



Governor Brad Little

## ***News Release***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2020

### **Governor Little issues statewide stay-home order, signs extreme emergency declaration**

Boise, Idaho – Following the guidance of Idaho’s public health experts, **Governor Brad Little issued a statewide stay-home order today** for all Idahoans.

He also **signed an extreme emergency declaration**, which allows the state to more effectively increase health care capacity, take steps to reduce and slow coronavirus spread, and take rapid and decisive steps to improve the condition of Idahoans whose job and incomes are being harmed by the pandemic.

**“From the get-go, our focus has been to slow the spread of coronavirus to protect our most vulnerable citizens and preserve capacity in our healthcare system,”** Governor Little said. **“And from the beginning, I stated my commitment to making decisions about our response to coronavirus based on science. With confirmed community transmission of coronavirus now occurring in Idaho’s most populated areas, we need to take strong measures to ensure our healthcare facilities are not overburdened. I am following the guidance of our public health experts and issuing a statewide stay-home order effective immediately.”**

The stay-home order requires citizens to self-isolate at home if you can, not just if you are sick. This excludes healthcare, public safety and other essential workers as defined in the order. If you are high-risk, avoid leaving home. People can leave home to obtain or provide essential services as defined in the order. Employers that do not provide essential services as defined in order must take all steps necessary for employees to work remotely from home. Grocery stores, medical facilities, and other essential businesses as defined in the order will remain open. Restaurants across the state are being ordered to close dine-in but drive-thru, pick up, and delivery will still be available. Non-essential businesses and services will close their physical locations. This includes bars, nightclubs, gyms, recreational facilities, entertainment venues, convention centers, hair and nail salons, and others not included in the “essential” category as defined in the order. People must limit public transit unless to provide or obtain essential

services. People must limit all discretionary travel. People must limit all non-essential gatherings of any number of individuals outside the household. When you go for a walk, run, bike ride, or other outdoor recreation near your home, stay 6-feet away from individuals who are not part of your household.

**"Our healthcare and public safety workers are putting themselves in harm's way to respond to the coronavirus emergency, and we owe it to them to do our part by following this statewide stay-home order,"** Governor Little added.

The statewide stay-home order is effective immediately and will remain in effect for 21 days. Governor Little and public health officials will evaluate later whether to extend the order past 21 days.

Governor Little made the announcement at Gowen Field, where he visited with the Idaho National Guard personnel he recently mobilized to support civil authorities and local jurisdictions during the coronavirus emergency. At the Governor's request, the Guardsmen are prepared to stand up a joint task force to provide mobile testing support, transport commodities, provide facilities, tents or other equipment, and other perform other duties as needed in Idaho's coronavirus response effort. The Idaho Office of Emergency Management, a part of the Idaho Military Division, is the key emergency response planner and coordinator for interagency preparedness in Idaho.

**"We will get through this together as long as we all play an active part in fighting the spread of coronavirus. I am proud of Idaho and the way we support and love our neighbors. Let's keep it up,"** Governor Little said.

The statewide stay-home order is being finalized with public health, local officials, and business today and will be available later today at <https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/>.

View Governor Little's extreme emergency declaration [here](#).

# # #

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**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE  
ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

**ORDER TO SELF-ISOLATE  
DATE OF ORDER: March 20, 2020**

THIS ORDER DIRECTS ALL INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN BLAINE COUNTY, ALL CITIES IN BLAINE COUNTY, AND ALL UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF BLAINE COUNTY IDAHO (COLLECTIVELY REFERRED TO AS “BLAINE COUNTY” IN THIS ORDER) TO:

1. SELF-ISOLATE AT THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE EXCEPT THAT THEY MAY LEAVE TO PROVIDE OR RECEIVE CERTAIN ESSENTIAL SERVICES OR ENGAGE IN CERTAIN ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES AND WORK FOR ESSENTIAL BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES;
2. EXEMPTING INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS FROM THE SELF-ISOLATION ORDER BUT URGING THEM TO FIND SHELTER AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PROVIDE IT;
3. DIRECTING ALL BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO CEASE NONESSENTIAL OPERATIONS AT PHYSICAL LOCATIONS IN BLAINE COUNTY;
4. PROHIBITING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL GATHERINGS OF ANY NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS; AND
5. ORDERING CESSATION OF ALL NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL.

