

TRICOUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER 2020-02

COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITHIN DAGGETT, DUCHESNE, AND Uintah COUNTIES

APRIL 20, 2020

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, Governor Gary R. Herbert issued an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency due to novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order recognizes the need for state and local authorities, and the private sector to cooperate to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national state of emergency based on the continuing spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Governor dismissed all Utah public schools and technical colleges until May 1, 2020, to combat the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Donald J. Trump and the White House Coronavirus Task Force issued guidelines to help protect Americans during the global COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Joseph K. Miner, MD, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) issued a State Public Health Order closing dine-in restaurant and bar services and recommendations for all individuals and businesses to help protect the citizens of Utah during the global COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, Joseph K. Miner, MD, Executive Director of the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) issued an amended State Public Health Order clarifying closures and restrictions placed on food services and bar services and recommendations for all individuals and businesses to help protect the citizens of Utah during the global COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the Governor of the State of Utah issued a directive establishing minimum statewide standards and referenced that in order to address unique situations in different areas of Utah, local authorities are authorized and may impose more stringent directives and orders; and

WHEREAS, the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Uintah and Duchesne counties were, respectively, March 27th and 31st; and

WHEREAS, the following scientific conclusions concerning COVID-19 are known at this time:

- COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus.
- There is a worldwide pandemic of COVID-19.
- COVID-19 is shown to be highly contagious with an R₀ score of 2-3.
- COVID-19 has a higher level of mortality and hospitalization than other similar viral infections which can quickly exceed the surge capacity of healthcare facilities.

WHEREAS, a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms (“asymptomatic”) and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (“pre-symptomatic”) can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms¹; and

WHEREAS, the virus can remain viable and infectious in aerosols for hours and on surfaces up to days²; and

WHEREAS, the proper operation, maintenance, and disinfection (e.g., with chlorine and bromine) of pools should inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19 and there should be appropriate care taken both in and outside the pool to protect yourself and others³; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that with a given combination of individual physiology and environmental conditions, such as humidity and temperature, an exhalation or gas cloud and its payload of virus-bearing droplets of all sizes can travel up to 27 feet⁴; and

WHEREAS, as of April 15, 2020 there are confirmed cases of COVID-19 in counties surrounding the TriCounty area as follows; 10 in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, 3 in Moffat County, Colorado, 1 in Rio Blanco County, Colorado, 2 in Carbon County, Utah, 1 in Grand County, Utah, 102 in Wasatch County, Utah; and

WHEREAS, currently in the State of Utah approximately 9% of all COVID-19 cases are requiring hospitalization and approximately half of all hospital admissions need advanced respiratory support; and

WHEREAS, the local hospitals serving Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah counties only have a combined 12 beds and 13 ventilators on hand in their intensive care units with extremely limited surge capacity to provide additional critical care locally; and

WHEREAS, if a patient is in need of advanced respiratory support and is unable to obtain such support the probability of mortality for that patient increases substantially; and

WHEREAS, there are extremely limited number of qualified physicians to provide advanced respiratory support within our counties; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 6 confirmed cases in Uintah County, 4 confirmed cases and one hospitalization in Duchesne County, and 0 confirmed cases in Daggett County; and

WHEREAS, testing materials for COVID-19 have been in limited supply and although increased testing became more available on April 15, 2020, reliable analysis of results will not be available until around April 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, given the limited local testing capacity, TriCounty Health is unable to proactively discover and isolate asymptomatic carriers of COVID-19 within the community; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has issued the following [guidance](#) concerning the use of masks in the public; and

WHEREAS, there is little to now natural immunity within our population, in order to limit the spread of the disease within the community, non-pharmaceutical interventions such as isolation or quarantine measures must be instituted in order to restrict individuals with known exposure(s) to the virus

