

#RESTART[↑]MB Pandemic Response System

January 7, 2021

Manitoba's COVID-19 Experience

Manitoba's public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been based on:

- expert public health knowledge as the foundation for all advice;
- leadership on all fronts – business, industry, municipalities, non-profits and the public sector;
- Manitobans respecting advice and responding to protect others as well as themselves; and,
- dedication of front-line service providers.

Public health advice has guided Manitoba's response for each phase of reopening as well as the original shutdown in March.

In partnership with Manitobans, the province has public health guidelines put in place to help limit the spread of the pandemic with the goals of preventing serious illness and death, lessening the impact on the economy, and keeping our society functioning.

Some of this response has included smaller gathering sizes, the use of physical distancing, and enhanced hygiene measures as well as enhanced public health measures related to testing, personal protective equipment and overall system capacity.

We need to sustain these efforts to keep Manitobans safe with a focussed response adapting to changing COVID-19 conditions.

Living with COVID-19

Over time, Manitoba has been able to ease restrictions while maintaining the public health fundamentals. It is clear that we must learn to live with this virus, and that cannot mean simply closing everything down as was necessary in March 2020. We must be ready and able to respond and adapt to changing conditions and help ensure all Manitobans know what to expect in the months ahead.

Living with COVID-19 means staying safe first, while allowing our economy and communities to remain open and functioning as much as possible.

COVID-19 will be an active virus into the foreseeable future. That means we need an ongoing response system based on the risks COVID-19 presents.

The #RestartMB Pandemic Response System

Manitoba is introducing the #RestartMB Pandemic Response System to provide a clear and responsive overview of public health guidance on the current risk of COVID-19 and the specific measures being taken to reduce its spread. This system helps people understand the current level of risk and the public health guidance that must be followed.

It is based on the following principles:

- A rising risk level should lead to stronger responses and restrictions.
- Responses for each risk level should be flexible and proportionate to the risks involved.
- Public Health responses should be applied in a focused manner.
- Each risk level and response will continue to be guided by public health advice.
- Essential services will remain available during all risk and response levels.

Accordingly, the #RestartMB Pandemic Response System sets out a four colour-coded levels with easily identifiable symbols. The following describes levels based on a province-wide assessment. They can be applied at an even more focused regional, community, sector or facility level, if required. The system also outlines measures that may be taken against COVID-19 at each level based on local transmission. It will provide clear information to Manitobans on the current risk of COVID-19 so they know what to expect and can adjust personal behaviour to reduce risk of exposure and transmission. The system sets out specific and focussed public health responses on a provincial, regional, community, and business or sector basis that can scale up or down depending on the risk of the virus at that time.

Essential services will remain up and running at all times, while following public health and workplace safety guidance. This includes: health services; emergency services; utilities and essential goods transport. Schools, child care centres, post-secondary, training and critical government services will remain open with delivery models adjusted to each response level.



CRITICAL LEVEL

Community spread of COVID-19 is not contained and/or there are significant strains on our health care system



RESTRICTED LEVEL

Community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring



CAUTION LEVEL

Community transmission is at low levels



LIMITED RISK LEVEL

The spread of COVID-19 is broadly contained. Vaccine and/or effective treatment for COVID-19 are available.

Public health advice on these response measures may be updated on the basis of:

- changes in public health indicators in Manitoba;
- new scientific knowledge about COVID-19; and,
- information about the effectiveness of measures in other provinces and countries.

Assessing Public Health Risk

There are many factors that public health experts consider when assessing the risk of COVID-19 and its probability of spreading. These include:

- growing test positivity rates in the two to three per cent range, which could signal higher risk;
- case numbers that are rapidly growing, which could signal a higher risk;
- an increase in the number of days passed since positive cases are linked to transmission, which could signal a declining risk;
- contact tracing and the degree to which cases are contained in clusters or are community based, which can determine whether the risk is locally or more broadly based;
- health system capacity to deal with a surge in cases requiring hospitalization, intensive care, or other interventions which can signal overwhelming of the health system.

COVID-19 impacts can range from isolated individual cases to larger outbreaks, a facility or a community. For example, a high positivity rate found in a facility could pose a risk to staff as well as anyone who entered it. If it was found that there were multiple contacts outside of the facility including vulnerable populations, risk would be higher and response measures enhanced.

How Cases are Investigated and Escalated

When Public Health becomes aware of COVID-19 they:

- **TRACE** immediately to determine all potential contacts to determine the potential extent of any spread.
- **NOTIFY** people and places in the event of an action needed to prevent the spread (e.g. self-isolation of the affected group and/or closure of an area while enhanced cleaning occurs).
- **CONTAIN** by keeping self-isolation and other measures in place for at least two incubation periods, or four weeks in total, to ensure no further spread from the identified cases.

Detailed Description of Levels

At all levels, all Manitobans should follow these public health fundamentals.

- Always stay at home when you're sick, even if mildly ill.
- Enhanced personal hygiene, including:
 - regular and thorough handwashing;
 - covering your nose and mouth with tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing;
 - avoid sharing food or drinks; and,
 - avoid touching your face.

- People at higher risk of complications due to COVID-19 to take extra precautions and avoid closed spaces, crowded places and close contact settings.
- Manitobans should wear masks in indoor settings where social distancing is not possible.
- People with COVID-19 symptoms may contact Health Links – Info Santé for testing directions or go directly to a designated site to get tested.



LIMITED RISK

- The spread of COVID-19 is broadly contained in Manitoba.
- Transmission of the virus is at very low to undetectable levels.
- A vaccine and effective treatment are available.
- There may be single or isolated small cluster outbreaks which are quickly contained.
- Community transmission is low to undetectable.
- There is sufficient health system capacity.

Range of Response Measures

- Normal enhanced hygiene recommended. No additional extraordinary public health measures required.



CAUTION

- The spread of COVID-19 is at low to moderate levels.
- Household and close contact transmission is occurring in Manitoba.
- There may be multiple and isolated small cluster outbreaks (or a small number of larger outbreaks) which are mostly contained.
- Community transmission is low and/or localized/geographically limited.

Range of Response Measures

- Gathering sizes may be limited, based on public health information at the time.
- Travel restrictions may be put in place, based on conditions in other jurisdictions.
- Residents of hospitals, long-term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities may be allowed to receive limited visitors with more relaxed rules for outdoors.
- Child care centres are able to provide broad service, following physical distancing, enhanced cleaning, and other public health guidance.
- Schools are open, provided that physical distancing and cohorting measures are in place. Where limitations are required, these will be on school-by-school basis with emphasis on maintaining full time school for K-8.
- Day camps may have reduced occupancy limits.

- Post-secondary institutions and vocational colleges may be able to provide learning in settings that require hands-on experience with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Sports and recreational activities for children and adults may operate with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Outdoor recreation facilities and golf courses may operate with some limitations/ additional requirements.
- Public/private indoor and outdoor swimming pools may operate with physical distancing requirements (This does not apply to residential pools).
- Fitness clubs and gyms may be able to operate with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Community centres and other multi-purpose facilities such as arenas and town halls may be able to operate with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Seniors centres/clubs may be able to operate with more restrictive occupancy limits for this population group.
- Personal services, including manicurists and pedicurists, tattoo parlours, estheticians, cosmetologists, electrologists and tanning parlours, may be able to operate with physical distancing requirements.
- Restaurants, cafes and other similar businesses may be able to operate indoor and outdoor services with physical distancing requirements.
- Casinos may be able to operate with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Bars, beverage rooms, brew pubs, micro-brewers, distilleries and similar businesses may be able to operate indoor and outdoor services with physical distancing requirements.
- Film productions may operate with physical distancing requirements.



RESTRICTED

- Community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring across much of Manitoba.
- New clusters are occurring, but can be controlled through self-isolation, testing and contact tracing so they do not spread further.
- The health care system is able to manage COVID-19 case levels.

Range of Response Measures

- Gathering sizes will be limited further, based on public health information at the time.
- Further travel restrictions may be in place, based on COVID-19 transmission in other jurisdictions or the risk of COVID-19 being imported into Manitoba.
- Some non-urgent surgeries and diagnostic procedures may be restricted.

- Added restrictions to visitation in hospitals, long-term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities may be in place.
- Capacity in child care facilities and home-based providers may be more limited and increased priority toward meeting needs of critical workers.
- Therapeutic health care businesses, such as chiropractors, physiotherapists, optometrists, podiatrists, therapeutic massage therapists and acupuncturists, may be required to introduce occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- K12 schools may be more restricted by occupancy limits and more requirements for remote learning especially for grades 9-12.
- Post-secondary may be more restricted by occupancy limits and more requirements for remote learning.
- Retail businesses may have added occupancy limits.
- Public food establishments, such as restaurants, cafeterias, cafes may have occupancy limits.
- Bars, lounges and similar establishments may have occupancy limits.
- Casinos may have further occupancy limits.
- Hair stylists/barbers may be able to operate with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Museums, galleries and libraries may be able to operate with occupancy limits and physical distancing requirements.
- Outdoor recreation facilities may have more restrictive occupancy limits.
- Day camps may have more restrictive occupancy limits.



CRITICAL

- Extensive community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring and is not contained.
- There are widespread outbreaks and new clusters that cannot be controlled through testing and contact tracing.
- The virus is being transmitted at levels that public health and the health system deem concerning or critical

Range of Response Measures

- Gathering sizes may be extremely limited.
- Non-essential workplaces may be ordered to close.
- Additional travel restrictions may be in place, based on COVID-19 transmission in other jurisdictions or the risk of COVID-19 being imported into Manitoba.
- Emergency health system capacity may need to be activated.
- Non-urgent surgeries and diagnostic procedures may be postponed or cancelled.

- Therapeutic health care businesses, such as chiropractors, physiotherapists, optometrists, podiatrists, therapeutic massage therapists and acupuncturists, may have additional restrictions such as only providing emergent or urgent services.
- Additional restrictions to visitation in hospitals, long-term care, personal care homes, and assisted living facilities may be in place.
- Post-secondary institutions may be closed with electronic learning tools in place.
- K-12 schools may be closed for in-class learning except for children of essential workers in grades K to 6.
- Day care centres may be closed with limited home-based child care and services only available with occupancy limits including for children of essential workers.
- Day camps may be ordered to close.
- Seasonal campgrounds, vacation cabins and yurts may be ordered to close.
- Retail businesses may only be open for essential services.
- Public food establishments, such as restaurants, cafeterias, cafes and similar businesses may be ordered to close, except for take-out, delivery and drive-thru options.
- Bars, lounges and similar establishments may be ordered to close except for take-out, delivery and drive-thru options.
- Casinos may be closed.
- Personal service establishments may be ordered to close except for essential services.
- Hair stylists/barbers may be ordered to close.
- Public/private indoor and outdoor swimming pools, spas, fitness clubs and gyms may be ordered to close (This would not apply to residential pools).
- Dance studios and performance spaces may be ordered to close.
- Museums, galleries and libraries may be ordered to close.
- Playgrounds, skate parks, golf courses, tennis courts, driving ranges, marinas, drive-in movie theatres and other similar recreation facilities may be ordered to close.

OVERVIEW OF SECTORS

PROGRESSION OF MEASURES FOR KEY SECTORS BASED ON EXTENT OF PANDEMIC RISK				
ITEM	LEVEL GREEN LIMITED RISK	LEVEL YELLOW CAUTION	LEVEL ORANGE RESTRICTED	LEVEL RED CRITICAL
Gatherings	Open	Larger groups that still allow rapid contact tracing	Restricted group sizes that still allow rapid contact tracing	Only small essential groups
Personal and Long-term Care Facilities	Higher number of visitors with tracing	More than one visitor	One visitor with few exceptions	No visitors except absolutely essential
K-12 Schools	Open	Open with occupancy/cohorts required for distancing (some remote learning)	Blended learning: In-class – grades K to 8 Remote – grades 9 to 12	Closed and only remote learning except for K-6 for critical workers
Child Care Facilities	Open	Open with some occupancy controls	Open with occupancy limits	Open with restricted occupancy for essential workers only
Retail and Personal Service	Open	Greater limits on close contact services	Capacity limits	Only E-service, Pick-up or Delivery
Restaurants	Open	Limits on buffet service	Capacity limits	Only Pick-up or Delivery
Beverage Rooms	Open	Limits in counter service	Capacity limits	Only Pick-up or Delivery
Recreation Facilities	Open	Occupancy Controls for High-Touch Equipment	Capacity limits	Closed
Casino Facilities	Open	Capacity limits	Closed	Closed
Theatres	Open	Capacity limits	Closed	Closed
Travel	No federal restrictions	Some travel restrictions in place depending on rate of virus transmission elsewhere.		