**The Director of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (“the Director”) is authorized by Idaho Code § 56-1003(7) “to impose and enforce orders of isolation and quarantine to protect the public from the spread of infectious or communicable diseases.”**

**This Order shall become effective at 11:59 p.m. on March 20, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until 11:59 p.m. on April 13, 2020 or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Director.**

**Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order could constitute a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. Idaho Code § 56-1003(7)(c).**

**SUMMARY**

The virus that causes Coronavirus 2019 Disease (“COVID-19”) is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of

public and private health care providers to handle the influx of new patients and safeguard public health and safety.

Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect all members of the community in Blaine County, especially including individuals most vulnerable to the virus and also health care providers, this Order requires all individuals anywhere in Blaine County to self-isolate – that is, stay at home – except for certain essential activities and work to provide essential business and government services or perform essential public infrastructure construction, including housing.

This order begins at 11:59 p.m. on March 20, 2020, and will continue to be in effect until 11:59 p.m. on April 13, 2020, or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Director, subject to the limited exceptions and under the terms and conditions more particularly set forth below.

Gatherings of individuals outside the home are prohibited, with certain exceptions for essential activities or essential travel or to perform work for essential businesses and government agencies or perform essential infrastructure work.

This order requires during the effective period of the order that all bars and nightclubs are ordered closed. Restaurants and cafes, regardless of their seating capacity, that serve food are ordered closed except solely for takeout and delivery service.

Additionally, all indoor gyms and recreation facilities are ordered closed. Homeless individuals are not subject to the self-isolation order but are strongly urged to find shelter and government agencies are urged to take steps needed to provide shelter for those individuals.

Under any of the limited circumstances in which individuals are allowed to interact in person outside their residence, the Director orders individuals to abide by the following requirements:

- (i) Maintain at least six feet from other individuals, wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, cover coughs or sneezes, and not shake hands;
- (ii) For people with medical conditions, regardless of age, that put them at higher risk of serious complications should they contract COVID-19, and other than health care workers and other essential providers, avoid leaving their homes to the extent possible; and
- (iii) For employers in Blaine County that do not provide essential businesses or government services, take all steps necessary for employees to work remotely from home to the extent possible.

These requirements build on the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines issued March 11, 2020, extended as necessary to address the health emergency affecting the Blaine County.

No individual who is sick may go to the workplace or be outside the home except as necessary to seek or receive medical care in accordance with guidance from public health officials. **The Director may revise this Order as the situation evolves. Check the Governor's coronavirus website ([coronavirus.idaho.gov](https://coronavirus.idaho.gov)) regularly.**

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF IDAHO CODE § 56-1003(7) THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE DIRECTOR ORDERS:**

1. This Order is issued based on evidence of increasing occurrence of COVID-19 within Blaine County, scientific evidence and best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, and evidence that the age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the County places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in the general public, which is now a pandemic according to the World Health Organization, there is a public health emergency throughout Blaine County. Making the problem worse, some individuals who contract the COVID-19 virus have no symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means they may not be aware they carry the virus. Because even people without symptoms can transmit the disease, and because evidence shows the disease is easily spread, gatherings can result in transmission of the virus.

The scientific evidence shows that at this stage of the emergency, it is essential to slow virus transmission as much as possible to protect the most vulnerable and to prevent the health care system from being overwhelmed. One proven way to slow transmission is to limit interactions among people to the greatest extent practicable. By reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this Order helps preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in Blaine County.

