

THE PENNSYLVANIA RESTAURANT PROMISE

For Pennsylvania's Restaurant & Lodging Industry

Section 1 — Introduction

What is the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

The Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association (PRLA) and health officials across the Commonwealth in particular have requested that individual restaurant owners and operators make a set of voluntary commitments to their employees and customers constituting “Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise” for the COVID-19 recovery period. When customers see The Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise, they know that the restaurant has committed to taking appropriate action to protect their employees and customers and that they are taking a leadership role in protecting their community.

Participants will continue to comply with federal, state, and local guidance as a reopening process begins. The Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise also empowers customers to learn what they can do to help keep everyone safe. With restaurants and customers working together, we can make the restaurant industry as vibrant as it was prior to the impact of COVID-19. For more information, please visit prla.org/welcomeback.

Who can participate in the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

Any restaurant or foodservice establishment or hotel that is reopening its dining room and other full-service areas.

Section 2 — Restaurant Responsibilities & Options

How do restaurants participate in the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

Restaurants agree to comply with governmental guidance for all phases of reopening and recovery. We also commit to protect our employees and customers in the following ways:

- We will continue to be a leader in safe sanitation practices and have all team understand safe food handling and have certified manager on every shift or be readily available.
- All staff will complete a health survey prior to each shift.
- All indoor and outdoor seating options will comply with the appropriate physical distancing guidelines.
- Hand sanitizer or hand washing stations will be available upon entry and exit for guests and staff.
- We will clean and sanitize common areas and surfaces regularly.
- All tables and hard surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized after every use.
- Place settings, utensils, menus, and condiments will either be single-use or will be cleaned and disinfected after every use.
- We will post the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise at our entrance, so everyone understands the steps we have voluntarily taken to help keep our communities safe.

Section 3 — Best Practices

What are some best practices restaurants can, but are not specifically required to follow, in order to comply with the commitments in the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

Importantly, restaurants are already experts in safe food handling and sanitation, and so many of their routine practices will go a long way towards fulfilling the commitments in the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise. Different strategies will be appropriate for different restaurants at different times, but the following are ideas that can be implemented or adapted to fit a restaurant's needs:

- Designate a single employee per shift, ideally with a clearly identifiable uniform or badge for customers to recognize, to oversee safety and sanitation measures.
- Employees shall wear gloves and/or masks and other protective equipment in keeping with public health guidelines relating to COVID-19.
- Limit table capacity in accordance with recommended guidelines.
- As an alternate option to physical distancing, consider the use of physical barriers when appropriate.
- Tables should be moved apart, removed, or taken out of service. For tables that are unable to be moved, physically block off or take out of service so they are clearly not in use.
- Use signage and/or floor markings to help customers comply with social distance guidelines in common areas.
- Encourage contactless payment options like credit cards or online ordering
- Temporarily close self-serve, unattended buffets, topping bars, and other communal serving areas.
- Have each staff member complete a health survey prior to their shift*

** What kinds of questions should a restaurant ask its employees to perform health screenings before each shift?*

Yes or no questions/statements like these can help strike the balance between obtaining the necessary health information and respecting privacy concerns. Recommendation is to have all employees complete a simple pre-shift screening that includes answering questions like:

- Do you have any of these symptoms: fever, aches, cough, shortness of breath?
- Have you come in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Are you currently waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test?
- Have you traveled outside Pennsylvania over the last 14 days?
- I understand my responsibility to not come to work if I have symptoms of COVID-19 or have recently come into contact with someone who has COVID-19.
- I understand my responsibility to comply with the restaurant's health and sanitation standards.

How should participating restaurants communicate the commitments of the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

It's vital that restaurants communicate the commitments directly to their staff and monitor compliance. Restaurants should also take steps to communicate their enrollment in the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise by posting the required notice at entrances, and if the restaurant uses a website or social media, through those channels as well.

Section 4 — Customer Responsibilities & Options

Why are customers included within the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

Customers are included because we all have a responsibility to follow public health authority guidance to prevent the spread of COVID-19. By partnering together, we can keep everyone safe.

What commitments does the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise ask customers to make to restaurants?

- If you have been exposed to COVID-19 recently or have symptoms of COVID-19 (including a fever, cough, or shortness of breath), please help us keep everyone safe by using our contactless delivery options.
- If you have underlying health conditions or are otherwise concerned about contracting COVID-19, please feel free to use our contactless delivery options.
- If you have any questions about the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise, please ask for a manager who will be happy to assist you.

What can restaurants do to help customers meet these obligations?

Restaurants are encouraged to maximize the use of contactless delivery options and advertise those options to potential customers. Publicizing information about the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise should also increase customers' compliance.

Section 5—Additional Resources & Next Steps

What resources and support are available related to the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise?

PRLA will share information about the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise with elected officials, the public, allied groups, and the media to assure the public and policymakers that Pennsylvania restaurants stand ready to reopen safely in keeping with these commitments. PRLA will also be available to help answer questions and provide support to restaurants as they reopen their dining and other full-service spaces. Also, the National Restaurant Association has created a COVID-19 Restaurant Response Kit, and continues to provide ServSafe training products like Food Handler and Manager's Certification. These resources can be found at:

- National Restaurant Association COVID-19 Restaurant Response
- ServSafe Takeout: COVID-19 Precautions
- ServSafe Delivery: COVID-19 Precautions
- ServSafe Food Handler

Disclaimer

The Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association (PRLA) is a 501(c)(6) trade association representing the Pennsylvania hospitality industry, including hotels and restaurants. PRLA has developed the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise guidelines above, seeking voluntary participation by Pennsylvania restaurants and hotels. PRLA makes no warranties with respect to the ultimate effectiveness of the Promise program, and assumes no responsibility for assuring compliance by any restaurant or hotel with such guidelines.

Visit www.prla.org/welcomeback to learn more about the Pennsylvania Restaurant Promise.

Pennsylvania

RESTAURANT INDUSTRY AT A GLANCE

Restaurants are a driving force in Pennsylvania's economy. They provide jobs and build careers for thousands of people, and play a vital role in local communities throughout the state.



26,548

Eating and drinking place locations in Pennsylvania in 2018



\$24 billion

Estimated sales in Pennsylvania's restaurants in 2018



580,000

Restaurant and foodservice jobs in Pennsylvania in 2019 = 10% of employment in the state

AND BY 2029, THAT NUMBER IS PROJECTED TO GROW BY 5.9%

= 34,400 additional jobs, for a total of 614,400

HOW DOES THE RESTAURANT INDUSTRY IMPACT THE PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMY?

Every dollar spent in the tableservice segment contributes \$1.91 to the state economy.

Every dollar spent in the limited-service segment contributes \$1.66 to the state economy.



FOR MORE INFORMATION: Restaurant.org • PRLA.org