Illustrative Response Scenarios

Four scenarios are presented below to illustrate how the risk and response system works.

These are illustrative only and may vary depending upon the actual situation.

The scenarios are based on examples of a response at a time when the province overall is at a Caution level, as it is currently.

It is important to note that the precise response would be led by Manitoba public health based upon their expert interpretation of science-based and other indicators. Updates will be posted on the Pandemic Response System web site at www.manitoba.ca/restartMB and shared with Manitobans. Any public health orders required for legal enforcement would also be issued.

SCENARIO 1 – CASE FOUND IN A SCHOOL CLASSROOM

If a case occurs in a Kindergarten to Grade 8 classroom, the information on the cohort and potential cluster of at risk individuals would be identified via the school's attendance records. As soon as possible after the case was found, a public health investigation would be performed and decisions would be made regarding which students and staff would be required to self-isolate. This could mean that the entire class and assigned staff would be required to self-isolate and be tested. If added cases were traced, the situation would be considered to be a cluster of cases.

Notice of the case would immediately be issued to all of the school's parent or guardian contacts via public health. Frequent and ongoing contact with the impacted students and their families will take place. Public health officials would also conduct contact tracing to determine possible spread beyond the classroom. These individuals may also need to self-isolate at the direction of public health.

The classroom would be deep cleaned along with the designated entry and exit points for these students and staff.

What is impacted?

- The one school classroom may be closed.
- Teacher, educational assistants, students and possibly support staff may be required to self-isolate until public health advises that they can return.
- Families and any close contacts of students may be required to self-isolate until public health advises that they can resume usual activities.
- This could impact bussing cohorts.
- This response would involve and focus on a defined cohort.

What is not impacted? (If it was determined that there were no additional contacts)

- The rest of the school, staff and students as this illustrative case involves a defined cohort.
- The rest of the Manitoba school system.
- Other facilities and activities in the community and region.

Response Level



RESTRICTED LEVEL

If this case occurred in grades 9 to 12, likely more students would be impacted than in a K-8 grade setting. This is because some of the students would be using remote learning options and some would be in the school and intermingling among multiple classrooms due to the nature of instruction and electives at these grade levels. The response to a case in this setting would involve more students than in a K-8 setting.

What is impacted?

- A wing or the entire school may be closed.
- Teachers, educational assistants, students and support staff may be required to self-isolate until public health advises that they can return.
- Families and any close contacts of students may be required to self-isolate until public health advises that they can resume usual activities.
- This could impact bussing cohorts.
- This response would involve a defined cohort.

What is not impacted? (If it was determined that there were no additional contacts)

- Other parts of the school if only a wing is closed.
- The rest of the school system.
- Other facilities and activities in the community and region.

Response Level



RESTRICTED LEVEL

If the closure affected the entire school, the Response Level would be adjusted to Critical.

SCENARIO 2 – RESTAURANT

A couple attend a local restaurant for dinner and later test positive for COVID-19. The restaurant would be notified of the date and time that these patrons were at the restaurant. If they have seating reservations and related contact information for others, public health would contact any other patrons that were at the restaurant within the same timeframe. Public health would also work with the employer to contact any staff that were working over the course of a related shift. Depending on the time and the proximity to the case, these individuals would be required to self-isolate and be tested. If more cases were traced, the situation would be considered to be a cluster.

The restaurant would be deep-cleaned and may need to close for this to be completed. Notice of the positive case would go out to alert anyone who may have attended the restaurant at the specified time, so they can be tested and potentially self-isolate. The restaurant may also advertise the steps they are taking which could include a temporary closure. Any individuals including patrons and staff who are self-isolating and/or tested would be in immediate and frequent contact with public health officials and there would be added tracing to determine any potential spread beyond the confirmed cases. These individuals may also need to self-isolate, at the discretion of public health, to further contain the virus.

What is impacted?

- One restaurant would be closed for a period for deep cleaning.
- If testing indicated that significant numbers of staff were positive cases, the restaurant may have to close or operate at reduced capacity for a longer period of time.
- Families and close contacts of positive case patrons and staff who test positive may also be required to self-isolate.

What is not impacted? (If it was determined that there were no additional contacts)

- Other restaurants.
- Manitoba's restaurant sector.
- Other facilities and activities in the community and region.

Response Level



CRITICAL LEVEL

SCENARIO 3 – COMMUNITY

An outbreak has occurred in a community that reflects high or steeply trending indicators of either one or a combination of the following: test positivity; inability to clearly trace most cases to a cluster; and limits to the capacity of the local health system to treat cases.

Public health would apply one or more measures at a community level to further control the spread of the virus. This would include self-isolation where required and enhanced testing and tracing of individuals who may have been exposed to the virus. Efforts would be made to contain the virus within the community by discouraging or restricting travel in and out to only essential purposes. Public health orders may be applied and would reflect a range of measures in the local community such as reduced gathering sizes, restricted access to facilities with vulnerable populations including personal care and long-term care, and limited operation of non-essential businesses and facilities where transmission risk is higher including casinos, fitness centres, bars and restaurants.

Overall, the measures would be more restrictive in the designated community than in the rest of the province.

What is impacted?

- Reduced or restricted movement of people into and out of the community.
- Restrictions on indoor and outdoor gatherings that impact related activities in the community.
- Limits on interactions with vulnerable populations in the community such as the elderly.
- Limits on non-essential services and retail activity.
- Active positive cases and any close contacts may be required to self-isolate until public health advises that they can return to usual activity.
- Enhanced testing and tracing.

What is not impacted? (If it was determined that there were no additional contacts)

- Essential services in the community or across the province.
- Application of same measures to areas outside of the affected community.

Response Level



RESTRICTED LEVEL

SCENARIO 4 – REGION

An outbreak has occurred in a region that reflects high or steeply trending indicators of either one or a combination of the following: test positivity; inability to clearly trace most cases to a cluster; and limits to the capacity of the local health system to treat cases. The boundaries of a region may be defined as an area where case rates are located and would be set by public health officials based on the specific situation and may not necessarily follow existing regional boundaries. For example, they may take into account additional specific health districts.

Public health would be closely monitoring developments leading up to any decision to apply measures at a regional level. This would include self-isolation and enhanced testing and contact tracing. Travel would be discouraged or restricted to only essential purposes in an effort to contain the virus within the region. Public health orders may be applied and would reflect a range of measures in the region such as reduced gathering sizes, restricted access to facilities with vulnerable populations including personal care and long term care and limited operation of non-essential businesses and facilities where transmission risk is higher including casinos, fitness centres, bars and restaurants.

Overall, the measures would be more restrictive in the designated region than in the rest of the province.

What is impacted?

- Reduced or restricted movement of people into and out of the region.
- Restrictions on indoor and outdoor gatherings that impact related activities in the region.
- Limits on interactions with vulnerable populations in the region such as the elderly.
- Limits on non-essential services and retail activity.
- Active positive cases and close contacts may be required to self-isolate until public health advises that they can return to usual activity.
- Enhanced testing and tracing.

What is not impacted?

- Essential services in the region and across the province.
- Application of same measures to areas outside of the affected region.

Response Level



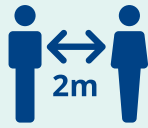
RESTRICTED LEVEL

Conclusion

The #RestartMB Pandemic Response System provides clear, timely information for Manitobans about COVID-19. The goal is to help translate public health indicators and decision-making into a colour-coded system that helps everyone understand what is expected of them, what they can expect from others, and the measures that may be put in place to protect us all.

Know the facts about COVID-19. By continuing to follow the public health fundamentals and using this system, together we can help limit its spread and protect the health of Manitobans.

Detailed Public Health Guidance for All Response Levels



**WASH YOUR HANDS. KEEP YOUR DISTANCE. STAY HOME WHEN SICK.
WEAR A MASK IN INDOORS WHEN SOCIAL DISTANCING ISN'T POSSIBLE.**

The steps we take individually and collectively going forward will go a long way in ensuring we can continue or resume many of the activities we enjoy while still helping to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

By adopting the following habits, we can reduce our risk and the risks to others.

- If you are sick, even if you only feel a little unwell, stay home. While sick at home, do not have contact with anyone, even members of your own household. Use the [online self-assessment tool](#) to see if you may be at risk of having COVID-19.
- Individuals - If you are sick, do not leave your home to go to work, school or other public places (e.g. stores, restaurants, churches, etc.), unless you require urgent medical care.
- When you are with others outside your household, gather in outdoor settings whenever possible, and maintain physical distancing except for brief exchanges.
- Avoid sharing personal items such as food or drinks.
- Wear a mask in indoor settings when social distancing is not possible.
- Practice proper cough etiquette. Turn away from people and cough or sneeze into a tissue or your sleeve.
- Parents and caregivers should keep children who are sick home from school, child care, playdates and/or extra-curricular activities.
- Employers should develop and implement workplace policies that allow and encourage employees to stay home when sick.
- Schools, child care centres, sports teams and activity organizers should not allow anyone who is sick to attend/ participate.
- If you have concerns about your symptoms, or are unsure whether you should be tested, call Health Links - Info Santé (204-788-8200 or toll free at 1-888-315-9257).
- Limit the number of people that you come in contact with at this time to continue to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Good hand hygiene provides significant protection from viral respiratory illnesses, such as COVID-19. Wash your hands regularly with soap and warm water for at least 15 seconds then make sure to dry your hands thoroughly. You can also use an alcohol-based hand cleanser if your hands are not visibly dirty.

It is especially important to clean your hands:

- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for a sick person
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty

You should also cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, or you can cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the garbage and immediately wash your hands, or use an alcohol-based hand cleanser.

Avoid close contact (within two metres or six feet) with anyone showing symptoms of a respiratory illness, such as coughing or sneezing. Children and adolescents should avoid sharing food or drinks (e.g., sippy cups and water bottles), musical instruments or other things that have been in a person's mouth or hands.

Manitobans must continue to be mindful about the level of risk they are placing themselves and others in.

Places with a higher risk of transmitting COVID-19 include:

- closed spaces with poor ventilation,
- crowded places with many people nearby, and
- close-contact settings, such as close-range conversations.

Individuals at increased risk of serious outcomes from COVID-19, including individuals older than 60 and those living with a compromised immune system or chronic condition, should continue to limit non-essential outings. If these individuals choose to visit with family, they should avoid close contact and maintain an appropriate physical distance, preferably outdoors, to lower their risk as much as possible.

Testing is critical to identify and isolate cases and contacts early, to limit further spread and protect those at increased risk. Individuals experiencing any respiratory symptoms are encouraged to visit a [community screening location](#).

For more information, visit: www.manitoba.ca/covid19/prepareandprevent/index.html.

Appendix B – Setting the Risk Levels

Monitoring Indicators

Public health officials monitor all of these indicators and use the information gathered to guide their recommendations in setting each risk level and responses. The goal is to protect the public and to protect the public and ensure the health system is not overwhelmed from COVID-19.

No single indicator – such as the number of cases - should or will be used to determine risk and response levels in Manitoba. A combination of these indicators considered together will be used by public health.

COVID-19 Transmission

These indicators are monitored to determine information about the transmission of COVID-19 in Manitoba.

- **Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Levels**

The number of people who present in emergency departments and urgent care facilities every day. The metric is the average number in the previous five days.

- **Number of Positive COVID-19 Lab Tests**

This is the percentage of COVID-19 lab tests that are positive. The metric is the average percentage in the previous five days.

- **COVID-19 Lab test volume**

The number of COVID-19 lab tests completed. The metric is the average number in the previous seven days.

- **Community Transmission of COVID-19**

The total number of COVID-19 cases with unknown acquisition. This means they cannot be connected to travel or contact with a known case or other exposure. The metric is the total number in the past seven days.

Health System Capacity

These indicators are monitored to determine health system capacity to treat COVID-19 in Manitoba.

- **Intensive Care Unit Capacity**

This metric measures the overall ICU capacity and how it might change. Several metrics roll into one, including the total number of vacant ICU beds, the number of new ICU patients in the last seven days, and the number of current COVID-19 ICU patients.

- **Hospital Capacity**

This metric measures the overall non-ICU hospital capacity and how it might change. Several metrics roll into one, including the total number of vacant medicine beds, the number of new COVID-19 medicine patients in the last seven days, and the number of current COVID-19 medicine patients.

- **Supply of Protective Personal Equipment**

This metric measures the number of days' supply of certain required PPE items for the health system.