2. This Order also is issued in light of the existence of cases of COVID-19 in Blaine County, as of March 20, 2020, including cases of community transmission and the likelihood of further significant increases in transmission. Widespread testing for COVID-19 is not yet available but is expected to increase in the coming days. This Order is necessary to slow the rate of spread and the Director will re-evaluate it as further data becomes available.
3. The intent of this Order is to ensure that the maximum number of people self-isolate in their places of residence to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling essential services to continue, to slow the spread of COVID-19 to the maximum extent possible. When people need to leave their places of residence, whether to obtain or perform vital services, or to otherwise facilitate authorized activities necessary for continuity of social and

commercial life, they should at all times reasonably possible comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 8.j. below. All provisions of this Order should be interpreted to effectuate this intent.

4. All individuals currently living within Blaine County are ordered to self-isolate at their place of residence. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Businesses, all as defined in Section 8. Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this Section, but are strongly urged to obtain shelter, and governmental and other entities are strongly urged to make such shelter available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practicable (and to use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operation).
5. All businesses with a facility in Blaine County, except Essential Businesses as defined below in Section 8, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within the County except Minimum Basic Operations, as defined in Section 8.g. For clarity, businesses may also continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences (i.e., working from home). All Essential Businesses are strongly encouraged to remain open. To the greatest extent feasible, Essential Businesses shall comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 8.j. below, including by maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and members of the public, including, but not limited to, when any customers are standing in line.
6. All public and private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except for the limited purposes as expressly permitted in Section 8. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit.
7. All travel is prohibited, including but not limited to, travel on scooter, motorcycle, automobile, or public transit, except Essential Travel and Essential Activities as defined below in Section 8.h. and 8.a., respectively. People must use public transit only for purposes of performing Essential Activities or to travel to and from work to operate Essential Businesses or maintain Essential Governmental Functions. People riding on public transit must comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 8.j. below, to the greatest extent feasible. This Order allows travel into or out of Blaine County to perform Essential Activities, operate Essential Businesses, or maintain Essential Governmental Functions.
8. Definitions and Exemptions
  - a. For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence only to perform any of the following “**Essential Activities**.” But people at high risk of severe illness from

COVID-19 and people who are sick are urged to stay in their residence to the extent possible except as necessary to seek medical care.

- i. To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (including, but not limited to, pets and livestock), such as, by way of example only and without limitation, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies they need to work from home.
  - ii. To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver, including by truck or rail, those services or supplies to others, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supplies, livestock feed and supplies, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences.
  - iii. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in this Section, such as, by way of example and without limitation, walking, hiking, bicycling, or running.
  - iv. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order, including Minimum Basic Operations.
  - v. To care for a family member or pet in another household.
- b. For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence to work for or obtain services at any “**Healthcare Operations**” including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, home healthcare services providers, mental health providers, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. “Healthcare Operations” also includes veterinary care and all healthcare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be construed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare, broadly defined. “Healthcare Operations” does not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities.
- c. For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence to provide any services or perform any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of “**Essential Infrastructure**,” including, but not limited to, public works construction, commercial construction, construction of housing (in particular affordable housing or housing for individuals experiencing homelessness), airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services,

business infrastructure, communications, telecommunications relay service, and web-based services), provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with Social Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible.

As explained in Section 8.k. below, this Order incorporates by reference the guidance in the Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the United States Homeland Security on March 19, 2020 (“CISA Guidance”).

- d. For purposes of this Order, all first responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court personnel, and law enforcement personnel, and others working for or to support Essential Businesses are categorically exempt from this Order. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing “Essential Governmental Functions.” **Essential Governmental Functions** means all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies and provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Governmental Functions shall be performed in compliance with Social Distancing Requirements as defined by Section 8.j., to the extent possible.

As explained in Section 8.k. below, if any provisions in this Order conflict with any of the guidance in the CISA Guidance then the provisions of this Order shall control.

