America, and the Middle East means that the spread in Korea could pick back up if the virus enters the country from global channels.

Other countries have already implemented stringent measures, including restrictions on movement.

In this context, the "Strengthened Social Distancing" effort will help prevent the virus from spreading, help stem the number of confirmed cases to levels that can be handled by the health care system, and prevent any additional transmission as much as possible.

# What is the difference between "Strengthened Social Distancing" and "Social Distancing" efforts so far?

Aside from measures such as postponing the new school year, "Social Distancing" initiatives thus far focused on encouraging the public to voluntarily participate in observing codes of conduct to prevent the virus from spreading.

The new "Strengthened Social Distancing" initiative is provided for by an administrative order issued by the Minister of Health and Welfare, which requires religious facilities, in-door workout facilities, and a certain extent in order to continue operations.

Failure to comply will trigger an administrative order handed down by the head of the local government prohibiting gatherings, or result in fines and other enforceable measures.

What are the legal grounds and reasons for the administrative order against religious facilities, workout facilities, and entertainment establishments? What are the consequences for non-compliance?

The administrative order handed down by the Minister of Health and Welfare targets religious facilities, workout facilities, and entertainment establishments since they are susceptible to outbreaks and close personal contact is inevitable.

The administrative order has been issued to urge temporary closures and compliance with quarantine measures in accordance with Article 49 (1) 2 of the Infectious Disease Control and Prevention Act.

Establishments that fail to comply with local government orders shall be penalized (maximum KRW 3 million fine in accordance with Article 80 (7)) and right to claim for damages and indemnity shall be exercised to compensate for expenses related to in-hospital care, treatment, and quarantine measures incurred if a person contracts the virus.

Users of the facility that visited/used the establishment despite knowing about the prohibition against gatherings shall be personally responsible for in-hospital and treatment expenses if they catch the virus.

What is the reason for the blanket application nationwide, when the number of confirmed cases in each region is vastly different?

This is because the number of confirmed cases continues to rise and there are sporadic occurrences of mass outbreaks across the country.

In particular, mass outbreaks have not been concentrated in any one local region and number of mass outbreaks are on the rise.

This is why the government has prescribed basic requirements for religious facilities, workout facilities, and other establishments in all regions.

Each county/city/province has the discretion to assign a different scope\* and stronger criteria.

\* (subject of the administrative order, required) religious facilities, in-door workout facilities, entertainment establishments

(local governments, optional) internet cafes (computer rooms), karaoke, private educational institutes, etc.

Attachments: 040

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List

Consultation

Community Health Center Call Center 1339

r **1339** Area Code + **120** 

Area Code + 114

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