[Public Health Capacity](#)

These indicators are monitored to determine public health capacity to track and test for COVID-19 in Manitoba.

- **Contact Tracing**

This metric considers the capacity of public health to trace and follow all contacts. The metric measures the percentage of total contacts that are contacted by public health within 24 hours of the case being reported.

- **Lab-testing Capacity**

The total number of lab tests that can be completed per day in the province. This is different from the average lab test volume because, during some periods of time, the demand has not met the available supply.

- **Case and Contact Isolation in Alternative Accommodations**

Public health has made alternative accommodations available for some cases and contacts who cannot effectively isolate themselves in their homes. Metrics considered include the percentage of the population living within 150 kilometres of alternative isolation facilities and the occupancy rate at alternative isolation facilities.

[Risk of Outbreaks in Vulnerable Settings](#)

These indicators are monitored to determine COVID-19 outbreaks in specific settings in Manitoba.

- **COVID-19 Cases in Vulnerable Settings (personal care homes, homeless shelters)**

The total number of COVID-19 cases among staff and residents in the past seven days.

- **Facility Outbreaks of Respiratory Illness (from COVID-19, influenza and other illnesses)**

The total number of active respiratory illness outbreaks in facilities, including long term care, etc. These outbreaks are not limited to COVID-19.

[Risk of Importation of Cases](#)

This indicator is monitored to determine COVID-19 importation into in Manitoba.

- **Travel-related Cases**

The total number of COVID-19 cases associated with travel (international or domestic) in the past seven days.

Appendix C -- A Brief History of COVID-19 Measures

March to July 2020

The first case of COVID-19 was identified on March 12, 2020. Manitobans took many important steps to follow public health guidance and effectively flattened the curve in the early stages of the pandemic. This is a short summary of what happened in Manitoba from March to July 2020.

Week 1

- Immediate steps were taken to protect the most vulnerable by restricting visits to hospital and long-term care patients.

Week 2

- State of Emergency declared.
- Gatherings were limited to 50 people, indoors and outdoors.
- Kindergarten to Grade 12 classes suspended, initially for three weeks.
- Child care centres suspended operations.
- Services at restaurants and premises licenced to serve alcohol were restricted.
- Gyms, fitness facilities and pools closed.
- Casinos closed.

Weeks 3 and 4

- Gathering limits reduced to 10 people, indoors and outdoors.
- Retail stores were subject to occupancy limits.
- Restaurants restricted to take-out and delivery only.
- Only essential businesses remained open.
- Kindergarten to Grade 12 classes suspended indefinitely.
- Most post-secondary institutions suspended in-person classes.

Weeks 5 to 7

- Self-isolation orders issued for people travelling to Manitoba except for essential goods, medical reasons, shared parenting or regular work-related travel.
- Travel to northern communities prohibited, with the same exceptions.

As a result of these measures, the number of cases in Manitoba trended downward until there was suitable capacity in the health care system. Phase 1 of the re-opening strategy began on May 4. Phase 2 was implemented on June 1, as public health indicators remained stable or improved. Phase 3 came into effect on June 21, followed by Phase 4 on July 25. Public feedback was received throughout re-opening.

Phase 1

- Retail, hair care services and patios opened at 50 per cent capacity, or one person per 10 square metres and two metre physical distancing.
- Non-contact recreational activities allowed.
- Parks and campgrounds opened with physical distancing.
- Museums, galleries and libraries opened with physical distancing.
- Day camps opened with limited group sizes and no overnight stays.

Phase 2

- Indoor gatherings increased to 25 and outdoor gatherings increased to 50.
- Professional sports teams training resumed within guidelines.
- Outdoor drive-in events allowed.
- Child care centres re-opened to maximum of 24 children.
- Schools opened for limited student assessment and planning purposes.
- Day camp capacity increased.
- Post-secondary institutions and vocational colleges opened for limited instruction.
- Team sports and other outdoor recreational activities allowed with physical distancing.
- Indoor recreation facilities allowed at 50 per cent capacity
- Travel to northern parks, campgrounds, cabins and lodges allowed.
- Private and public pools, splash pads, fitness clubs opened with occupancy limits.
- Community and seniors service centres opened with occupancy limits.
- Personal services businesses opened with occupancy limits.
- Indoor restaurants opened with occupancy limits.
- Bars opened with occupancy limits.
- Film production allowed with physical distancing guidelines.
- Therapeutic or health care businesses opened with occupancy limits.

Phase 3

- Indoor gatherings increased to 50 and outdoor gatherings increased to 100, with increased capacity if sub-groups could be created.
- Travellers from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, as well as Northwestern Ontario (west of Terrace Bay), could visit Manitoba without self-isolating for 14 days.
- Travellers from these areas could also visit northern parks, campgrounds, cabins and lodges.
- Professional sports teams, film productions allowed to come to Manitoba without self-isolating if they self-isolated at their original location before arriving.
- Child care centres re-opened to maximum capacity.
- Schools, post-secondary institutions and vocational colleges began planning for fall.

Phase 4

- Residents of personal care homes and long-term care settings (or their designates) can identify up to two people for unlimited, indoor visits. Other visitors may be allowed as long as physical distancing can be maintained and they are screened before entering the site.
- Cultural events such as pow wows and spiritual events expanded to 30 per cent of maximum capacity or 500 people, whichever is lower, with physical distancing.
- Stage performances and movie theatres able to reopen at 30 per cent of maximum capacity or 500 people, whichever is lower, with physical distancing.
- Casinos can reopen at 30 per cent of maximum capacity with physical distancing.

#RestartMB Response Levels by Sector

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National and provincial guidance is also available for other sectors, organizations and groups. Visit <http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/restoring/industry-sectors.html> for details.

PUBLIC GATHERINGS

Public health guidance about public gatherings applies to social gatherings, worship, weddings and funerals, as well as pow wows and other Indigenous cultural and spiritual events. Gatherings must follow public health guidelines for the venue where they are being held.

Gathering organizers are asked to keep groups contained, and not let new people enter as other people leave. This is to ensure contact tracing can be done if someone tests positive for COVID-19.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

- Public gatherings of 50 people will be allowed indoors.
- Public gatherings of 100 people will be allowed outdoors.
- Larger group sizes will be allowed where distinct groups (cohorts) of 50 (indoors) or 100 (outdoors) can be separated to prevent contact with other groups.
- For faith-based gatherings, pow wows and other cultural and spiritual events, the site capacity will be a maximum of 30 per cent or 500 people, whichever is lower. Sub-groups or cohorts are no longer required.
- If preferred, organizations can continue to allow cohorts of 50 people to a maximum of 30 per cent of a site's capacity, with no cap on the number of attendees.
- People or groups travelling to an event together (e.g. families) must be able to reasonably maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.
- Wind instruments or singing will not be allowed due to higher risk of transmission through the air.
- This change does not apply to social gatherings, weddings and funerals, or other organized gatherings or events. These gatherings must follow public health guidelines for the venue where they are being held.



RESTRICTED

Further restrictions on group sizes and cohorts will be required at all times.



CRITICAL

Further restrictions on group sizes and cohorts will be required at all times.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Hosting and Attending Celebrations and Ceremonies](#)

[Vocalists and Instrumentalists](#)

[First Nations Community Events](#)

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Manitoba's health system cares for more than 1.3 million people across every region and community in the province. Thousands of different service providers make up this system of care, including independent primary care clinics, personal care homes and more than 70 hospitals.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, experts in infection prevention and control, occupational and environmental health services and various clinical specialties work closely with public health to determine the escalating preventative measures necessary to ensure the protection of patients, clients, residents, staff and community.

The introduction and implementation of these measures is carefully planned to balance preventing the spread of the virus, ensuring ongoing access to urgent and emergency health care services, protecting health care workers who are vital to Manitoba's ongoing COVID-19 response, and allowing for the safe interaction of family and support networks with patients, clients and residents as an important part of their recovery, health and well-being.

Routine practices are used by health care workers daily in all settings and situations to prevent the spread of infection. In addition, preventive measures have been introduced across all health care settings for staff, patients/clients/residents, and for visitors. In each response level, these measures will apply:

- point of care risk assessment, meticulous hand hygiene, cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and the environment ('Routine Practices'),
- staff and visitor screening for symptoms and/or exposure to COVID-19 prior to entering any health facility,
- regular reminders to staff and visitors to stay home when sick, and to get tested if experiencing symptoms,
- patient screening and testing (symptomatic and partner of public health asymptomatic surveillance),
- universal use of personal protective equipment appropriate to the setting/situation,
- virtual options used by health care facilities wherever possible,
- adherence to physical distancing in all facilities,
- encouraging populations at higher risk of severe illness to take extra precautions, and
- encouraging patients, clients and residents to use their own non-medical face mask during health care interactions (e.g. when visiting a primary care office, during an in home visit or in hospital for regular appointments like dialysis) and when traveling to and from appointments.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.

Clinical activity resumes at near normal levels. Virtual care continues to be encouraged where appropriate.

Visitors are permitted, with screening in place and infection prevention and control measures followed.



CAUTION

- Routine practices and additional preventative measures are in place.
- Clinical activity resumes and may be influenced by supplies of personal protective equipment and the ability to adhere to current public health guidance and requirements.
- Primary care providers are encouraged to offer as much virtual care as possible.
- Routine visits to long-term care facilities are allowed to provide care to residents.
- In acute care, non-urgent and elective diagnostic services, surgeries and procedures are permitted according to capacity, physical distancing and personal protective equipment requirements.

Access to health care facilities (hospitals and personal care homes) by essential care partners, designated family caregivers and general visitors is determined by provincial guidelines developed to balance the need to prevent the spread of COVID-19 with the important role of family and loved ones in the health and wellbeing of patients and residents.

Guidelines may vary according to the Pandemic Response Level and are regularly reviewed:

- o Long Term Care
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-pch-visitation-principles.pdf>
- o Inpatients
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-inpatient-visit-principles-level-red.pdf>

More detailed information and provincial guidelines are available to health care providers by referring to <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/providers/>.



RESTRICTED

- Clinical activity continues according to the ability to maintain adequate supply of personal protective equipment and ability to adhere to current public health guidance and requirements.
 - Primary Care - Practices continue to be encouraged to maintain as much virtual care as possible.
 - Long Term Care - On-site routine visits by care providers to long term care may be restricted upon the direction of public health or based on the location of clusters or outbreaks.
 - Acute Care - Non-urgent and elective diagnostic services, surgeries and procedures may be limited according to human resource capacity, physical distancing and personal protective equipment requirements. If clinical activity is affected, care will be prioritized by urgency.

Access to health care facilities (hospitals and personal care homes) by essential care partners, designated family caregivers and general visitors is determined by provincial guidelines developed to balance the need to prevent the spread of COVID-19 with the important role of family and loved ones in the health and wellbeing of patients and residents.

Guidelines may vary according to the Pandemic Response Level and are regularly reviewed:

- Long Term Care
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-pch-visitation-principles.pdf>
- Inpatients
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-inpatient-visit-principles-level-red.pdf>

More detailed information and provincial guidelines are available to health care providers by referring to <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/providers/>.



CRITICAL

- Clinical activity will be prioritized by urgency and guided by the supply of personal protective equipment, the availability of staffing and the availability of required equipment, as well as the ability to adhere to current public health guidance and requirements.
 - Primary Care – Practices continue to be encouraged to maintain as much virtual care as possible and expanding dedicated facilities/areas for potentially infectious patients.
 - Long Term Care – On-site routine visits will be organized to help ensure staff and physicians provide care to a single site wherever possible and to limit the number of visits.
 - Acute Care - Non-urgent and elective diagnostic services, surgeries and procedures are limited according to human resource capacity, physical distancing and personal protective equipment requirements. Clinical activity will be prioritized by urgency.

Access to health care facilities (hospitals and personal care homes) by essential care partners, designated family caregivers and general visitors is determined by provincial guidelines developed to balance the need to prevent the spread of COVID-19 with the important role of family and loved ones in the health and wellbeing of patients and residents.

Guidelines may vary according to the Pandemic Response Level and are regularly reviewed:

- o Long Term Care
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-pch-visitation-principles.pdf>
- o Inpatients
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-inpatient-visit-principles-level-red.pdf>

More detailed information and provincial guidelines are available for health care providers at <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/providers/>.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Personal Protective Equipment Supply Management and Stewardship Planning and Guidance Framework <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-provincial-ppe-framework-guidance.pdf>

COVID-19 Specific Disease Protocol – Acute and Community Settings
Winnipeg <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/IPC-acute-care-manual-winnipeg.pdf>

Provincial <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/IPC-acute-care-manual-provincial.pdf>

Infection Prevention & Control Guidance for Personal Care Homes
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-ipc-guidance-for-pch.pdf>

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

K-12 SCHOOLS

There are over 200,000 students enrolled in the public and independent schools in Manitoba with over 30,000 teachers and staff. There are 37 school divisions that oversee 690 public schools and 11 division-administered First Nations schools. There are also 115 funded and non-funded independent schools operating in Manitoba. The Manitoba First Nations School System operates separately within the province but there are linkages to support coordination.