- e. For the purposes of this Order, covered businesses include any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entities, regardless of the nature of the service, the function they perform, or its corporate or entity structure.
- f. For the purposes of this Order, “**Essential Businesses**” means:
  - i. Healthcare Operations and Essential Infrastructure;
  - ii. Grocery stores, certified farmers’ markets, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, food banks, convenience stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supply, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, liquor, beer, and wine and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning and personal care products). This includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences;
  - iii. Food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;
  - iv. Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals;



- v. Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services;
- vi. Gas stations and auto-supply, auto-repair, and related facilities;
- vii. Banks and financial institutions, including processing and maintaining systems for processing financial transactions and services (e.g., payment clearing, and settlement; wholesale funding; insurance services; and capital markets activities);
- viii. Hardware stores;
- ix. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, landscapers, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses;
- x. Businesses providing mailing and shipping services, including post office boxes;
- xi. Educational institutions—including public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities—for purposes of facilitating distance learning or performing essential functions, provided that social distancing of six-feet per person is maintained to the greatest extent possible;
- xii. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers;
- xiii. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery or carry out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free food services to students or members of the public may continue to do so under this Order on the condition that the food is provided to students or members of the public on a pick-up and takeaway basis only. Schools and other entities that provide food services under this exemption shall not permit the food to be eaten at the site where it is provided, or at any other gathering site;
- xiv. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home;
- xv. Businesses that supply other essential businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate;
- xvi. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences;
- xvii. Airlines, taxis, and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for Essential Activities and other purposes expressly authorized in this Order;

- xviii. Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children;
- xix. Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children;
- xx. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities;
- xxi. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare facilities must operate under the following mandatory conditions:
  - 1. Childcare must be carried out in stable groups.
  - 2. Childcare must be carried in out as small of groups as possible.

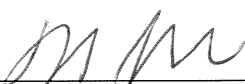
As explained in Section 8.k. below, this Order incorporates by reference CISA Guidance issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the United States Homeland Security on March 19, 2020.

- g. For the purposes of this Order, “**Minimum Basic Operations**” include the following, provided that employees comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible, while carrying out such operations:
  - i. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business’s inventory, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions.
  - ii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences.
- h. For the purposes of this Order, “**Essential Travel**” includes travel for any of the following purposes. Individuals engaged in any Essential Travel must comply with all Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 8.j.
  - i. Any travel related to the provision of or access to Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, Essential Businesses, or Minimum Basic Operations.
  - ii. Travel to care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons.
  - iii. Travel to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, and any other related services.
  - iv. Travel to return to a place of residence from outside the jurisdiction.

- v. Travel required by law enforcement or court order.
  - vi. Travel required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside Blaine County. Individuals are strongly encouraged to verify that their transportation out of Blaine County remains available and functional prior to commencing such travel.
- i. For purposes of this order, residences include hotels, motels, shared rental units, and similar facilities.
  - j. For purposes of this order “**Social Distancing Requirements**” includes maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands), regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.
  - k. This Order incorporates by reference the Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the United States Homeland Security on March 19, 2020. That guidance is located at <https://www.cisa.gov/publication/guidance-essential-critical-infrastructure-workforce>.
9. The Director requests that the Sheriff and the Chiefs of Police in Blaine County, and the Idaho State Police ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat to public health.
10. This Order shall become effective at 11:59 p.m. on March 20, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until 11:59 p.m. on April 13, 2020 or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Director.
11. Blaine County must promptly provide copies of this Order as follows: (1) by posting on the Blaine County website ([www.co.blaie.id.us](http://www.co.blaie.id.us)) (2) by posting at the Blaine County Courthouse located at 206 1st Ave S, Hailey, ID 83333; and (3) by providing to any member of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.
12. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

**[Signature on Following Page]**

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

  
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DAVE JEPPESEN, DIRECTOR  
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND WELFARE

Dated: March 20, 2020

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on March 20, 2020, I served copies of the foregoing ORDER TO SELF-ISOLATE upon the following by email:

Jim J. Thomas  
Prosecuting Attorney  
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DAVE JEPPESEN, DIRECTOR, IDAHO  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE