

Broward County Frequently Asked Questions

1. *What is open in Broward County?*

Generally speaking, except for specific types of businesses that must remain closed (see FAQ 2), Emergency Orders 20-12 ("EO 20-12"), 20-13 ("EO 20-13") and 20-14 ("EO 20-14") allow most businesses, establishments, and amenities in Broward County (collectively "establishments") to resume operations subject to the restrictions in EO 20-12, EO 20-13, and EO 20-14 and the attachments thereto. These orders supersede any contrary provision in any prior Broward County Emergency Order.

2. *What is closed in Broward County?*

The establishments that must remain closed at this time are:

- a. Bars, pubs, night clubs, banquet halls, cocktail lounges, cabarets, and breweries, except for food take-out or delivery services;
- b. Movie theaters, concert houses, auditoriums, playhouses, bowling alleys, and arcades, except that drive-in movie theaters are allowed to operate in accordance with EO 20-12;
- c. Vacation rentals (except as permitted by the Governor's Executive Order 20-87);
- d. Hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms;
- e. Pari-mutuel facilities (as defined by Florida Statutes Section 550.002(23)), except for when the establishment is being utilized for a use expressly permitted under a Broward County Emergency Order or by a professional sports team to conduct or host a training, competition, event, or game in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 20-123.

Please note that even if authorized to do so, establishments are not required to open. If an establishment does open, it may choose to impose stricter requirements on its employees or customers. To determine if a particular business is open and what requirements may apply to employees or customers of that business, please reach out to the business directly.

3. *What rules apply for establishments that are reopening?*

All establishments must comply with the restrictions in Attachment 1 to EO 20-12, as amended by EO 20-14, such as sanitation requirements and enforcing facial coverings and social distancing. Specific uses must also comply with the applicable attachments to EO 20-12, as amended, as follows:

- Attachment 1: General Requirements for All Establishments
- Attachment 2: Restaurants and Food Establishments
- Attachment 3: Retail Establishments
- Attachment 4: Personal Services
- Attachment 5: Movie Theaters
- Attachment 6: Community Rooms, Fitness Centers, and Gyms in Housing Developments
- Attachment 7: Museums
- Attachment 8: Parks in Broward County Limited Reopening Guidelines
- Attachment 9: Boating and Marine Activities Requirements
- Attachment 10: Golf Course Limited Reopening Requirements
- Attachment 11: Pool Decks, Pools, And Other Residential Recreational Amenities In Housing Developments
- Attachment 12: Public Community Pools and Private Club Pools
- Attachment 13: Hotels, Motels, and Commercial Lodging Establishments
- Attachment 14: Commercial Gyms and Fitness Centers
- Attachment 15: Beaches in Broward County Limited Reopening Guidelines

4. Social Distancing: When do the social distancing requirements apply?

Whenever you are outside of your home, you should keep at least six feet of distance between yourself and any person who does not live in your household or is not part of your group.

5. Facial Coverings: Who has to wear them and when?

For detailed information regarding facial coverings, please visit the County's Frequently Asked Questions on facial coverings available [here](#).

6. May municipalities impose additional, stricter limitations?

Yes. Municipalities may have stricter limitations than the County. Municipalities may also relax certain outdoor seating code restrictions to allow restaurants to expand their outdoor seating areas. Except as expressly allowed, municipalities may not relax the requirements of any Broward County Emergency Order or open any business that is expressly closed by any Broward County Emergency Order.

7. Must the owner of an establishment be present to ensure compliance with the guidelines set forth in the County's emergency orders?

No, the owner is not required to be present, but the business is only permitted to operate in compliance with the applicable guidelines, which may require designated personnel to be on site to ensure such compliance. Prior to opening, the business must have established protocols to ensure compliance with all applicable requirements.

8. Are all gyms and fitness centers allowed to open?

Yes, subject to the limitations of EO 20-12, as amended, and any applicable attachments thereto, including Attachment 1 and [Attachment 14](#).

9. Are establishments required to open?

No. While most establishments are permitted to open subject to requirements, establishments are not required to open. Other considerations may influence whether a business determines it can safely reopen. Please contact establishments directly for more information.

10. What are the current restaurant occupancy limits?

Indoor seating areas are limited to 50% maximum capacity of the establishment. The combined total number of persons present in the indoor and outdoor areas must not exceed the combined total maximum capacity of the restaurant. For example, if a restaurant capacity limit is 100 patrons, the restaurant can sit 50 patrons indoors and 50 patrons outdoors, or 30 patrons indoors and 70 patrons outdoors. All tables and chairs, whether indoor or outdoor, shall be at least six feet apart between parties (at their closest point); bar counters shall remain closed to seating. Patrons are prohibited from congregating at the bar counters or elsewhere. Parties shall be limited to no more than ten (10) persons. Per the Governor's Executive Order 20-123, workers are excluded from the calculations.