Manitoba Education will continue to work closely with public health, education stakeholders, schools, divisions, independent schools, parents, caregivers and students to further develop plans for the coming year. Schools will communicate directly and frequently with families to provide them with information about the school year and ongoing plans for instruction and supports, especially as the situation evolves. If the public health situation changes or guidelines are not sufficient, current measures may be paused and other measures may be introduced or re-introduced.

Manitoba Education, schools and school divisions will work closely with public health at all response levels to assess the health and safety needs of students and staff and determine the required protocols at each level.

Child care centres and before and after school programs operate in many schools and are an important consideration in our planning at various response levels. The response levels also highlight special provisions for school bus transportation.

Decisions about the operation of schools and the specific response level will be made by public health officials in concert with officials from Manitoba Education.



LIMITED RISK

In class learning resumes for all Kindergarten - 12 students. School-based child care centres will continue with regular operations.

School buses may operate at normal capacity, with enhanced sanitization and other measures as advised by public health officials.

Directives from Manitoba Education and guidelines approved by public health officials will provide any additional guidance. More detailed practice guidance and protocols are available on the Manitoba Education website.



CAUTION

This is the planned response level for September 2020.

Schools will be open for in-class learning.

- Kindergarten to Grade 8 students and students with special learning needs will participate in in-class learning five days per week.
- Students in Grades 9 to 12 will be in class to the greatest extent possible. Remote learning for high school students may vary from school to school, depending on the ability to physically distance, including in classrooms, hallways and other areas, but at a minimum of two days per six-day cycle.

[Practice guidance and protocols](#) have been established to ensure public health and education requirements will be met while still focusing on student achievement and learning for all.

Based on current public health advice and out of an abundance of caution, masks are required for Grade 4 to 12 students as well as teachers, school staff and visitors when physical distancing isn't possible.

School buses will continue to operate with reduced capacity (one child per seat unless from same household or same in-school cohort). Masks are required for Grades 4 – 12 students and drivers. Parents and caregivers are strongly encouraged to transport students if they are able, to minimize the overall number of students on the bus.

Child care centres located within schools will continue to operate as outlined in the Public Health Guidance for Child Care. Schools will work collaboratively with child care centres and related programs, such as before and after school programming, to ensure that these services can continue to operate.

Directives from Manitoba Education and guidelines approved by public health officials will provide any additional guidance.

Visit <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html> for up-to-date information, as well as COVID-19 K-12 School Setting Practice Guidance and Protocols for detailed information on the Restoring Safe Schools plan.



RESTRICTED

Blended learning: Schools will be open for blended learning (in-class and remote)

- Kindergarten to Grade 8 students and students with special needs will be prioritized for in-class learning. More space will be needed in the classroom and between students to maintain physical distancing of two metres. This may require smaller class groupings.
- Students in Grades 9 to 12 will participate in teacher-led remote learning, with limited use of school facilities for specific programs and assessment. High school student appointments and small groups for assessment, planning and special programming will be allowed as long as they follow the limited use guidelines and provided that groups are kept separate. Individualized education plans will be developed for students with special learning needs.

Public health recommendations for masks may be adjusted for this response level and should be monitored.

Schools will need to assess their ability to operate school buses with reduced capacity (one child per seat unless from same household). Masks are required for Grades 4 – 12 students and drivers. Parents and caregivers are strongly encouraged to transport students if they are able.

Child care centres located within schools will operate at reduced capacity, as outlined in the Public Health Guidance for Child Care. Schools will work collaboratively with child care centres and related programs, such as before and after school programs to ensure these services can continue to operate.

Directives from Manitoba Education and guidelines approved by public health officials will provide any additional guidance.

Visit <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html> for up-to-date information.



CRITICAL

Schools will be closed and remote learning will occur, with the exception of Kindergarten to Grade 6 students of essential workers, who may still attend school. Early Learning and Child Care guidelines will be followed with reduced student groupings, in alignment with recommendations for occupancy at child care centres at this response level (16 children per classroom as long as physical distancing can be achieved) and strict infection prevention and controls in place. All other K to 12 students will participate in teacher-led

remote learning. Individualized education plans will be developed for students with special learning needs.

Public health recommendations for masks may be adjusted for this response level and should be monitored.

School buses will not be operating.

Child care in schools will operate at reduced capacity and will be limited to students of essential workers, as outlined in the Public Health Guidance for Child Care Centres.

Directives from Manitoba Education and guidelines approved by public health officials will provide any additional guidance.

Visit <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html> for up-to-date information.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[COVID-19 K-12 School Settings Practice Guidance and Protocols](#)

[Latest COVID-19 Education News for full K-12 Guidelines, supplemental information and frequently ask questions.](#)

[Contact information for Manitoba schools and school divisions](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

POST-SECONDARY

Post-secondary includes universities, colleges, vocational colleges and other educational institutions outside of the K-12 system.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.

Decisions about the operation of post-secondary institutions will be made by each institution, based on advice and guidance from public health officials. In their decisions, institutions should consider the status of local epidemiology of COVID-19, local public health and travel advisories, safety and wellness of their students, faculty, and staff, potential impact of response measures, and adequate accommodations and support for their campus community.

It is important that institutions provide and maintain adequate and timely communications and education with their campus community to inform them about prevailing safety guidelines, institutional policies, response measures, supports, services, available resources, and changes in academic program delivery introduced in response to the pandemic. Changes in student services, such as athletic programming and mental health supports, need to be also included.

Where experiential learning placements (e.g. internships, co-op placements, work-terms, or apprenticeship training) take place on site, institutions should work with these providers to ensure safety precautions are put in place for students.



CAUTION

Institutions may be considering other plans for fall or winter sessions.

Institutions may operate and may limit classroom size or offer online/remote learning to maintain physical distancing. They may provide in-person instruction if occupancy in classrooms and other area of instruction is limited to 50 per cent of usual capacity, and the total number of students in any classroom or other area of instruction does not exceed 25.

Depending on the setting (e.g. trades apprenticeship, clinical placements in a hospital or long-term care setting), institutions may conduct a risk assessment in advance of offering certain experiential learning placements. If these are restricted due to safety concerns, a lack of available placements or other factors, institutions may explore alternatives to support students completing their program of study, with the goal of ensuring a minimal amount of disruption. Any changes to experiential learning placements will be clearly communicated to the student.

Institutions may provide new or additional supports and services to mitigate the impact of measures introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic on students, especially those subject to greater challenges, including students from remote regions, students with disabilities, and international students.



RESTRICTED

Institutions may operate essential functions only.

Upon direction from provincial public health officials, institutions should consider adjusting or placing restrictions on facilities and operations, which may include re-configuring physical settings, instructional offerings and other academic activities (e.g. exams, experiential learning placements), meetings and gatherings, travel, and supports and services for students. Access to campus may be limited.

Most instruction or academic activities may take place through online or remote alternatives, with limited in-person instruction or academic activities (e.g. exams, experiential learning placements). Non-essential supports and services that cannot implement the necessary protective measures may need to be temporarily suspended or offered with restrictions.

Institutions should consider the appropriateness of in-person experiential learning on a program-by-program basis. Continuing these placements may be considered where:

- there are no alternatives;
- delay would cause significant impact on a students' ability to complete their program of study or delay would restrict employment upon graduation; and
- sufficient safety measures for students can be provided on site.

It is recommended that institutions work with regulators to identify ways to complete programs of study where a work or practicum placement is required for certification within a regulated profession.

Institutions may provide new or additional supports and services to mitigate the impact of these measures on students, especially those subject to greater challenges, including students from remote regions, students with disabilities, and international students.



CRITICAL

Institutions may be required to close facilities and suspend operations under the direction of provincial public health officials. For publicly-funded universities and colleges, this would involve discussions between public health, the institutions and Economic Development and Training, as required under The Advanced Education and Administration Act.

Online or remote learning and exam options may be provided, with limited exceptions. Supports and services for students may be provided online, with limited exceptions.

Institutions may consider restricting in-person experiential learning. Continuing these placements may be considered where:

- there are no alternatives;
- delay would cause significant impact on a students' ability to complete their program of study or delay would restrict employment upon graduation; and
- sufficient safety measures for students can be provided on site.

It is recommended that institutions work with regulators to identify ways to complete programs of study where a work or practicum placement is required for certification within a regulated profession.

Institutions may provide new or additional supports and services to mitigate the impact of measures on students, especially those subject to greater challenges, including students from remote regions, students with disabilities, and international students.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Guidance for post-secondary institutions during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Physical distancing: How to slow the spread of COVID-19](#)

[Risk mitigation tool for gatherings and events operating during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Who can travel to Canada – Citizens, permanent residents, foreign nationals and refugees](#)

[Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Travel restrictions, exemptions and advice](#)

CHILD CARE FACILITIES

Child care services are provided at over 1,150 licenced facility-based and home-based operations across Manitoba.

In addition to the general guidance provided by public health, child care centres should also follow these guidelines to further decrease the risk of COVID-19 transmission:

- No child, parent, staff member or visitor who has symptoms or is required to self-isolate will enter a child care facility.
- All individuals should be screened before entering a child care facility using the screening tool questions developed by public health.
- Children with no symptoms should continue to be treated as they typically would be treated by staff, but with physical distancing in place as much as possible.
- Where possible, arrange spaces to encourage the recommended separation. For example, spacing children to avoid close contact during meal and nap times and assigning a designated chair and table for each child.
- Staff should maintain typical use of personal protective equipment for procedures such as diapering and sanitizing. The additional use of a medical mask should occur when a child has developed symptoms and physical distancing of two metres is not possible.
- All child care providers will receive regular communication from the department and should check their email frequently to ensure they have the most current public health information.

If a staff member becomes symptomatic while at the facility, they must immediately isolate themselves from other staff and children then notify a supervisor, go home to self-isolate and contact Health Links – Info Santé or their health care provider for further direction.

If a child develops symptoms while at the facility, the child should be isolated in a separate room, or at least two metres away from other children. Staff should put on personal protective equipment and immediately notify the parent to pick up the child. When the parent arrives, the facility will ask the parent/guardian to contact Health Links – Info Santé or their health care provider for further direction.

If there is a confirmed case at a child care facility, environmental cleaning should occur with a focus on high-touch areas and areas where the child or staff spent time. The facility should immediately advise the Early Learning and Child Care program and follow the established reporting protocol. There has been a form developed to report confirmed and suspected cases.

Decisions about the operation of child care facilities (centres, home-based providers and nursery schools) will be made by public health officials in concert with officials from Manitoba Families. Child care facilities may be able to open under public health guidance while also meeting regulatory requirements to ensure the health and safety of children.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Family child care homes and child care centres may be able to open and work towards safely increasing their operations to full regular licensing capacity while still meeting directives outlined by public health. Child care centres will have maximum group sizes/cohorts within indoor settings of up to 30 children, not including staff. Cohorts are allowed as long as there is a physical barrier or if at least four metres of space is maintained when a physical barrier isn't possible.

Staff and children should remain with the same group and cohort each day. Staff breaks should be staggered and any shared space such as washrooms, and staff break rooms should have procedures in place for additional cleaning and sanitizing.

Parents/guardians are to confirm daily that children have no symptoms and are not otherwise required to self-isolate. Drop-off and pick-ups should be staggered to promote social distancing, and a maximum of 25 at one time is suggested. When staggering is not possible, interactions between individuals should be brief.

Visitors and volunteers may be permitted, but should be limited. Individuals providing specialized services for children with additional support needs should be permitted. All visitors must adhere to physical distancing and recommended hygiene practices when on the premises.

It is best practice that parents/guardians provide their own food for their child. When that is not possible, centres will follow health guidelines such removing any shared food containers, using prepackaged foods, and practicing meticulous hand hygiene.

Child care facilities are encouraged to spend time outdoors. Outings and field trips may be permitted as long as cohorts and social distancing measures can still be followed, which includes transportation arrangements. Enhanced planning for outings and field trips is necessary to ensure public health guidelines can be met.

Enhanced cleaning measures are still in place for child care facilities. Toys should be easy to clean and disinfect, while plush toys should be avoided. Sensory play will be permitted for children with additional support needs when it is an important part of their individual plan.

