

Summary of the Latest S.C. Executive Orders

On May 27, 2020, Governor McMaster issued Executive Order [2020-38](#), declaring a sixth State of Emergency for the State due to COVID-19 that remains in effect through June 11, 2020.

Pursuant to the extended State of Emergency under Executive Order 2020-38, the following Executive Orders shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of the State of Emergency unless otherwise noted or subsequently altered:

- [2020-09](#) (Closing Schools, Other Provisions in Response to COVID-19)
- [2020-10](#) (Directing Additional Emergency Measures Due to COVID-19)
- [2020-11](#) (Additional Emergency Measures & Regulatory Relief Regarding COVID-19)
- [2020-12](#) (Regulatory Flexibility to Facilitate “Social Distancing”)
- [2020-13](#) (Authorizing Law Enforcement to Preserve Public Health)
- [2020-16](#) (Emergency Access Restrictions for Public Beaches and Waters)
- [2020-18](#) (Closure of Additional Non-Essential Businesses)
- [2020-21](#) (Relating to Home or Work Orders)
- [2020-22](#) (Authorization for COVID-19 Support Payments by Employers)
- [2020-25](#) (Emergency Measures for Unemployment Claims & Benefits)
- [2020-28](#) (Modification of Restrictions for Public Beaches & Waters & Incremental Modification of Non-Essential Business Closures)
- [2020-30](#) (Rescinding Executive Order [2020-14](#) and [2020-19](#))
- [2020-31](#) (Modification of Home or Work Orders and Authorizing Outdoor Dining)
- [2020-33](#) (Rescheduling Elections)
- [2020-34](#) (Rescinding Boating Restrictions and Authorizing Limited Indoor Dining)
- [2020-36](#) (Modifying Non-Essential Business Closures Relating to Close Contact Services)
- [2020-37](#) (Modifying Non-Essential Business Closures Relating to Entertainment Venues)

On May 21, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order [2020-37](#), amending provisions of Executive Orders [2020-18](#) and [2020-21](#) (as amended by [2020-28](#), [2020-31](#), [2020-36](#) and extended by [2020-35](#)), that authorized the reopening of certain businesses or venues that were previously deemed “non-essential.” Examples of businesses and attraction facilities that were allowed to open throughout the State on Friday, May 22nd, include:

- Zoos
- Museums
- Aquariums
- Planetariums
- Indoor children’s play areas
- Historic buildings and sites
- Waterparks
- Amusement park rides
- Bingo facilities
- Miniature golf facilities
- Venues operated by social clubs

For a detailed list of the safety guidelines that were released by AccelerateSC regarding attraction facilities, [click here](#).

Entertainment venues that must remain closed pursuant to existing Executive Orders include:

- Night clubs
- Bowling alleys
- Concert venues

- Theaters
- Auditoriums
- Performing art centers
- Racetracks
- Adult entertainment venues

Governor McMaster also announced that youth and adult sports leagues may begin practicing on May 30th, with competitive play resuming on June 15th. Recreational facilities and activities that were permitted to reopen under the latest Executive Order included:

- Sports that involve interaction in close proximity to and within less than six (6) feet of another person
- Activities that require the use of shared sporting apparatus and equipment
- Activities on commercial or public playground equipment

For detailed guidelines for resuming sporting events and re-opening county, municipal, and school athletic fields, [click here](#).

On May 15, 2020, Governor McMaster issued Executive Order [2020-36](#) announcing that close contact service providers, fitness and exercise centers, commercial gyms, and public or commercial pools will be able to open in a limited capacity on Monday, May 18. Commercial gyms will include group exercise facilities such as yoga studios, barre classes, and others.

Close contact service providers include the following businesses:

- Barber shops
- Hair salons
- Waxing salons
- Threading salons
- Nail salons and spas
- Body-art facilities and tattoo services
- Tanning salons
- Massage-therapy establishments
- Massage services

For additional guidelines regarding close contact service providers, [click here](#).

On May 8, 2020, Governor McMaster issued Executive Order [2020-33](#) rescheduling elections that had been postponed through May 12, 2020. Under the new Executive Order, any election postponed pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order Nos. 2020-09 and 2020-29 shall be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

The Governor also issued Executive Order [2020-34](#) on May 8, immediately rescinding remaining boating restrictions and authorized limited indoor dining services effective on May 11, 2020. Under the new Executive Order, restrictions on the beaching or rafting of boats, whether on a sandbar, lakeshore, riverbank, or island, and the requirement that vessels must remain underway at all times unless exigent circumstances exist have been rescinded. Restaurants that elect to provide limited indoor, on-premises customer dining services may only allow 50% posted occupancy inside and should consider and incorporate industry guidelines, such as those prepared and published by the South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association, in addition to undertaking and implementing all reasonable steps to comply with any applicable sanitation guidelines promulgated by the CDC, DHEC, or any other state or federal public health officials.

On May 3, 2020, Governor McMaster issued Executive Order [2020-31](#) deleting Section 1(B) of Executive Order [2020-21](#) relating to Home or Work Orders and modifying Section 4 of Executive Order [2020-10](#) which ordered restaurants to suspend on-premises dining.

- Effective at 12:01 a.m. on May 4, 2020, language in the prior Home or Work Order is amended to “urge” rather than “order” all residents and visitors of South Carolina are urged to practice social distancing, limit social interactions, and to limit travel outside the home except for essential business, essential activities, or critical infrastructure operations.
- Effective at 12:01 a.m. on May 4, 2020, restaurants are authorized to provide outdoor customer dining services. Any restaurant providing outdoor dining services should follow CDC and DHEC sanitation guidelines.

On May 1, 2020, Governor McMaster issued Executive Order [2020-30](#), which rescinded the following Executive Orders:

- Executive Order [2020-14](#) which required certain individuals who entered the State from an area with substantial community spread of COVID-19 to isolate or self-quarantine for 14 days
- Executive Order [2020-19](#) which prohibited individuals, entities, or establishments engaged in short-term rentals, vacation rentals, or other lodging accommodations from making or accepting new reservations from individuals that resided in COVID-19 “Hotspots” as defined by the CDC.