



## FAQS FOR SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH ORDERS

Updated 11/24/2020

San Francisco is currently in the State's red (second most restrictive) tier, but is trending toward purple (the most restrictive tier). If the State moves San Francisco to the purple tier, some of the businesses and activities currently permitted must be suspended or restricted. Please check back frequently to find out the current status. The most update to date information is available here:

<https://www.cdph.ca/dph/alerts/page/coronavirus.asp>

Also, certain businesses and activities have been recently suspended or restricted due to the State's reassignment of San Francisco to more restrictive tiers. Where a business operation or other activity has been suspended or restricted, there is a note to that effect in the FAQ and the portion of the answer that includes suspended or restricted provisions is shown in brackets and *italics*.

**Overview:** Over eight months after San Francisco was one of the first jurisdictions in the country to take the pro-active step of implementing a shelter-in-place order to help protect public health, we remain at a critical point in managing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Even though San Francisco was able to resume its reopening process in September, we likely have many months to go. To continue reopening schools and businesses, all of us must do our part by continuing to stay home as much as we can, avoiding social gatherings with people who are not part of our household, especially indoors, and strictly complying with social distancing and face covering requirements. If we fail to adhere to these precautions, virus transmission rates will increase, the disease will affect more people, our hospital beds will fill up, and our hospital care resources could become overwhelmed. Everyone needs to take individual responsibility and pull together—and together we will get through this.

Our collective effort beginning in March 2020 had a positive impact on limiting the spread of the virus. But we experienced a surge of cases over the summer that required us to pause and, in some cases, roll back the City's reopening. While we reduced transmission and were able to reopen many businesses and activities, more recently we, like the rest of the Bay Area, State and country, have been experiencing an increase in cases. Community transmission is now high and case rates and hospitalizations are increasing. Left unchecked, these rising numbers could pose serious issues in the winter. We must stay vigilant.

San Francisco continues to work on building up its testing, case finding, case investigation, and contact tracing capacity, and its means to protect vulnerable populations and address outbreaks. Still, the danger the virus poses to the health and welfare of all continues, and the risk increases as we reopen more businesses, strive to reopen schools and resume more activities safely. A major threat remains the spread of COVID-19 through asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic carriers and through airborne transmission, particularly