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

² <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2004973>

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html>

⁴ https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2763852?utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=content-shareicons&utm_content=article_engagement&utm_medium=social&utm_term=032620%23_Xn048zPgZVA_twitter

from infecting others.⁵

WHEREAS, as of April 16, 2020 there is no FDA approved vaccine or pharmaceutical treatments for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, TriCounty Health Department (Health Department) recognizes that confirmed community transmission in the State of Utah and within the local community significantly increases the risk of exposure and infection to the general public within TriCounty Health district, which creates a public health risk that may spread quickly; and

WHEREAS, the TriCounty Health Officer (Health Officer) finds the above facts raise the likelihood of widespread community transmission occurring among the general public, and that it is imperative for the Health Department and the public to work cooperatively, proactively, and in measured ways to slow the spread of COVID-19 in order to address any challenges that may arise due to this disease in Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties;

THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO UCA §26-6b AND §26A-1-114, UPON THE TOTALITY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND MY FINDINGS OF NECESSITY, I, JORDAN D. MATHIS, TRICOUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT HEALTH OFFICER, DECLARE AND ORDER THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1. Definitions

A. Gathering

Means gathering of any number of people, except for members of the same household or residence, whether in an enclosed area or not, that does not allow the individuals to maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet between individuals, but does not include instances where individuals are patrons or employees as allowed in this order.

B. Face Covering

Means any face covering that meets or exceeds the [CDC](#) recommendations for face coverings to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

C. Symptoms of COVID-19

Means to exhibit any of the following: fever, cough, shortness of breath, or body aches.

D. High-risk Individuals

Means any individual who is age 60 or older or any individual with a serious underlying medical condition.

E. Essential Travel

Means to:

⁵ "Situation Summary." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 15 Mar. 2020, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/summary.html.

Ferguson, Neil M, et al. "Impact of Non-Pharmaceutical ... - Imperial.ac.uk."

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/Media/Imperial-College/Medicine/Sph/Idc/Gida-Fellowships/Imperial-College-COVID19-NPI-Modelling-16-03-2020.Pdf>, On Behalf of the Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team WHO Collaborating Centre for Infectious Disease Modelling MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis Abdul Latif Jameel Institute for Disease and Emergency Analytics Imperial College London, 16 Mar. 2020,

www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/medicine/sph/ide/gida-fellowships/Imperial-College-COVID19-NPI-modelling-16-03-2020.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3Kzs4nAgT0CRk7Ru2D0Tu_2IVpBFnMlxa-qOO0u29W7IJSnflGwWZP8.

- i. safely relocate by an individual whose home or residence is unsafe including individuals who have suffered or are at risk of domestic violence or for whom the safety, sanitation or essential operations of the home or residence cannot be maintained;
- ii. care for a family member or friend in the same household or another household, including transporting family members or friends;
- iii. transport a child according to existing parenting time schedules or other visitation schedules pertaining to a child in need of protective services;
- iv. travel to a veterinarian for essential medical care for pet or domestic animal;
- v. seek emergency services;
- vi. obtain medications and required medical services, including approved testing for COVID-19;
- vii. obtain food, including delivery or carry-out services, beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), and other grocery items, gasoline, supplies required to work from home, and products needed to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of homes and residences, businesses, and personally owned vehicles, including automobiles and bicycles;
- viii. perform work if you cannot telework;
- ix. engage in recreational and outdoor activities;
- x. laundromats and dry cleaners;
- xi. return to a home or place of residence;
- xii. infrequent use of hair salon or barbershop; and
- xiii. where feasible, it is strongly encouraged that the number of individuals per household entering any public place at a given time be limited to the fewest number possible.