Staff should maintain typical use of personal protective equipment for procedures such as diapering and sanitizing. The additional use of a medical mask should occur when a child has developed symptoms and physical distancing of two metres is not possible.



RESTRICTED

Child care centres will have maximum group sizes of 24 children and separate cohorts of children, each no larger than this group size. Some spaces could be shared based on staggered scheduling and cleaning and sanitizing between groups, which would include entrances, washrooms and gymnasiums.

Screening of parents/ guardians, children and visitors will remain in place, and increasing the physical space between children is a continued priority.

Visitors and volunteers may be permitted but should be limited. Individuals providing specialized services for children with additional support needs should be permitted. All visitors must adhere to physical distancing and recommended hygiene practices when on the premises.

Children should be spaced out during meal times, naptime, using visual prompts to mark off personal space, and activities should be organized with physical distance in mind. It is best practice that parents/guardians provide their own food for their child. When that is not possible centres will follow health guidelines such removing any shared food containers, using prepackaged foods, and practicing meticulous hand hygiene.

Outings and field trips are not permitted. On-site outdoor play may be possible, provided cohorts can remain separate.

Toys available should be easy to clean and disinfect and plush toys should be avoided. Sensory play will be permitted for children with additional support needs when it is an important part of their individual plan. Enhanced cleaning and infection control measures are maintained.

Staff should maintain typical use of personal protective equipment for procedures such as diapering and sanitizing. The additional use of a medical mask should occur when a child has developed symptoms and physical distancing of two metres is not possible.



CRITICAL

Child care facilities may be required to close or suspend services, or they may provide restricted services with priority given to front-line health care providers and other essential workers. Centres providing these essential services will be restricted to a maximum group size of 16 children to operate as an exclusive cohort. Larger facilities with segregated rooms and multiple separate external entrances may be able to care for additional cohorts of 16. Staff should be exclusive to cohorts of children.

Smaller centres with up to 16 children and home-based providers may remain open and operate under current directives from public health. Directives from Manitoba Families and guidelines developed in concert with public health officials will also provide any additional guidance related to infection control measures and use of personal protective equipment.

Visitors or volunteers should not be granted access to child care facilities, with the exception of individuals providing specialized services for children with additional needs. Parents or guardians may be able to enter facilities, but must practice social distancing and hygiene practices.

To minimize crowding, facilities are required to have staggered drop-off and pick-up times. To ensure social distancing, staff should not congregate in common areas.

It is best practice that parents/guardians provide their own food for their child. When that is not possible, centres will follow health guidelines such removing any shared food containers, using prepackaged foods, and practicing meticulous hand hygiene.

Outings and field trips may not be allowed. Onsite outdoor play may be possible, cohorts can remain separate.

Enhanced cleaning measures directed from public health are in place for child care facilities. Toys should be easy to clean and disinfect, while plush toys should be avoided. Sensory play is not permitted at this time, with the exception of children with additional support needs requiring this type of play as part of an individual plan.

Staff should maintain typical use of personal protective equipment for procedures such as diapering and sanitizing. The additional use of a medical mask should occur when a child has developed symptoms and physical distancing of two metres is not possible.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Child Care Services During COVID-19](#)

RETAIL BUSINESSES

Retail businesses include clothing and shoe stores, jewellers, tailors, flower shops, sporting good/adventure stores, vaping supply shops, boat dealers, ATV and snowmobile dealers, gift, book and stationery stores, pet groomers, and similar businesses.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Retail businesses may be able to open. However, they must ensure that members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres, except for brief exchanges.

Guidelines:

- Staff must use the [self-screening tool](#) before coming into work.
- Employees must stay home when ill.
- Customers are not allowed entry if they have COVID-19 symptoms.
- Staff are given information about physical distancing.
- Businesses must post external signs indicating COVID-19 physical distancing protocols, along with floor markings where service is provided or lines form.
- Entry into the business, including lines, are regulated to prevent congestion.
- No more than 10 people may gather in common areas. Congregation of people should be actively discouraged.
- Hand sanitizer is available at entrances and exits for public and staff use.
- Washrooms have frequent sanitization and a regime for business sanitization is in place.



RESTRICTED

Retail businesses may be able to open, with occupancy limits in place, if they implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres, except for brief exchanges. Businesses may be required to limit occupancy to 50 per cent of normal or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is lower.

Businesses may continue to provide goods by delivery or pick-up that have been ordered online, by telephone or other remote means.



CRITICAL

Operations may be limited to essential businesses with specific guidelines. Non-essential retail businesses may be required to close. However, if businesses are able to be open, occupancy limits may be in place and businesses may need to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres, except for brief exchanges.

Businesses may provide goods by delivery or pick-up that have been ordered online, by telephone or other remote means.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety COVID-19 Guidelines for Retail Businesses](#)

[Guidance for Retail Food and Grocery Stores](#)

[Guidance for Farmers' Markets](#)

RESTAURANTS AND OTHER PUBLIC FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

Public food establishments include restaurants, cafeterias, cafes and similar businesses, as well as outdoor food carts and food trucks.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Businesses may fully operate within normal occupancy levels indoors and outdoors, however there may not be self-service buffet services. Measures must be put in place to ensure tables and seating are arranged so there is a permanent or temporary physical barrier (e.g. Plexiglass) or a two-metre separation between persons sitting at different tables, except for brief exchanges.

Guidelines:

- Staff must use the [self-screening tool](#) before coming into work.
- Employees must stay home when ill.
- Businesses must post external signs indicating COVID-19 physical distancing protocols, along with floor markings where service is provided or lines form.
- Entry into the business, including lines, are regulated to prevent congestion.
- No more than 10 people may gather in common areas or at one table.
- Hand sanitizer is available at entrances and exits for public and staff use.
- Washrooms are frequently sanitized and a regime for business sanitization is in place.
- Sitting or standing at counters is not allowed, unless a two metre separation between groups can be maintained.
- A distance of two metres/six feet is required between tables, unless a non-permeable barrier is in place.
- No buffet service will be allowed. Food and drinks are delivered directly to patrons.
- Surfaces such as tables, chairs and booths are cleaned between customers.
- Table items, such as condiments, menus, napkins and décor, should be removed unless they can be cleaned between customers.
- Drink refills are not allowed. Cups, straws and lids should be behind a counter and handed to customers, self-service is not permitted. Self-service condiments should be removed. Refillable or reusable containers are not allowed.
- Cashless or no-contact payment should be used to the greatest extent possible.



RESTRICTED

Public food establishments may be able to open for indoor services with occupancy limits in place, such as 50 per cent of normal capacity. They must ensure tables and seating are arranged so there is a permanent or temporary physical barrier or a two-metre separation between patrons sitting at different tables, except for brief exchanges.

Businesses may continue to provide goods by delivery or pick-up that have been ordered online, by telephone or other remote means.



CRITICAL

Public food establishments may be required to be closed, except for delivery, take-out and outdoor services.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines for Restaurants](#)

[Guidance for Food Trucks, Hot Dog and Food Push Carts](#)

BARS, BEVERAGE ROOMS, BREW PUBS, MICRO-BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

Bars, beverage rooms, brew pubs, micro-brewers and distilleries are facilities licensed to serve alcohol.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements for occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

These businesses may fully operate within normal occupancy levels indoors and outdoors, however there may not be self-service buffet services.

They must also implement measures to ensure tables and seating are arranged so there is a permanent or temporary physical barrier (e.g. Plexiglass) or a two-metre separation between people sitting at different tables, except for brief exchanges.

Standing service is not allowed. Dance floors should be closed.



RESTRICTED

Sites may operate indoor or patio service at 50 per cent of seating capacity, as long as members of the public are seated at tables. These must be arranged so there is at least a two-metre separation between people sitting at different tables, except for brief exchanges. Standing service is not allowed.

Dance floors and other common activity areas, such as pool tables, dartboards and video lottery terminals must be closed.



CRITICAL

Sites may not be able to operate, except to provide goods that have been ordered online, by telephone or other remote means by delivery or pick-up.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

PUBLIC/PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS, SPLASH PARKS, SPAS, FITNESS CLUBS, GYMS AND TRAINING FACILITIES



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Fitness clubs, gyms and training facilities, martial arts, gymnastic clubs, yoga studios and dance, theatre and music schools must remain at occupancy levels of 50 per cent or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is less.

Other facilities may fully open with two metres of physical distancing in place.

Change rooms and shower facilities are to have limited use.



RESTRICTED

Facilities may only be able to operate at reduced capacity.



CRITICAL

Facilities may not be able to operate.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

CASINOS

In Winnipeg, Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries operates its own casinos, McPhillips Casino and Club Regent Casino, and also operates the Shark Club Gaming Centre for True North Sports and Entertainment. There are also three casinos owned and operated by First Nations: Sand Hills located on Swan Lake First Nation near Carberry, South Beach Casino located on the Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation near Scantebury, and Aseneskak Casino located on Opaskwayak Cree Nation near The Pas.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.

All guests and staff will be asked to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms and current travel related orders. Guests or staff displaying symptoms of illness or who have travelled in unauthorized areas will not be permitted entry.

Casinos will post increased signage for COVID-19 precautions.



CAUTION

In addition to measures above, casinos are able to open with a maximum occupancy of 30 per cent of the site's capacity (including staff). Sub-groups or cohorts are not required.

Gaming machines and seating should be reconfigured to ensure social/physical distancing, or barriers should be put in place.

Live table games will be suspended.



RESTRICTED

There may be further reduction of occupancy limits or closure.



CRITICAL

Casinos and gaming centres are closed.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

PERFORMING ARTS AND MOVIE THEATRES

This includes theatres for live theatrical performances (e.g., ballet, plays, orchestras, symphonies, musical theatre, etc.) or theatres that project on indoor screens.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Stage performances and movie theatres may open, at a capacity of 30 per cent of the site's capacity or 500 people, whichever is lower. Sub-groups or cohorts are not required. Physical distancing must be possible between individuals, households and small groups of people travelling to the event together.

Performers must follow restrictions related to singing, musical instruments and dancing.

Sites must also address physical distancing in areas where patrons may congregate between shows, performances or acts of a play at intermissions.



RESTRICTED

Theatres may be required to have further occupancy limits or to close.



CRITICAL

Theatres may be required to close.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Community centres include multi-purpose facilities such as church basements, arenas and town halls.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Community centres and other multi-purpose facilities such as arenas and town halls must have an indoor occupancy level. The maximum number of people permitted per site is 50, except where groups of 50 can be separated to prevent contact with other groups through the use of separate exits and/or staggered drop off schedules and monitoring the facility to avoid congestion and inter-mingling of groups in common areas.

The maximum size of gatherings with sub-groups should not exceed 30 per cent of the site's capacity, to a maximum of 300.

In addition to the general guidance for all groups, senior centres or clubs must also follow these guidelines to further decrease risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- Seniors may consider waiting to return to these activities.
- Staff/volunteers must be present at a single entry to the site to allow the organization to monitor use and capacity.
- Where group activities are necessary, consider further limiting group sizes from the allowed limit of 50 people indoors to 25 people or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is fewer. This will further reduce the exposure of seniors to a large number of individuals.
- Maintain lists of participants for 21 days to ensure appropriate public health follow-up can take place if a participant is exposed to COVID-19 during these activities.



RESTRICTED

Facilities may only be able to operate at reduced capacity.



CRITICAL

Facilities may not be able to operate.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

GOVERNMENT-SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

Government subsidized rental properties provide affordable homes to low- to moderate-income households. The organizations who manage these properties need to maintain them to meet applicable provincial codes and regulations for safety and health. Apartment buildings with indoor common areas require additional attention during a pandemic.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Daily disinfecting of high-touch surfaces in common areas - including elevator buttons, handrails and door handles – should occur.

Tenant activities and programs are restricted to group sizes of no larger and 50 indoors and 100 outdoors, as allowed by public health.



RESTRICTED

Limit entry into tenants' suites to urgent repairs only. Suite inspections, routine maintenance, non-urgent repairs and pest control treatments will be discontinued in occupied suites. Access to multi-unit buildings will be restricted and allowed only to delivery, emergency, health, maintenance and support personnel.

High touch surfaces in common areas - including elevator buttons, handrails and door handles – will be disinfected twice daily.

Tenant activities and programs will be discontinued. Furniture in common areas of the building will be limited to meet physical distancing requirements.

In-person communication with tenants will be restricted to urgent situations only.



CRITICAL

Masks will be required in common areas of all multi-unit buildings.