11. Do occupancy limits apply to businesses that were already operating prior to Broward County entering Phase 1?

No. Businesses that were allowed to operate prior to May 18, 2020, may continue to operate without occupancy limitations.

12. Is the mall open? Is the food court at the mall open?

Retail establishments are permitted to open subject to a 50% occupancy limitation but are not required to open. Mall operators or individual stores may decide whether or not to open. Food courts at malls are

permitted to reopen, subject to the limitations on restaurants and other food establishments found in [Attachment 2](#) to EO 20-12. Please contact the retail establishment directly for more information on its status.

13. *Are beaches open?*

Yes, subject to the limitations of Attachment 15 of EO 20-12, as amended by EO 20-14.

14. *Are pools open?*

Yes. Pools and pool decks located in **multi-family housing developments** (HOA, condominium pools, etc.) may operate subject to the requirements in [Attachment 11](#) of EO 20-12, as amended. No guests, other than family members (if authorized by the housing development), are permitted in multi-family housing development pools and pool decks. Pools in **private clubs** (YMCAs, JCC, yacht clubs, etc.), **county or municipal pools**, and pools that are part of a **commercial gym or fitness facility or hotel, motel, or commercial lodging establishment** may operate subject to the requirements in [Attachment 12](#) of EO 20-12.

Any particular pool may choose to remain closed, and the decision to reopen may be subject to internal rules or regulations of that establishment or organization. For more information about the status of a pool located at any of the above-mentioned establishments, please reach out directly to the owner, operator, property manager, or governing board of such establishment.

15. *Are pet groomers allowed to open?*

Yes. All establishments except those outlined in Section 2 of EO 20-12, as amended by EO 20-13 and EO 20-14 may resume operations subject to any applicable guidelines, including Attachment 1 of EO 20-14.

16. *Are dog parks open?*

Yes. Dog parks located in parks may operate consistent with the applicable requirements in EO 20-12 and Attachment 8, as amended by EO 20-14.

17. *Are spas/massage establishments allowed to open? What about spas in hotels?*

Yes, spas and massage establishments, irrespective of their location, may operate, subject to the limitations of Attachment 3 (for retail sales) and Attachment 4 (for personal services) of EO 20-12. Although, previously, the County was allowing massages to be performed only for medically necessary reasons, pursuant to EO 20-14, massage establishments may operate pursuant to the guidelines of Attachment 1 and Attachment 4 of EO 20-12, and any applicable Order of the Governor, including Section 5 of Executive Order 20-112.

Spa operators may allow their patrons to use hotel pools or other similar amenities subject to the limitations of Attachment 12 of EO 20-12.

18. *Are tattoo parlors open?*

Yes, pursuant to EO 20-14, tattoo parlors may resume operations subject to EO 20-12 and any applicable attachments thereto, including Attachment 4, which applies to licensed professional services.

19. Are community centers and recreation centers located inside Parks in Broward County allowed to operate?

Yes, community centers/recreation centers located inside Parks in Broward County may resume operations subject to Attachment 8 of EO 20-12, as amended by EO 20-14.

20. Are realtors and other real estate related businesses allowed to operate?

Yes, residential and commercial real estate services were permitted services under the Governor's Executive Order 20-91, and are allowed to operate, including in-person showings, inspections, and closings, provided they operate in accordance with Broward County Emergency Order 20-12, including Attachment 1 thereto and the CDC guidelines on social distancing and facial coverings.

21. Are summer camps allowed to operate? If so, are there any restrictions/guidelines?

Broward County is working on a plan for summer camps and youth activities. It expects to be able to issue further guidance on this matter in the near future.

22. Can places of worship open?

Religious organizations continue to be strongly urged to follow CDC Guidelines, including the use of facial coverings, and to limit their gatherings to groups of no more than ten (10) people. However, there are no restrictions on religious services under the current orders.

23. Are hotels open in Broward County? What about vacation rentals?

Hotels, motels, and commercial lodging establishments may operate subject to the limitations of EO 20-12 and EO 12-13, including Attachment 1 and Attachment 14. Specific uses within the hotels must comply with the applicable attachments, such as restaurants (Attachment 2), retail (Attachment 3), and pools (Attachment 12).

Broward County is preparing a plan to be submitted to the Governor so that vacation rentals may resume their pre-COVID-19 business activities with restrictions.

24. What are the consequences of violating an Emergency Order? How do I report a violation of the Emergency Orders?

Violation of an Emergency Order is a second-degree misdemeanor subject to fines up to \$500 per violation, imprisonment up to 60 days, or both. [[Section 8-56, Broward County Code of Ordinances](#)] If you know or suspect that a particular establishment is in violation of an applicable order, you should report the suspected violation to 311 or to the applicable local [municipal code enforcement](#). These penalties may be imposed upon an individual as well as an establishment.

25. How can I contact the County if I have any questions or comments about COVID-19 or the County's Emergency Orders?

Call the COVID-19 Hotline at (954) 357-9500.

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