



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Asa Hutchinson

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health

Effective date: May 6, 2020

Directive for Barber Shops, Body Art Establishments, Cosmetology Establishments, Massage Therapy Clinics/Spas, and Medical Spas

The Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Governor, has sole authority over all instances of quarantine, isolation, and restrictions on commerce and travel throughout Arkansas, as necessary and appropriate to control disease in the state of Arkansas as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. §20-7-109--110. Based on available scientific evidence, it is necessary and appropriate to take further action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Arkansas remain safe.

On March 23, 2020, the Secretary of Health, in conjunction with the Governor, issued a directive that Barber Shops, Body Art Establishments, Body Art Schools, Cosmetology Establishments, Massage Therapy Clinics/Spas, and Medical Spas should close for in-person operations. This document updates the directive to outline the conditions required to safely reopen these entities during Phase 1.

- Providers may resume services, however those services shall be scheduled by appointment with adequate time in between appointments to properly clean and disinfect. Walk-in appointments are prohibited during Phase 1.
- Vulnerable populations (i.e. those persons over the age of 65 or with chronic medical conditions) should consider remaining home during Phase 1.
- Clients shall be pre-screened for potential COVID-related symptoms prior to arrival for the appointment using the following questions:
 - *Have you had a fever of 100.4 F or greater in the last 2 days?*
 - *Do you have a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat or loss of taste or smell?*
 - *Have you had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the past 14 days?*

Those answering “yes” to any of the above shall have their services postponed for 14 days.

- Employees/licenseses shall be pre-screened with both the standardized questionnaire and a daily temperature check. Any employee with a temperature of 100.4 F or greater will not be allowed to work.
- Services shall not be performed on clients who show any sign of illness such as fever, cough, or runny nose. Signage shall be posted informing clients about this policy.
- All persons in the salon/shop/clinic are required to maintain physical distancing of at least 6 ft while services are not being rendered. For most entities, occupancy will be limited to no more than 10 persons, including all support staff.
- In smaller facilities, the 6 ft physical distancing condition may require that *fewer* than 10 persons are present at any given time.

- Larger facilities (able to accommodate more than 10 persons while maintaining appropriate physical distancing) shall **operate no more than 30% of their stations** during Phase 1.
- Barbers, stylists, employees shall wear a face covering at all times. A cloth face covering is acceptable for this purpose.
- Clients shall wear masks as services permit. A cloth face covering is acceptable for this purpose. Signage shall be posted informing clients about this policy.
- Waiting area chairs shall be positioned to ensure 6 ft of social distancing. When possible, clients should wait outside of the shop/salon/clinic until called by their stylist/therapist.
- All existing infection control rules remain in effect and will be enforced. Non-porous surfaces shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to use. Porous items shall be discarded after a single use.
- Gloves shall be worn for all services as required by Rule. Licensees are encouraged to wear gloves for all other services when able.
- Handwashing shall be performed before and after each service.
- The Department of Health COVID Infection Control Education module should be viewed prior to reopening.
- Practitioners shall maintain a record of the name, date, and contact information, for each client serviced for a period of one month. This may be accomplished using a sign-in sheet.
- Barbering, cosmetology, body art, and massage schools shall remain closed for in-person instruction during Phase 1. However, practical examinations may occur if they are performed on inanimate objects (i.e. mannequins, artificial skin, etc.) Appropriate physical distancing shall be maintained during testing.

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For Immediate Release

05.01.2020

Barber, Cosmetology, Massage Therapy, Body Art, And Medical Spa Services May Resume Operations On May 6, Governor Hutchinson Announces

LITTLE ROCK – Barber shops, body art establishments, body art schools, cosmetology establishments, massage therapy clinics and spas, and medical spas may resume operations on May 6, 2020, under Phase 1 guidelines established to protect the health and safety of employees and patrons, Governor Asa Hutchinson announced at his daily press briefing today.

Required precautions under Phase 1 guidelines for barber shops, body art establishments, body art schools, cosmetology establishments, massage therapy clinics and spas, and medical spas include pre-screening employees and clients, prohibiting walk-in appointments, use of gloves at all times, use of face masks as services permit, and appropriate social distancing.

