

## Reopen Guidance for Congregate Nutrition Services

# COVID-19 Guidance

**Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020**

Most recent key revisions are colored blue.

**Time: 4:00 PM**

Recent releases: 5/27/2020

### Congregate Nutrition Services Reopen Measures

Throughout the COVID-19 emergency and reopening period, to protect the health of older Kansans, the agency requests that providers and participants proceed in accordance with Governor Laura Kelly's [Plan to Reopen Kansas](#). The agency strongly encourages the continued provision of nutrition services such as box lunches, pick-up or home-delivered meals to congregate meal clients.

1. To avoid setbacks during the reopening process:
  - Continue to follow county and local emergency management restrictions and recommendations;
  - Providers, staff and participants should stay home if they are sick;
  - Wear masks in public settings;
  - Maximize physical distance (6 ft or more) in public settings;
  - Avoid socializing in large groups;
  - Minimize nonessential travel;
  - Check in (via phone/letter/text/email) with participants who are isolated;
  - Encourage frequent handwashing.
2. High-risk individuals include those with underlying medical conditions, including, chronic lung disease, asthma, heart conditions, severe obesity, chronic kidney disease, liver disease, or otherwise immunocompromised. According to the [CDC](#), older adults seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. During **Phase One, Phase 1.5 and Phase Two**:
  - High-risk individuals and older adults are advised to continue to stay home except for essential needs.
  - Telework is strongly encouraged for all employees when possible.
3. Congregate Nutrition Settings and Senior Centers should remain closed to older adult participants until **Phase Three**, no earlier than **June 8, 2020**. At this time, the sites may open if:
  - They can maintain 6 ft distance between consumers (individuals or groups);
  - Fundamental cleaning and public health practices are followed;
  - Avoiding any instances in which groups of more than 30 individuals are in one location and are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.
4. **Continue to follow the Governor's guidelines for Phase Out.** All Public Health Guidelines should continue to be followed.
5. High-Risk individuals and older adults should:
  - Continue to wear face masks when interacting with other individuals;
  - Monitor health and potential symptoms closely and report any signs of COVID-19;
  - Limit all travel;

- Telework if possible;
  - Limit attending gatherings of any number of people;
  - Do not visit nursing homes or other residential care facilities if possible.
6. Administration for Community Living (ACL) Reopening Guidelines for Senior Nutrition Programs may be view here: [https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/AoA%20-%20Nutrition%20Reopening-Final%20-%205-20\\_1\\_0.docx](https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/AoA%20-%20Nutrition%20Reopening-Final%20-%205-20_1_0.docx)

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