Section 2. Governor Herbert's Directive

The following directives from Governor Herbert's March 27, 2020 "Stay Safe, Stay Home" Directive are hereby adopted and ordered, except as modified herein:

A. All individuals shall

- i. Stay at home as much as possible.
- ii. Work from home as much as possible.
- iii. Maintain a six-foot distance from individuals who are not members of the same household or residence when outside or in public.
- iv. Self-quarantine for 14 days after being exposed to an individual presenting [Symptoms of COVID-19](#).
- v. Limit [gatherings](#) to only members of the same household or residence.
- vi. Limit visits to hospitals.
- vii. Not visit nursing homes, or other residential care facilities.
- viii. Not attend school outside the home.
- ix. Not arrange or participate in playdates or similar activities.
- x. Not allow children on public playground equipment.
- xi. Not dine out except for carryout or delivery.
- xii. Not congregate at trailheads and other outdoor spaces

- xiii. Not travel to, or participate in activities at, any of the following locations:
 - a. places of public amusement or public activity, including live theaters and movie theaters;
 - b. public recreation swimming pools.
- xiv. Not engage in close-contact or team sports, or any sport or activity that requires sharing equipment.
- xv. Be allowed to engage in [essential travel](#).

B. All [High-risk individuals](#) shall

- i. Not participate in any [gathering](#) (as defined in [Section 1](#)), except as provided in this subsection.
- ii. Not visit hospitals except for medical care.
- iii. Engage in [Essential Travel](#) as infrequently as possible.

Section 3. Gathering & Line Formation

Effective immediately, active measures must be employed at any public place to reduce [gatherings](#) of individuals and line formation.

- A. Active measures must be employed by the management of any place of public access to avoid the formation of [gatherings](#) of individuals including line formation where possible. Where [gatherings](#) cannot be avoided, active measures must be employed by management to form an orderly line that maintains a physical distance of at least 6 feet between non-immediate household members.

Section 4. Monetary Transactions

Effective immediately, all monetary transactions must adhere to the following standards:

- A. Cash payments are strongly discouraged. Staff who accept payment shall use cleansing measures between each transaction, including using any best practices issued by the Health Department. Where possible, online (e.g., Venmo, Squarecash, Googlepay, Applepay, and similar payment apps) and telephonic credit card transactions are encouraged.

Section 5. Face Coverings

Effective immediately, the following recommendations, restrictions, and limitations regarding personal face coverings shall apply:

- A. All individuals who have interaction, or potential for interaction with the public as a result of their employment, are required to wear a [Face Covering](#) in any public place or wherever social distancing is not possible.
- B. All individuals are encouraged to wear a [Face Covering](#) in any public place, including retail establishments, grocery stores, workplaces, and wherever social distancing is not possible.
- C. Medical-grade masks should be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders and are discouraged for personal use.
- D. The requirements and recommendations to wear a [Face Covering](#) in no way alters, lifts, or changes the social distancing standards set forth in this order.
- E. To be effective face coverings should be cleaned or replaced regularly per [CDC guidelines](#).

Section 6. Closures & Restrictions

A. Restaurants, Bars, and Food Service Establishments

See Utah Department of Health [Public Health Order](#).

B. Indoor Facilities

The following facilities are closed to all public access:

- i. places of indoor public amusement or entertainment, including live theaters and movie theaters;
- ii. public indoor recreational swimming pools;
- iii. public steam rooms, saunas, and the like; and
- iv. under [Governor Herbert's Directive](#), schools, both public and private to traditional classroom education.

C. Outdoor Facilities

The following facilities are closed to all public access:

- i. public outdoor recreational swimming pools; and
- ii. under [Governor Herbert's Directive](#), public playgrounds; and

D. Long-Term Care Facilities

- i. Long term care facilities Access to long-term care facilities shall be governed by the guidance issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality.

E. Gymnasiums, Fitness Centers, Gymnastic Studios, Dance Studios, & Yoga Studios

General

- i. No sign in sheets, touch pads, or touch surfaces shall be required for entry to the facility, but a record of all individuals entering the facility shall be kept, including: date, time, first and last name, and phone number.