Entry into tenants' suites will be limited to emergency repairs only. Suite inspections, routine maintenance, non-emergency repairs and pest control treatments will not take place.

High touch surfaces in common areas - including elevator buttons, handrails and door handles – will be disinfected twice daily.

Access to multi-unit buildings will be restricted and allowed only to delivery, emergency, health and maintenance personnel. Provide people who are delivering prescriptions, food and other essential goods a method of leaving the supplies at the front door of the building.

Tenant activities and programs will be discontinued. Furniture in common areas of the building will be removed, and lounges and other meeting rooms used by tenants and their guests will be closed.

Communication with tenants will be restricted to phone or electronic methods.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION SHELTERS

The Family Violence Prevention Program funds 10 women's shelters across the province to provide safe, emergency accommodations and supportive counselling to women and their children who have experienced family violence. Some shelters also provide men with supportive counselling and accommodation in a hotel as necessary.

Shelters also collaborate a 24/7 crisis line to provide information, service navigation and support for those seeking assistance due to family violence.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Occupancy limits will be in place to ensure staff and residents are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

If service demands exceed the amount of available shelter accommodations, clients will be housed in hotel accommodations temporarily. Wherever possible, hotels as alternative accommodations will be in the same community that the client is seeking service and will be short-term. As soon as regular shelter spaces or second stage housing becomes available, clients will move out of the hotel. Counselling services will be provided by the shelter placing them in hotel, unless other arrangements are made with a local women's resource centre.

Travel/transportation of clients for daily activities outside of the shelter or temporary accommodation may occur. Transfer of clients to shelters in other communities can occur, in accordance with any travel restrictions that may be in place through public health orders.



RESTRICTED

Shelters are a critical service and must remain open. Occupancy limits will be in place to ensure staff and residents are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges. Personal protective equipment (masks, gloves and cleaning supplies) is available through Manitoba Families' emergency response unit.

If service demands exceed the amount of available shelter accommodations, clients will be housed in hotel accommodations temporarily. Wherever possible, hotels as alternative accommodations will be in the same community that the client is seeking service and will be short-term. As soon as regular shelter spaces or second stage housing becomes available, clients will move out of the hotel. Counselling services will be provided by the shelter placing them in hotel, unless other arrangements are made with a local women's resource centre.

Travel/transportation of clients for daily activities outside of the shelter or temporary accommodation is not recommended and should be suspended. Transfer of clients to other shelters in different communities should only occur in exceptional circumstances, as movement between communities must be in line with public health restrictions.



CRITICAL

Occupancy limits will be in place to ensure staff and residents are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

If service demands exceed the amount of available shelter accommodations, clients will be housed in hotel a temporarily. Wherever possible, hotels as alternative accommodations will be in the same community that the client is seeking service and will be short-term. As soon as regular shelter spaces become available, clients will move out of the hotel. Counselling services will be provided by the shelter placing them in hotel, unless other arrangements are made with a local women's resource centre.

Travel/transportation of clients for daily activities outside of the shelter or temporary accommodation is not recommended and should be suspended. Transfer of clients to other shelters in different communities should only occur in exceptional circumstances, as movement between communities must be in line with public health restrictions.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND LIBRARIES

Museums, galleries and libraries provide a range of cultural and community services.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Museums, galleries and libraries may be able to open. Occupancy limits may be in place to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



RESTRICTED

Museums, galleries and libraries may be able to open at restricted occupancy limits such as 50 per cent of normal capacity. Sites will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



CRITICAL

Museums, galleries and libraries may be required to close.

Sector-Specific Guidance

In addition to general public health guidance for businesses, other important considerations include:

- Sites should post signage warning that people should not enter the facility if they feel unwell or have travelled outside of Manitoba and permitted jurisdictions (as set out by public health) in the last 14 days.
- Organizations must post external signs indicating COVID-19 physical distancing protocols.
- High-touch displays must remain closed.
- Online ticket sales should be used where possible.
- Staff should receive information about physical distancing and floor markings where service is offered or lines form.
- Entrances into the business, including any lines that form, need to ensure physical distancing is in place to prevent congestion.
- Increase cleaning of high-touch surfaces such as railings, door handles, elevators and all shared surfaces, supplies, tools and equipment, such as computer keyboards.

- Sites may adjust to allow for self-guided tours or app-based self-guided tours instead of using shared headsets or live guides.
- On-site restaurants must follow same guidelines as other restaurants.

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Ontario Museum Association COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Canadian Association of Science Centres COVID-19 Resources](#)

ADULT DISABILITY SERVICES

Adult Disability Services (ADS) funds 100 service providers across the province to deliver day and residential services to approximately 7,000 adults with an intellectual disability who are eligible for the Community Living disABILITY Services program. Approximately 4,300 of these individuals attend a day service at a facility operated by one of 75 day services providers.

ADS will follow the advice of public health officials at all response levels to assess the risks to participants and determine the scope of services that may continue to be delivered, as well as the required safety protocols at each level.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Day and Transportation Services: Public health may require day and transportation services providers implement safety protocols and operate at a capacity that allows for physical distancing to be maintained between individuals and staff. The number of individuals attending the day services facility may be limited depending on the type of service offered.

Residential Facilities: Public health officials may allow indoor and outdoor visits to occur in shift-staffed group homes and home shares and individuals to leave their residence to visit with family members and friends. Some restrictions on the number of visitors at a time may exist in some facilities.

Community Service Worker (CSW) Visits: Public health may require in-person visits by CSWs to occur with appropriate public health protocols.

Direct Support Provider (DSP) Services: DSP services will continue to occur with appropriate public health protocols.

Residential Care Licensing (RCL) Coordinator Visits: In-person visits by RCL coordinators will continue to occur with public health protocols.



RESTRICTED

Day and Transportation Services: Public health may require day and transportation services providers to implement safety protocols and operate at a capacity that allows for maintaining safe physical distancing between participants and staff. Day services providers will be encouraged to keep participant groups in separate rooms or spaces to limit the amount of contact between participants and transportation providers will limit the number of participants picked up at different homes. Individuals with underlying health conditions or who are at greater risk of contracting COVID-19 will not attend a day services program.

Residential Facilities: Public health may require indoor and outdoor visits to occur in shift-staffed group homes and home shares with restrictions on the number of visitors at a time. Family members and friends will be encouraged to connect with individuals by telephone, over social media or virtually to supplement in-person visits. Individuals may leave their residence to visit family members and friends. Screening criteria will be applied to all visitors prior to entering the home and to participants who are returning from an out-of-home visit.

CSW Visits: Non-critical in-person visits/meetings by CSWs are limited to the extent possible. Efforts to conduct visits/meetings in an alternate format are explored before in-person visits/meetings are considered.

DSP Services: DSP services will occur with implementation of appropriate safety protocols.

RCL Coordinator Visits: RCL coordinator visits will continue at all licensed facilities with the minimal amount of in-person contact necessary. Appropriate safety protocols will be implemented to ensure the safety of residents, support staff and RCL coordinators. Random checks of facilities will continue to ensure that the quality of care being provided meets licensing standards. Scheduled visits will continue for the purposes of issuing licenses, responding to concerns related to the health and safety of residents or the condition of a home, or to respond to a protection concern.



CRITICAL

Services will be restricted, however services deemed critical will be provided. These include situations where there is an imminent risk of placement breakdown, family breakdown or homelessness or there is risk to the health and safety of the participant (nutrition, medical care, medication administration) or the caregiver or participant will lose their employment.

Day and Transportation Services: All non-critical day services and non-critical transportation services will be suspended. Day services staff and transportation staff will be redeployed to residential settings to support participants at their places of residence.

Residential Facilities: Most individuals who typically attend day services or work during the day will remain in their residence 24/7. All non-critical in-person visits to shift-staffed group homes and home shares will be suspended. Family members and friends of individuals residing in a residential facility will be encouraged to connect by telephone, social media or virtually.

CSW Visits: Non-critical in-person visits/meetings by CSWs will be suspended. Critical in-person visits/meetings will continue with the least amount of in-person contact necessary in order to support participants and/or families at risk of experiencing a placement breakdown. In-person visits/meetings will occur only if they cannot be done in an alternate format (e.g., remotely or virtually). Appropriate safety protocols will be followed.

DSP Services: In-person DSP services are provided only in situations that have been deemed critical and where alternative delivery is not possible. Appropriate safety protocols will be implemented when providing in-person services.

RCL Coordinator Visits: RCL coordinator visits will continue, and potentially increase, at all licensed facilities with the minimal amount of in-person contact necessary. Appropriate safety protocols will be implemented to ensure the safety of residents and staff. Random checks of facilities will continue to ensure that the quality of care being provided meets licensing standards. Scheduled visits will continue for the purposes of issuing licenses, responding to concerns related to the health and safety of residents or the condition of a home, or to respond to a protection concern.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Guidelines to Support the Gradual Reopening of Day Services](#)

[Guidelines to Support the Gradual Resumption of Transportation Services](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

More detailed information and instructions including safety protocols will be available on the Department of Families website under the Community Living disABILITY Services section:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/covid-circulars.html>

INCOME SUPPORT AND OTHER FINANCAL BENEFITS

Public health guidance about delivering financial benefits applies to Employment and Income Assistance, Rent Assist, 55+, Manitoba Child Benefit, as well as other income support programs, including adoption financial assistance.

Decisions about closing government offices will be made by public health officials in concert with department staff and officials from central government accommodation services.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Offices are open to the public. Offices will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges. Occupancy limits may be in place to support the need for physical distancing.

Face-to-face contact is limited and safe pick-up and drop-off processes are in place for essential mail/documents.



RESTRICTED

Offices may be able to open, with occupancy or hours of operation limits in place, to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Face-to-face contact is limited and safe pick-up and drop-off processes are in place for essential mail/documents.

For adoption financial assistance, all adoption legislation requirements are to be followed, but no home visits would be conducted. Home study interviews and updates are to be completed via phone/Skype.



CRITICAL

Offices delivering financial benefits may be required to close to the public. Communication would be through telephone, email or regular mail. Financial benefits would be delivered using direct deposit where possible and cheques would be delivered by regular mail. Safe pick-up and drop off processes would be established for essential items/documents.

If offices are required to be open to the public, occupancy limits would be in place and offices would need to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

CHILDREN'S DISABILITY SERVICES

Children's disABILITY Services (CDS) provides assistance to birth, adoptive and extended families caring for children who have developmental and/or lifelong physical disabilities.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

All staff, agencies and stakeholders are fully operational with physical distancing measures of two metres, except for brief periods or for essential interactions as recommended by public health.



RESTRICTED

Regular in-person CDS services will be suspended and critical in-person services will continue, adhering to public health recommendations. This will allow for flexibility in order to change with provincial needs based on public health requirements. Community service workers and early intervention staff will be in touch with families on a regular basis to encourage clear, consistent communication and assist to problem solve any service needs or barriers.

Health and safety concerns of families, agencies and staff will be addressed with enhanced guidelines for hygiene, infection prevention protocols and the creation of the COVID-19 Service Guide. Agencies will continue to provide service virtually where possible and in-person when necessary, continuing to follow all public health guidelines.

Agencies that continue to deliver critical services will be provided assistance to ensure the procurement of personal protective equipment

All urgent situations will need a staff response and service plan, which may occur in person if necessary, using personal protective equipment and following public health recommendations. Where possible, virtual visits can occur and non-critical meetings can continue using remote or virtual technology. Respite and other in-home supports for parents will continue as available and where public health guidelines can continue to be followed. Information-sharing and regular check-in meetings between front-line managers and senior leadership will occur to ensure communication is clear, consistent, accurate and current.

All families, agencies and frontline staff will receive regular communication.



CRITICAL

Only critical child safety in-person visits will be provided with appropriate personal protective equipment to address situations where there are concerns that, without care, there could be situations of imminent safety, harm or hospitalization.

Virtual services will continue, except if staffing levels are considerably reduced due to illness. In that event, work will be prioritized by risk and safety needs and addressed in accordance to business continuity plans. Any changes will be shared using websites, emails, circulars and phone calls, coordinated by CDS director and leadership team.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Information for Service Providers](#)

CHILD WELFARE – COMMUNITY CARE PROVIDERS – PLACEMENT RESOURCES

This includes services related to the placement of children with care providers, such as through foster homes, group homes, and treatment centres.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Community care providers are operating normally while following social distancing, enhanced cleaning, proper hand hygiene requirements and using personal protective equipment.

Face-to-face visits may occur indoors with the input of the child and family services agency worker and operator. Outdoor visits are encouraged. Social distancing is to be followed at all times. Current screening questions as indicated by Shared Health must be used for any visitor to the facility.

