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Your Actions Save Lives

Industry guidance to reduce risk

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Ventilation guidance for businesses operating indoors

All businesses permitted to operate indoors must follow the California Department of Public Health interim [guidance for ventilation, filtration, and air quality](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Places of worship and cultural ceremonies – updated February 22, 2021

In response to recent judicial rulings, the interim capacity limits below are effective immediately. The linked guidance is in the process of being updated. All other restrictions in the guidance remain in place.

Tier status

Widespread (purple)

- Outdoor or indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities are strongly discouraged and must be limited to 25% of capacity

Substantial (red)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 25% of capacity

Moderate (orange)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 50% of capacity

Minimal (yellow)

- Indoor with modifications
- Indoor activities must be limited to 50% of capacity

Singing, chanting, and playing wind instruments

Singing, chanting, playing wind instruments, and similar activities are permitted subject to the restrictions below. Workers or volunteers who are providing vocal, instrumental, or other music for a service or

ceremony but sit or stand separately from the visitors or congregants are “performers.” Additional or alternative modifications for performances may be required by the forthcoming Live Performances guidance.

Outdoor

- Performers who are singing, chanting, playing a wind instrument, or engaging in similar activities must maintain 6 feet of physical distance from spectators and other performers if they are wearing face coverings, or 12 feet of physical distance if they are not wearing face coverings.
- Members of the audience or congregation may sing or chant as long as they wear face coverings and maintain physical distancing.

Widespread (purple)

- Performers singing, chanting, playing a wind instrument, or engaging in similar activities indoors must wear face coverings at all times.
- Such performers must maintain at least 12 feet of physical distance from other performers and 24 feet of physical distance from visitors or congregants.
- During a single service or ceremony before a live audience, no more than 10 performers may sing, chant, play wind instruments, or engage in similar activities.
- Performers are counted toward the occupancy capacity limit.
- Performers are strongly recommended to obtain a negative PCR test within 72 hours prior to the service.
- Houses of worship should improve ventilation as much as possible.

Substantial (red), Moderate (orange), and Minimal (yellow)

- Performers singing, chanting, playing a wind instrument, or engaging in similar activities indoors must wear face coverings at all times
- Performers must maintain physical distancing from congregants or spectators and other performers.
- Performers are counted toward the occupancy capacity limit.
- Performers are strongly recommended to obtain a negative PCR test within 72 hours prior to the service
- Houses of worship should improve ventilation as much as possible.

Recorded performances

When making a recording without a live audience for later use at a service or ceremony, performers may sing, chant, play wind instruments, or engage in similar activities without face coverings if the following conditions are met:

- Each performer has taken a laboratory-based PCR diagnostic test (i.e., not a rapid test) that yielded a negative result within 72 hours prior to the recording session.
- Performers must maintain six feet of physical distance.
- Any additional individuals involved in making the recording must wear face coverings at all times.

Follow this [guidance for places of worshipPDF\(this is a pdf file\)](#) and providers of religious services to support a safe, clean environment for congregants, visitors, workers, and volunteers. Places of worship include:

- Churches
- Mosques
- Synagogues
- Temples

This guidance also applies to cultural ceremonies like weddings and funerals.

Review the guidance, prepare a plan, and post the [checklist for places of worshipPDF\(this is a pdf file\)](#) and cultural ceremonies to show everyone that you’ve reduced the risk.