Hygiene

- i. Prior to allowing entry into the establishment, management shall require each employee and patron to be asked by phone and/or in-person if that individual has experienced [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) within the last 72 hours, or has had known exposure to a COVID-19 patient within 14 days. If the individual answers affirmatively to either question the individual shall be excluded from entry to the facility. Employees who become sick during their shift with any [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) shall be separated from other employees and sent home immediately and referred for testing.
- ii. Management shall ensure that anyone who enters the facility, including employees, comply with the requirement to wear a [Face Covering](#) at all times while in the facility.
- iii. Locker rooms and showers shall be closed to use.
- iv. Use of toilets, urinals, and hand sinks is allowed.
- v. All equipment and high touch surfaces shall be disinfected after each use consistent with standards identified by the [CDC](#).
- vi. Unless properly sanitized consistent with standards identified by the [CDC](#), the sharing

of equipment, mats, props, or the like is prohibited.

Spacing

- i. Management shall allow only 1 individual per 100 square feet and shall ensure at least 6 feet of separation in all directions between any individuals.
- ii. Individuals from the same household or residence are not bound by the 6 foot spacing requirement, however, each individual, regardless of household or residence, must be counted in the total square footage requirement.
- iii. Team or group activities that cannot maintain 6 feet of separation in all directions between any individuals is not allowed.

F. Hair and Nail Salons, Tanning Salons, Body Art Studios, Day Spas, & Massage Therapists

All hair salons, nail salons, beauty shops, cosmetology salons, esthetician salons, advanced practice esthetician salons, eyelash salons, barber shops, tanning salons, body art studios, day spas, and massage therapists shall comply with the following restrictions and limitations:

General

- i. A record of all individuals entering the facility shall be kept, including: date, time, first and last name, and phone number.

Hygiene

- i. Prior to allowing entry into the establishment, management shall require each employee and patron to be asked by phone and/or in-person if that individual has experienced [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) within the last 72 hours, or has had known exposure to a COVID-19 patient within 14 days. If the individual answers affirmatively to either question the individual shall be excluded from entry to the facility. Employees who become sick during their shift with any [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) shall be separated from other employees and sent home immediately and referred for testing.
- ii. Management shall ensure that anyone who enters the facility, including employees, comply with the requirement to wear a [Face Covering](#) at all times while in the facility.
- iii. All employees shall wash their hands frequently throughout the work day, and at a minimum after each patron interaction.
- iv. Sanitizer shall be available, at a minimum, upon entry and at each workstation throughout the establishment.
- v. All chairs, tables, tools, and supplies shall be sanitized after serving each patron consistent with standards identified by the [CDC](#).
- vi. Lobbies and establishments shall be cleaned frequently consistent with standards identified by the [CDC](#).

Spacing

- i. All lobbies shall be closed to anyone other than immediate patrons and shall observe social distancing and not place, clients or patrons within six (6) feet of each other.
- ii. Social distancing (minimum of six feet) shall be implemented between workstations. "Workstation" is defined as the entire space used by patrons
- iii. and providers to offer services. The parameter of each individual workstation shall be separated by at least six feet.

G. Exercise Pools

Effective immediately pools used exclusively for the purpose of exercise shall comply with the following restrictions and limitations.

General

- i. No sign in sheets, touch pads or touch surfaces shall be required for entry to the facility, but a record of all individuals entering the facility shall be kept, including: date, time, first and last name, and phone number.
- ii. Exercise shall be limited to lap swimming and other exercise activities that adhere to the spacing restriction.

Hygiene

- i. Prior to allowing entry into the establishment, management shall require each employee and patron to be asked by phone and/or in-person if that individual has experienced [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) within the last 72 hours, or has had known exposure to a COVID-19 patient within 14 days. If the individual answers affirmatively to either question the individual shall be excluded from entry to the facility. Employees who become sick during their shift with any [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) shall be separated from other employees and sent home immediately and referred for testing.
- ii. Management shall ensure that anyone who enters the facility, including employees, comply with the requirement to wear a [Face Covering](#) at all times while in the facility, except while swimming.
- iii. Locker rooms and showers shall be closed to use.
- iv. Use of toilets, urinals, and hand sinks is allowed.
- v. Any individuals using the pool shall take the required cleansing shower at their place of residence prior to entering the facility.
- vi. All high touch surfaces shall be disinfected after each use consistent with standards identified by the [CDC](#).
- vii. Use of facility loaned swimming aids such as kickboards, pull buoys, swim paddles, and the like are prohibited.