Directives from public health officials and Manitoba Families will provide added guidance.



RESTRICTED

Visitation in the home should occur for essential services only. Options to on-site visits should be exhausted prior to the consideration of a face-to-face visit. Care providers are encouraged to limit the movement of workers between facilities where possible.



CRITICAL

Only critical care will be provided. If there is an isolated case of COVID-19 in a care setting, a resident may be moved to an isolation setting at the direction of public health. Community care providers are encouraged to limit the movement of workers between facilities where possible.

A community care provider may reach critical staffing levels due to staff shortages and is expected to engage strategies from their business continuity plans to respond. Manitoba Families has an emergency response team to provide guidance and support as needed. Staff redeployment strategies may also be required in the department to ensure day-to-day care of children and youth in group care settings.

Visitation will only be allowed in critical situations. Options to on-site visits should be exhausted prior to the consideration of a face-to-face visit. Oversight by the regulatory body will be undertaken virtually and via fax, phone and email.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

As per Families Circulars for CCP's:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/infomanitobans/print,famcirculars.html>

CHILD WELFARE – CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE AUTHORITIES AND AGENCIES (both on and off reserve locations)

Providing front-line, mandated child protection services and programming to children, youth and families is the legislated responsibility of child and family services (CFS) agencies, which are governed by four authorities. CFS agencies operate within urban, rural and reserve communities as per The Child and Family Services Act and The Authorities Act.

CFS services are essential services, as they are designed to protect children from abuse, neglect and maltreatment. CFS agencies are mandated to respond to complaints and concerns that pertain to children and families, to assess the immediate safety of children and intervene when necessary. Prevention services that support at-risk families to reduce the need for children to enter care are also part of this essential service.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.

Manitoba Families and the four governing authorities are members of an emergency management team to promote and ensure critical child welfare services are provided across the province. The team is also responsible for coordinating with Indigenous Services Canada to ensure personal protective equipment and service delivery needs are met on and off reserve.



CAUTION

CFS agencies will continue to operate with agency offices open. Public health restrictions will remain in place to ensure social distancing occurs and visitors and staff are appropriately screened. The use of personal protective equipment will follow public health guidelines. All mandated services will continue to be provided, with alternative use of technology available when deemed appropriate. Face-to-face contact and entry into homes will be completed with public health screening and personal protective equipment as necessary.



RESTRICTED

CFS agencies will continue to operate, however specific offices will have occupancy limits, public access restrictions and at times the use of personal protective equipment may be required as per public health guidelines. Organizations will be required to implement measures to ensure staff and visitors are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

All mandated services will continue to be provided, however some may be altered to include the use of virtual or online contact. Where required, face-to-face contact and entry into homes will be completed with public health screening and personal protective equipment as necessary.



CRITICAL

CFS agency sites might close to public access. Agencies could operate with majority of staff off-site with limited numbers in office. This would allow for public health guidelines and proper screening to be followed. Sites vary in size and therefore social distancing, screening and local community guidelines will be followed.

Off-site activities will continue to occur when urgent. Agency staff would respond based on urgency where the immediate safety of children requires an assessment. When possible, alternatives like using the phone or digital or online contact would be used. In-person contact will still occur in an emergency.

As CFS agencies respond, they may be able to open minimally with strict staffing occupancy limits in place and through the use of personal protective equipment. In addition, the public may not be able to attend office location or could do so by appointment only or at an alternative outdoor setting. In-home supports to families may be reduced if deemed not urgent. First Nation communities may have travel restrictions in place, which would limit some support and services from outside the community to those considered essential.

All after-hours work, ongoing case management, intakes and contact with children in care will be maintained. Service delivery and practises will vary and personal protective equipment will be used according to public health advice.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

Specific Circulars

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/covid-circulars.html>

CHILD WELFARE – CHILD & ADULT ABUSE REGISTRY UNIT AND POST ADOPTION REGISTRY

The Child Abuse Registry (CAR) and the Adult Abuse Registry (AAR) include a record of the names of individuals found to have abused or neglected a child or a vulnerable adult in Manitoba. Any person may apply for a CAR or AAR check to determine if his or her name is listed on either registry.

The registries are used to screen prospective foster and adoptive parents, employees, volunteers or students who are or would be working with children or vulnerable adults. The primary purpose of the registries is to protect children and vulnerable adults from known offenders.

The Post-Adoption Registry (PAR) allows for search and reunion services for eligible family members who were involved in an adoption that was granted in Manitoba.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

In-person front-counter service is in place, with capacity limits in place to ensure that members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges. Applications and payment for abuse registry checks will be accepted in person, via fax, mail, email and by using the on-line self-check form. Visit www.manitoba.ca/fs/abuseregistries for more information.

All PAR service requests are processed, via in person, mail, email, phone. Witnesses are required for PAR forms.



RESTRICTED

In-person front-counter service will be suspended, with the exception of in-person appointments made in advance. Applications and payment for abuse registry checks will be accepted by fax, mail, email and by utilizing an online form.

All PAR service requests are processed via phone, email and mail. All in-person client contact is suspended or conducted by appointment only, based on office operational guidelines. Forms to do not need to be witnessed.



CRITICAL

In-person front-counter service will be suspended and appointments will not be accepted. Applications and payment for abuse registry checks will be accepted by fax, mail, email and by utilizing the online form.

All PAR service requests are processed via phone, email or mail. All in person client contact is suspended. Forms to do not need to be witnessed.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

ADOPTION PROGRAM



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place. All adoption legislation requirements must be followed.



CAUTION

All adoption legislation requirements must be followed.



RESTRICTED

All adoption legislation requirements are to be followed. However, home visits are not permitted. Home study interviews and updates are to be completed via phone or Skype. Educational seminars are cancelled, unless offered online with an interactive format to evaluate online learning.

Division 2 (Private) adoption placements are processed following public health guidelines, including personal protective equipment.

The Central Adoption Registry (CAR) is suspended and no adoption placements or referrals will occur. The CAR will continue to accept registrations for children and prospective adoptive parents.

Division 3 (Intercountry) child proposals are processed. Prospective adoptive families are to seek medical advice from their family physician via phone or Skype. Travel to pick up the child is considered essential travel and public health protocols on isolation following travel must be strictly followed.



CRITICAL

All adoption legislation requirements are to be followed. However, home visits are not permitted. Home study interviews and updates are to be completed via phone or Skype. Educational seminars are cancelled, unless offered online with an interactive format to evaluate online learning.

Division 2 (Private) adoption placements are processed following public health guidelines, including personal protective equipment.

The CAR is suspended and no adoption placements or referrals will occur. The CAR will continue to accept registrations for children and prospective adoptive parents.

Division 3 (Intercountry) child proposals are processed. Prospective adoptive families are to seek medical advice from their family physician via phone or Skype. Travel to pick up a child is considered essential travel and public health protocols on isolation following travel must be strictly followed.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS

Community service providers offer front-line services and programs to the community, including essential items for families such as food, baby formula, diapers, hygiene products, and cleaning supplies. Other significant issues facing families include food security, domestic violence, mental health and substance use, and financial security (employment, training, financial empowerment and money management). This sector includes Parent Child Coalitions and agencies funded by Manitoba Families.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Sites will be operational, with safety checks in place. Some occupancy limits may be in place, with organizations required to implement measures to ensure people are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Some funded agencies will also offer drop-in services for access to a shower, washroom, phone and computer. In all instances, precautions are taken to follow social distancing measures and limit personal contact.



RESTRICTED

Sites may be able to operate if organizations can to implement measures to ensure people are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Services including crisis counselling, wellness checks, mental health supports, domestic violence outreach and other programming and learning opportunities may occur through recorded videos, social media and webinars.

Pick-up or delivery services will be offered for emergency provisions (food, cultural medicines, hygiene products, cleaning supplies, baby supplies, and activity kits for children) to families in need of these supplies.



CRITICAL

Sites may be closed.

As community organizations respond, they may be able to open minimally with strict staffing occupancy limits in place and personal protective equipment. In addition, the public may not be able to attend.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

Specific Circulars

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/covid-circulars.html>

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM – SECOND STAGE HOUSING

Four second stage programs offer safe, protective, affordable interim housing and services for women leaving abusive relationships. These programs also provide individual and group counselling, parenting support and information. Children’s counselling is also available. Residents in second stage housing live independently and access services and supports from the agency that oversee/manage the program.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

In-person programming operates normally in facilities where physical distancing can be implemented. Program sites will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



RESTRICTED

Counselling and group programs may operate virtually. In-person programming operates at reduced group size in facilities where physical distancing can be implemented. Program sites will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Residents are in contact with program staff who provide updated information about public health protocols and precautions to support them in managing the risks.



CRITICAL

Counselling and group programs may operate virtually. In-person programming operates at significantly reduced group size only in facilities where physical distancing can be implemented. Program sites will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Residents are in contact with program staff who provide updated information about public health protocols and precautions to support them in managing the risks.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM – RESOURCE CENTRES

Nine women’s resource centres provide individual counselling, information and referral, outreach and support groups to women affected by family violence as well as educational programs, volunteer training and community development activities. Children’s programming for those affected by family violence is also available. Several resource centres serve as hubs for the provision of food and supplies to clients who are experiencing poverty and more recently, the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions on services.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Sites will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Counselling and group programs may operate virtually or in person in accordance with physical distancing measures.



RESTRICTED

Resource centres may be closed or suspend hours of operation temporarily. If resource centres remain open, occupancy limits must be in place. Sites will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Counselling and group programs may operate virtually or in person in accordance with physical distancing measures.



CRITICAL

Resource centres may close.

Counselling and group programs may operate virtually or in-person in accordance with physical distancing measures.

Sector-Specific Guidance

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM – SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Fourteen specialized programs offer a variety of unique services to those affected by family violence, as well as training and public education. These programs include legal assistance for women; immigrant women’s counselling; couples counselling for couples dealing with violence in their relationship; children’s supervised access programs; services to women and men who are survivors of childhood and/or adolescent sexual abuse; programs for men with abusive behaviours; programs for men (and their children) who are leaving abusive relationships; a program for Indigenous youth and families; education for youth about healthy relationships as well as training.

Many of these programs do not have a specific program site, but provide their services through visits to schools and resource centres.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Programs will need to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



RESTRICTED

Facilities where programs are delivered by these organizations may be required to close. If services can’t be provided virtually, they will be temporarily suspended.



CRITICAL

Facilities where programs are delivered by these organizations may be required to close. If services can’t be provided virtually, they will be temporarily suspended.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

THERAPEUTIC OR HEALTH CARE BUSINESSES

Businesses including chiropractors, physiotherapists, optometrists, podiatrists, dentists, dental hygienists, therapeutic massage therapists and acupuncturists, may be able to open under public health guidance.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

At the direction of their respective regulatory bodies, regulated health professionals - such as chiropractors, physiotherapists, dentists, dental hygienists, optometrists and podiatrists - and non-regulated professions, such as therapeutic massage and acupuncture services, may be able to provide regular care.

Public health requirements requiring occupancy limits are not in place. Service providers are required to implement measures to ensure that members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Guidelines:

In addition to general public health guidance for businesses, other important considerations for these businesses include:

- Practitioners should see customers by appointment only and keep logs of appointments for possible contact tracing for a minimum of 21 days.
- Staff, patients or people attending with patients must use the [self-screening tool](#) before booking an appointment.
- Customers and people who attend with them may be screened by telephone before an appointment is booked and should not be given an appointment if they have COVID-19 symptoms.
- People should be screened when they arrive for an appointment. People identified as symptomatic should not be allowed into the building and should be instructed to call Health Links - Info Santé.
- Employees must stay home when ill with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Staff are given information about physical distancing.
- Waiting room management strategies must be in place. Strategies should include waiting in car if possible, and physical distancing for those in waiting room.
- Entry into the business, including lines, are regulated to prevent congestion.
- Businesses must post external signs indicating COVID-19 physical distancing protocols, along with floor markings where service is provided or lines form.

- Businesses must maintain a single point of entry.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the entrance/exit for patient and staff use.
- Patients and people attending with patients must sanitize hands upon entry to facility.
- Work and service areas are sanitized after each patient.
- Washrooms have frequent sanitization and a regime for business sanitization is in place.
- Magazine racks and toys are removed and play areas in waiting rooms are closed.
- Patients may wear masks when receiving services, where possible.
- Cashless or no-contact payment should be used to the greatest extent possible.