“We have all felt the absence of these services over the past number of weeks, and professionals are eager to resume their work,” Governor Hutchinson said. “I have great confidence that our stylists, cosmetologists, and other professionals will work very hard to protect themselves and their clients and still provide the highest quality of service.”

Phase 1 guidelines for these entities include:

- Providers may resume services; however those services shall be scheduled by appointment with adequate time in between appointments to properly clean and disinfect. Walk-in appointments are prohibited during Phase 1.
- People older than 65 or those with chronic medical conditions should consider remaining home during Phase 1.

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- Providers must pre-screen clients for potential COVID-related symptoms before they arrive for an appointment using the following questions:
 - -Have you had a fever of 100.4 F or greater in the past two days
 - -Do you have a cough, difficulty breathing, a sore throat, or loss of taste or smell?
 - -Have you had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the past 14 days?
 Providers should postpone for 14 days the appointment of any who answer “yes” to any of the questions.
- Employees/licensees shall be pre-screened with both the standardized questionnaire and a daily temperature check. Any employee with a temperature of 100.4 F or greater will not be allowed to work.
- Services shall not be performed on clients who show any sign of illness such as fever, cough, or runny nose. Signage shall be posted informing clients about this policy.
- All persons in the salon/shop/clinic are required to maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet while services are not being rendered. For most entities, occupancy will be limited to no more than 10 persons, including all support staff.
- In smaller facilities, the 6 feet physical distancing condition may require that fewer than 10 persons are present at any given time.
- Larger facilities (able to accommodate more than 10 persons while maintaining appropriate physical distancing) shall operate no more than 30% of their stations during Phase 1.
- Barbers, stylists, and employees shall wear a face covering at all times. A cloth face covering is acceptable for this purpose.
- Clients shall wear masks as services permit. A cloth face covering is acceptable for this purpose. Signage shall be posted informing clients about this policy.
- Chairs in waiting areas shall be positioned to ensure six feet of social distancing. When possible, clients should wait outside of the shop/salon/clinic until called by their stylist/therapist.
- All existing infection control rules remain in effect and will be enforced. Non-porous surfaces shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to use. Porous items shall be discarded after a single use.
- Gloves shall be worn for all services as required by Rule. Licensees are encouraged to wear gloves for all other services when able.
- Hand washing shall be performed before and after each service.
- The Department of Health COVID Infection Control Education module shall be viewed prior to reopening.
- Practitioners shall maintain a record of the name, date, and contact information, for each client serviced for a period of one month. This may be accomplished using a sign-in sheet.
- Barbering, cosmetology, body art schools, and massage schools shall remain closed for in-person instruction during Phase 1. However, practical examinations are permissible if they are performed on inanimate objects such as mannequins and artificial skin. Appropriate physical distancing shall be maintained during testing.

Find the Arkansas Department of Health directive for reopening barber shops, body art establishments, cosmetology establishments, massage therapy clinics and spas, and medical spas [HERE](https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/FinalCosmetology-UPDATED-05120.pdf) (<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/FinalCosmetology-UPDATED-05120.pdf>).

MEDIA CONTACT: Press Shop (press@governor.arkansas.gov (<mailto:press@governor.arkansas.gov>))

If you are not a member of the media and have questions or concerns about COVID-19, you can contact the Arkansas Department of Health at 1-800-803-7847 or visit [ar.gov/covid](https://govstatus.egov.com/ar-covid-19) (<https://govstatus.egov.com/ar-covid-19>).



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Governor Asa Hutchinson
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Effective Date: May 4, 2020

Directive for Gym, Fitness Center, Athletic Club and Weight Room Reopening

The Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Governor, has sole authority over all instances of quarantine, isolation, and restrictions on commerce and travel throughout Arkansas, as necessary and appropriate to control disease in the state of Arkansas as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. §20-7-109--110. Based on available scientific evidence, it is necessary and appropriate to take further action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Arkansas remain safe.

