

**PAGE FOR SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS**  
Updated on 4/24/2020

We are at a critical juncture in managing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. According to health experts, our collective actions over the next few weeks (through May 3) will determine whether we experience a major surge, or are able to flatten the curve to stay within our healthcare capacity. And we only get one chance at this. So we can meet this challenge, the City will strictly apply the Order consistent with its stated intent, and you must strictly follow it. The answers to frequently asked questions below should guide your compliance. The City will keep updating this information to align with best public health practices and any changes to the Order as the circumstances continue to evolve. Together, we can flatten the curve.

**STAY SAFE AT HOME EXPLAINED**

**What does the new Order do?**

This new Order requires most people to continue sheltering in their place of residence until May 3, 2020. This new Order replaces the prior stay-at-home order, which was set to expire on April 7, 2020. It also adds to the list of restrictions in order to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 disease.

You are still allowed to participate in “essential activities” or to work for an “essential business” if it is not possible for you to work from home. This means that you are allowed to leave your home for limited, specified reasons—like to make sure you have the necessities of life (discussed more below), such as getting food and medical supplies, or to perform work for an essential business that you cannot complete from your home. You are also allowed to go outside to take care of a pet or for exercise so long as you don’t congregate in a group and maintain at least six feet of distance between you and other people who aren’t part of your family or living unit.

**When does the new Order go into effect?**

The new Order is in effect starting at 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

**How long does the new Order last?**

The new Order is currently set to last until Sunday, May 3, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. The City’s Health Officer may choose to shorten or extend the time period based on what the health situation demands. How long the restrictions are in place will depend on what the Health Officer decides is necessary to protect public health.

**Can the new Order be changed?**