RESTRICTED

Customers/clients must maintain a distance of at least two metres, except when receiving service or for brief exchanges. In addition to requirements to ensure that members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, all businesses will be required to limit occupancy to 50 per cent of normal business levels or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is lower. There may be public health requirements to have additional occupancy levels in place.

At the direction of their respective regulatory bodies, regulated health professionals, such as dentists, dental hygienists, chiropractors, physiotherapists, optometrists and podiatrists may be able to provide regular care and are not limited to providing urgent and emergent care. In addition, individuals who provide therapeutic massage and acupuncture services may be able to provide those services, based on public health advice.

These businesses should also continue to follow the guidelines set out in the previous section.



CRITICAL

At the direction of their respective regulatory bodies, regulated health professionals, such as dentists, dental hygienists, chiropractors, physiotherapists, optometrists and podiatrists may be limited to providing urgent and emergent care.

Individuals who provide therapeutic massage and acupuncture services will likely not be able to provide those services, based on public health advice.

Businesses will be required to ensure that members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges. All businesses will also be required to limit occupancy to 50 per cent of normal business levels or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is lower.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

PERSONAL SERVICES

Personal services professions include hair stylists, barbers, manicurists and pedicurists, tattoo parlours, estheticians, cosmetologists, electrologists and tanning parlours.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

These businesses may fully operate at 50 per cent capacity or one person for every 10 square metres, whichever is less, if they implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for receiving services or brief exchanges.

Services may be provided within a distance of less than two metres if a non-permeable barrier (e.g. Plexiglass) is installed.

The following guidelines should be followed by patrons, volunteers and staff:

- Staff should self-screen before they attend work and stay home when ill with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Clients should be informed that they cannot receive services if they are experiencing any COVID-like symptoms.



RESTRICTED

Personal service businesses may be able to open with occupancy limits in place, which may include a limit of 50 per cent of normal business levels or one person per 10 square metres, whichever is lower. Customers and staff must maintain a distance of at least two metres, except for receiving services or brief exchanges.

Guidelines:

- Staff and clients must use the [self-screening tool](#) before booking an appointment.
- Employees must stay home when ill with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Clients are screened by telephone before an appointment is booked and are not given an appointment if they have COVID-19 symptoms.
- People identified as symptomatic should be instructed to call Health Links - Info Santé.
- Appointment times are staggered to allow physical distancing, and clients should attend alone, without friends or family.
- Staff are given information about physical distancing.

- Businesses must post external signs indicating COVID-19 physical distancing protocols, along with floor markings where services are offered or lines form.
- Entry into the business, including lines and waiting areas, are regulated to prevent congestion.
- Businesses must maintain a single point of entry.
- No more than 10 people may gather in common areas. Congregation of people should be actively discouraged.
- Hand sanitizer is available at entrances and exits for public and staff use.
- Clients must sanitize hands upon entry to facility.
- Workstations are kept two metres apart and are sanitized between patrons.
- Equipment, instruments and material that cannot be disinfected between clients cannot be reused.
- Washrooms have frequent sanitization and a regime for business sanitization is in place.
- Magazine racks and toys are removed and play areas in waiting rooms are closed.
- On-site snack bars, coffee bars and other confectionery-style counters are closed.
- Both service providers and customers may wear non-medical masks, particularly when close touch or contact is involved.
- Service providers may wear protective gloves when providing service, particularly when close touch or contact is involved.
- Cashless or no-contact payment should be used to the greatest extent possible.



CRITICAL

Personal service businesses may be required to close. However, they may be able to continue to provide goods that have been ordered online, by telephone or other remote means by delivery or pick-up.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Guidance for Body Modification Businesses](#)

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

FILM PRODUCTIONS

Film productions include most activities involved in producing films. However, ancillary services (e.g. food services) would be required to follow guidelines specific to those activities.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Film production sites may operate. Wherever possible, productions should take all reasonable steps to ensure the cast, employees and members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

People employed by or affiliated with a film production may enter Manitoba without self-isolating for 14 days if they have self-isolated for 14 days before arriving in Manitoba.



RESTRICTED

Sites may operate within limited production sizes or added requirements related to travel from outside Manitoba.

Organizations will be required to implement measures to ensure the cast, employees and members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



CRITICAL

Film productions may not be able to occur.

Sector-Specific Guidance

The following guidelines should be followed at all response levels by film production crew and cast on set/on location and in production offices.

- International and domestic travel continues to be restricted.
Visit manitoba.ca/covid19/soe.html to review current public health orders.
Any required self-isolation must be completed before attending the work site.
- As much as possible, offer virtual pre-production and/or virtual rehearsals.
Limit the number of face-to-face interactions.
- According to Workplace Safety and Health legislation, employers have a responsibility to provide a safe workplace for their workers. Employers must designate a health and safety

representative if they have 10 to 19 workers, and a health and safety committee for a crew of 20 or more workers. Employers, representatives and committees should ensure all workers are following COVID-19 guidance recommendations.

Workplace Guidance for Business Owners

Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers

- Consider how to adapt activities to take place outdoors, when possible.
- Limit on-site visitors and other non-essential staff. Avoid contact and interactions with the general public.
- Individuals must use the [self-screening tool](#) daily before reporting on set/location or the production office, and must stay home when ill. Individuals at higher risk of serious illness may consider waiting to return on set/location.
- Maintain a single point of entry and discourage people from leaving/re-entering the premises. Hand hygiene stations should be placed at the entrance and strategically throughout the premises. All individuals should be directed to clean their hands upon entry and upon leaving the premises, as well as regularly throughout the day.
- Screen all individuals at the entry for symptoms and exposures using [screening posters](#) or the [self-screening tool](#).
- Minimize contact with number of individuals involved in the production by creating working cohorts or teams that remain isolated from each other.
- Post [signage](#) indicating COVID-19 physical distancing protocols, along with floor markings, where cast or crew congregate.
- Minimize close contact with others (within two metres/six feet). When this is unavoidable and close contact is required, a non-medical mask (or medical mask, if available) should be worn (e.g. hair, make-up, camera).
- Minimizing the amount of time where close contact within two metres is absolutely required without personal protective equipment, such as during filming. Develop and implement strategies to rehearse with physical distancing or personal protective equipment.
- Providing meals on set/location must follow applicable restaurant guidelines. Buffet-style eating is prohibited. Congregating for meals should be avoided. On-site snack bars, coffee bars and other confectionery-style refreshment counters should be closed.
- Shared equipment (such as props, camera equipment) must be cleaned/disinfected frequently and after each use. This can be done by the cast and crew, but a designated individual must ensure this is being done properly and consistently. If it cannot be cleaned/disinfected between cast and crew, then it cannot be used.
- Ensure enhanced cleaning of indoor facilities, particularly washrooms. All high-touch surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized with Health Canada approved disinfectant that kills viruses, including coronaviruses.
- Transportation required to and from sets/locations must follow applicable transportation guidelines.

- Guidelines for dressing rooms/washroom facilities include:
 - o encouraging individuals to shower at home and limit use of dressing area;
 - o minimizing in-person wardrobe fittings as much as possible, and minimizing the number of staff attending in-person fittings;
 - o removing any common use items from dressing rooms;
 - o posting signage for guidance on shower area use to maintain physical distancing;
 - o modifying the use of dressing rooms to maintain physical distancing, including those involved in fittings;
 - o making a disinfectant spray or wipes available for participants to disinfect dressing room surfaces before and after use; and
 - o ensuring enhanced and frequent cleaning and disinfection of dressing rooms.

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS

This guidance applies to all players, coaches, managers, training staff and medical personnel employed by or affiliated with a professional sports team.

All activities will require some modification from their usual operations, however individual or group activities that have close prolonged face-to-face contact (e.g. boxing, football) are higher risk, and will require some modification of the sport or activity to minimize this type of contact.

These activities must adhere to travel restrictions.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Professional sports teams may be able to operate.

The public may not attend the team's facilities and the media may attend for the purpose of broadcasting.

People employed by or affiliated with a professional sports team may enter Manitoba without self-isolating for 14 days if they have self-isolated for 14 days before arriving in Manitoba.

Consideration will be given on a case-by-case basis to lifting self-isolation requirements were sectors propose and provide satisfactory plans to address public health requirements for necessary travel.



RESTRICTED

Professional sports teams may be able to operate. However, the public may not be able to attend. Occupancy limits and travel restrictions may be in place. Organizations will be required to implement measures to ensure people are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



CRITICAL

Professional sports may not be able to operate.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Sports Guidance](#)

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES AND GOLF COURSES

Outdoor personal recreation facilities include playgrounds, skate parks, golf courses, tennis courts, driving ranges, marinas, drive-in movie theatres and other similar recreation facilities. Businesses may be able to open under public health guidance.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Outdoor recreation facilities and golf courses may be able to open.

A maximum of four golfers per group and two people per golf cart is allowed.

Two people are allowed in small fishing boats and pleasure craft. If individuals are from the same household, more boat occupants are allowed.

Indoor facilities will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.



RESTRICTED

Outdoor recreation facilities and golf courses may be able to open.

Indoor facilities will be required to implement measures to ensure members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges.

Participants may be limited to a maximum of two people per cart or boat.



CRITICAL

Outdoor recreation facilities and golf courses may be required to close.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

PARKS, CAMPGROUNDS, YURTS AND VACATION CABINS



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Parks, campgrounds, yurts and vacation cabins are open, with beach and public area capacity monitored. There is frequent and enhanced cleaning of restroom facilities.



RESTRICTED

Parks, campgrounds, yurts and vacation cabins may be able to open, however occupancy limits and travel restrictions may be in place.



CRITICAL

Parks, campgrounds, yurts and vacation cabins may be required to close.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

[Provincial Park Beaches](#)

PERMANENT OUTDOOR AMUSEMENT PARKS

Permanent outdoor amusement parks include operations that offer mechanical rides, mini-golf, climbing apparatus and other similar structures.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Permanent outdoor amusement parks may operate, provided access can be controlled and employees and members of the public are reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from others, except for brief exchanges

Site capacity should be at 50 per cent of normal. Occupancy at any portion of the facility (stands, common areas, food areas) must be limited to 50 per cent of the site's usual capacity. People must be reasonably able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other members of the public.

Operations must maintain enhanced cleaning protocol for frequently-touched surfaces between rides, and riders should be spaced out to ensure physical distancing. Cleaning/disinfection of any shared equipment should take place between users. Eating spaces must follow the same protocols as restaurants.



RESTRICTED

Sites may not be able to operate.



CRITICAL

Sites may not be able to operate.

Sector-Specific Guidance

The following guidelines should be followed by patrons, volunteers and staff at all response levels:

- Develop site specific plans, which should include enhanced/frequent cleaning and disinfection for bathroom facilities and any indoor space where congregation occurs.
- Discourage attendance by staff and participants at higher risk of experiencing severe illness.
- Manage entry to ensure that physical distancing is maintained and provide staff to monitor line-ups, maintain physical distancing and discourage congregations.
- Display prominent public health messaging (e.g. frequent hand washing, stay home if you're sick and maintaining physical distancing).

- Promote awareness and support staff to stay at home if sick. Consider a daily screening questionnaire for staff, and possibly patrons.
- Do not share equipment that cannot be disinfected between riders/users.
- Recreational areas that have high-touch services (e.g., railings, safety bars, seat belts, tables, etc.) should be disinfected as often as reasonably possible.
- Follow appropriate physical distancing guidelines at all times.
- Where possible ensure contactless form of payment.
- Food services should follow applicable restaurant guidelines.
- Workplace guidelines should be followed

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

DAY CAMPS

Day camps include children’s activity groups that take place indoors or outdoors during a single day. Overnight stays are not permitted.



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Day camps may operate in maximum group sizes of up to 50 people.

Choir, band camps or musical theatre activities will not be allowed, due to higher risk of transmission through the air.



RESTRICTED

Activity occupancy may be more limited.



CRITICAL

Day camps may not be allowed to operate.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)

OUTDOOR DRIVE-IN EVENTS



LIMITED RISK

Public health requirements to have occupancy levels or physical distancing are not in place.



CAUTION

Religious organizations, community organizations and drive-in movie theatres may be able to hold outdoor events if people stay in their vehicles, or stand outside on the left side of their vehicles, as long as the windows of the vehicle next to them are closed and as long as people remain two metres apart at all times.



RESTRICTED

These events may occur if people stay in their vehicles, or stand outside on the left side of their vehicles, as long as the windows of the vehicle next to them are closed and as long as people remain two metres apart at all times.



CRITICAL

Drive-in events may not be allowed.

Sector-Specific Guidance

[Workplace Guidance for Business Owners](#)

[Key Responsibilities of Employees, Managers and Employers](#)