This directive addresses a progressive resumption of individual exercise activities in gyms and fitness centers. Gyms and fitness centers may begin to resume these activities on May 4, 2020 if they meet the following requirements:

I. Screening must be completed on entry for all staff and participants. Those who have any of the following characteristics should **NOT** be allowed to enter:

- Have returned from travel to NY, NJ, CT, New Orleans or overseas within the last 14 days;
- Have had a fever of 100.4°F or greater in the last 2 days;
- Have a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell;
- Had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days;
- Have compromised immune systems and/or have chronic diseases.

In addition, staff must have their temperature checked by digital thermometer prior to entry. Do not allow entry to anyone whose temperature is greater than 100.4°F.

II. Staff should wear a face covering or mask at all times. Patrons should wear a face covering except when actively exercising.

III. Prohibit the use of pools, spas, showers, saunas, etc. at this time. Locker rooms are to be used only for storage of personal items. Maintain physical distancing while in locker rooms.

IV. Make hand sanitizer available throughout the facility.

V. Staff should ensure that all exercise machines or equipment are sanitized after each usage (via wipe-down with disposable disinfectant wipes, Lysol or the equivalent; use according to product instructions).

VI. Maintain proper spacing from others by working out with 12 feet between each person. This may require closing or moving some equipment.

VII. Avoid personal contact at all times, including hand shaking.

VIII. Individual training sessions, indoor group fitness classes, and workouts requiring a partner must maintain 12 foot spacing between each person at this time.

Note: This directive does not address team or youth sports. These will be addressed by a different document later. This directive also does not address indoor entertainment venues, such as bowling alleys, trampoline parks, and indoor amusement centers, which will be addressed later.

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For Immediate Release

04.30.2020

Gyms, Fitness Centers May Resume Operations on May 4, Governor Hutchinson Announces

LITTLE ROCK – Gyms and fitness centers may resume operations on May 4, 2020, under certain guidelines established to protect the health and safety of employees and patrons, Governor Asa Hutchinson announced at his daily press briefing today. Under these guidelines, gyms and fitness centers must implement precautions such as use of face masks except when exercising, daily temperature checks for employees and patrons, and social distancing of at least 12 feet while exercising.

“I am pleased that Arkansans will be able to resume physical activity at their local gyms,” Governor Hutchinson said. “There are still limitations on the use of these facilities, but if carefully observed, I am confident we will be able to return to our normal exercise routines soon. I look forward to resuming my weekly game of pick-up basketball once all restrictions lift, but until then, it’s important that managers, employees, and patrons carefully follow the guidelines as they resume operations.”

Gyms and fitness centers must meet the following criteria to resume operations on May 4:

- Screening must be completed on entry for all staff and participants. Those who have any of the following characteristics should not be allowed to enter:
 - -Have returned from travel to New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, New Orleans or overseas within the last 14 days;
 - -Have had a fever of 100.4°F or greater in the past two days;
 - -Have a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell;
 - -Had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days;
 - -Have compromised immune systems and/or have chronic diseases.

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- Staff should wear a face covering or mask at all times. Patrons should wear a face covering except when actively exercising.
- Prohibit the use of pools, spas, showers, saunas, etc. at this time. Locker rooms are to be used only for storage of personal items. Maintain physical distancing while in locker rooms.
- Hand sanitizer should be available throughout the facility.
- Staff should ensure that all exercise machines or equipment are sanitized after each use (via wipe-down with disposable disinfectant wipes, Lysol or the equivalent).
- Maintain proper spacing from others by working out with 12 feet between each person. This may require closing or moving some equipment.
- Avoid personal contact at all times, including hand shaking.
- Individual training sessions, indoor group fitness classes, and workouts that require a partner must maintain 12 foot spacing between each person at this time.

Find the Arkansas Department of Health directive for reopening gyms, fitness centers, athletic clubs, and weight rooms [HERE](#)

(<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/GymFitnessCenterResumeDraft4.29.20.pdf>).

MEDIA CONTACT: Press Shop (press@governor.arkansas.gov (<mailto:press@governor.arkansas.gov>))

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