Spacing

- i. Management shall allow only 1 individual per swimming lane.
- ii. Management shall ensure that patrons maintain proper social distancing while utilizing the exercise pool (ie. avoiding [gatherings](#)).
- iii. Since a mask is not required while swimming, team or group activities that cannot maintain 10 feet of separation in all directions between any individuals is not allowed.

Section 7. Exemptions

While strict adherence to this Order is demanded from all individuals, businesses, organizations, and entities, this Order does not apply, but is encouraged to be followed by:

- A.** Faith leaders and workers, including an official, worker, and leader in houses of worship and other places of religious expression or fellowship, wherever their services may be needed.
- B.** Charitable and social services organizations, including means workers supporting organizations that provide food, shelter, prescription delivery, mental health and substance abuse treatments,

and other social services, as well as other necessities of life for individuals in need of such services, older adults who live alone, people with disabilities, and those who need assistance as a result of this emergency.

- C. Individuals without a home who may move between emergency shelters.
- D. Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and Other First Responders as defined by the [Department of Homeland Security](#).

While such exemptions are deemed at this time to be reasonably related to the promotion of overall public health, any or all exemptions may be discontinued by subsequent order of the TriCounty Health Department Officer.

Section 8. Other Directives

Nothing herein should be interpreted as discouraging residents, businesses, offices, or other employers from implementing other directives set forth by Governor Gary Herbert's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" directive.

Section 9. Duration of Order

This order supersedes the April 2, 2020 local health order, and becomes effective at 12:00 AM on April 20, 2020 and shall be in effect through May 1, 2020, unless duly extended by the TriCounty Health Department Officer.

It is anticipated that this Order can be reviewed earlier when the following is achieved: either COVID-19 test results from 5% of the tri-County general population or 10 days of open COVID-19 testing, whichever comes first.

Section 10. Scope of Order

It is absolutely incumbent on all individuals (State and local elected officials, business owners, residents and families) to understand what this Order does not do. So long as individuals and places of employment adhere to the requirements herein, nothing in this Order requires the closure or additional limitations of services from the following sectors:

- Mineral, oil, and gas extraction
- Retail stores
- Professional guiding services
- In-lobby banking services
- Hair salons or other similar services
- Gyms and fitness centers
- The complete closure of a food service establishment
- Public libraries
- Equestrian facilities
- Golf courses
- Hotels and motels
- Museums and visitor centers

TriCounty Health Department reserves the right to update this list at any time if it is made aware of other

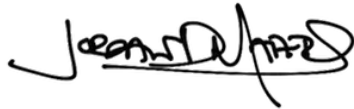
establishments, businesses, or public places that have placed restrictions on operations that are not required by this Order. It is the intent and hope of TriCounty Health Department that the residents of the tri-County area can enjoy living and working here while we all continue to do our part to ensure that access to advanced respiratory support is not impaired in the tri-county area.

Section 11. Violations


An initial violation of this Order is punishable as a Class B Misdemeanor. Subsequent violations are punishable as Class A Misdemeanors. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense (Utah Code 26A-1-123(1)(a) and (b)), or as prescribed by other applicable laws.

Signed this 17th day of April, 2020

By Order of the TriCounty Health Department Health Officer



Jordan D. Mathis
Health Officer



John Mathis
TriCounty Board of Health, Chair

Approved as to Form:



Jonathan A. Stearmer
Chief Deputy Uintah County Attorney