

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-6

WHEREAS, the City of Hattiesburg has declared an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and in cases of pandemic, leaders must make strategic and operational decisions;

WHEREAS, the City of Hattiesburg has conferred with leaders from Forrest General Hospital, Hattiesburg Clinic and Merit Health Wesley throughout the COVID-19 outbreak; and has received further guidance from the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and Executive Orders 1463, 1466, 1473, 1477, 1478 and 1480;

WHEREAS, the CDC points to recent studies where a "significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms ("asymptomatic") and that even those who eventually develop symptoms ("pre-symptomatic") can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity—for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing—even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms";

WHEREAS, the CDC and the MSDH recommend wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain and in areas of significant community-based transmission;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose a threat to public health, life and safety of citizens of Hattiesburg, with 309 positive cases and 21 deaths to date in Forrest County and 145 positive cases and 4 deaths to date in Lamar County, as of Saturday, May 9, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Toby Barker, Mayor of the City of Hattiesburg, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the State of Mississippi pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann.* Section 33-15-17 (c) (7) and *Miss. Code Ann.* Section 21-19-3 and all other applicable statutes, and in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to make common sense policy and operational decisions to that end, hereby issue the following executive order to slow the spread of COVID-19, to take effect 8 a.m. on May 11, 2020 and be enforced until 8 a.m. on May 26, 2020.

### **SECTION 1: REVISIONS TO COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER REGARDING BARBER SHOPS AND BEAUTY/HAIR SALONS**

Barber shops and beauty/hair salons are permitted to open subject to the following limitations:

Beauty salons and barber shops shall take all reasonable measures to ensure compliance with the Mississippi State Department of Health's and CDC's regulations, orders and guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including, but not limited to: social distancing; sending sick employees home; separating and sending home employees who appear to have respiratory illness symptoms; adopting and enforcing regular and proper hand-washing and personal hygiene protocols; and daily screening of employees for COVID-19 related symptoms before beginning their shift.

Prior to resuming operations, the entire salon, including areas not open to the public shall be deep cleaned, disinfected and sanitized.

Nail salons and spas shall remain closed.

#### **Requirements for Barber Shops and Salons**

- Clients shall be served by appointment only.
- Maximum capacity is one (1) client at a time per employee. At no time shall there be more than 10 people total in the building.
- There shall be a minimum of six (6) feet between chairs, booths, washing stations, overhead dryers, etc.; this distancing shall apply to vertical, horizontal or diagonal directions.
- Lobby or waiting areas shall be closed, and items such as magazines, popcorn poppers and coffee pots/machines shall be removed, and customers shall not be permitted to congregate outside of the salon prior to their appointment. Customers shall wait in their vehicle until their appointment time.

- Minimizing person-to-person contact through technology, like mobile or online reservations and contact-less payment, is encouraged.
- If the barber shop or salon is serving high-risk populations, it is encouraged to set aside times and do so when fewer people are in the shop to maximize distancing and reduce risk of community transmission.
- Clients shall wait outside with appropriate social distancing enforced or clients can remain in cars and called into the store when appropriate service is available.
- Clients should be screened for fever or respiratory symptoms prior to entry into the salon using the screening questions in Governor Reeves' Executive Order 1480. If the owner, manager or beautician can screen patients via phone before booking an appointment, it is encouraged.
- Salons and barbershops must post signage at each entrance stating no customer with a fever or COVID-19 symptoms are allowed in.
- All linens, including all towels, capes and neck strips shall be stored in an airtight container.
- All linen hampers and trash containers shall be cleaned and disinfected daily, and all such containers must have a lid.
- The barber shop and salon shall be deep cleaned daily. All bowls, hoses, spray nozzles, faucet handles, shampoo chairs and arm rests shall be disinfected daily.
- Hand sanitizer shall be placed at all points of entry and exit.
- All barber shops and salons must also meet the requirements of Governor Reeves' Executive Order 1480. If there is any conflicting guideline between this order and Executive Order 1480, the stricter shall take precedent.

#### **Requirements for Employees**

- All employees will be screened daily at the beginning of their shifts, including asking the screening questions listed in Governor Reeves' Executive Order 1480. All employees shall be required to report any symptoms of COVID-19 to their supervisor, and any employee that exhibits any of the symptoms of COVID-19 during their shift shall be sent home immediately and advised to consult with their physician.
- Always maintain six (6) or more feet between other employees and customers not specifically in their immediate service. This shall also apply to any break rooms.
- Wash hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with soapy, warm water between clients, transactions and service.
- Employees shall wear disposable gloves when serving a customer and change gloves between customers.
- Clean and sanitize all surfaces, equipment, chairs (including arm rests and head rests), stations and spaces used between each client.
- Sanitize high touch surfaces including doorknobs, door handles, doors, light switches, counter tops, and cabinets every two hours.
- Disinfectant for immersion of tools shall be changed daily.
- Every employee shall be provided a face covering, covering nose and mouth, and shall be required to wear that face covering throughout their shift and shall be cleaned or replaced daily.
- All employees must be provided training on how to limit the spread of COVID-19, including reinforcement of proper sanitation, hand washing, cough and sneeze etiquette and proper use of personal protective equipment.

#### **Requirements for Customers**

- All waiting areas are to remain closed. Customers must wait in their vehicles until their appointment time and they are called for screening before entering.
- Customers must sanitize their hands when entering and exiting.
- Customers will be screened upon entry, including asking whether they have experienced any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Customers must wear a face covering, such as a cloth mask, while inside at all times, unless they're receiving a service that would be impeded by the covering.
- Customers shall be required to sanitize their hands upon entry into and exit from the salon.
- Each customer must be draped with a clean cape, which are to be laundered after each use. A protective neck strip should also be placed around the neck of each customer getting a haircut.
- The use of neck brushes is prohibited.

## **SECTION 2: REVISIONS TO COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER REGARDING GYMS AND FITNESS CENTERS**

Gyms and fitness centers are permitted to open subject to the following limitations:

All gym facilities must adhere to strict mitigation standards to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The general operating guidelines will require spacing of individuals and limiting contact with strict use of PPE and frequent sanitizing procedures. High risk individuals (as determined by the CDC and MSDH) should remain at home. Where guidelines conflict, the stricter takes precedent.

Before reopening the entire business facility – including areas not open to the public – shall be deep-cleaned, disinfected and sanitized. Deep cleaning, including the gym floor, must continue daily. Hand sanitizer should be installed or placed at every entrance and throughout the gym floor.

Gym management is expected to take every step necessary to implement regulations, orders and guidance from the Mississippi State Department of Health and CDC to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including, but not limited to: social distancing; sending sick employees home; actively encouraging sick employees to stay home; separating and sending home employees who appear to have respiratory illness symptoms; adopting and enforcing regular and proper hand-washing and personal hygiene protocols; and daily screening of employees for COVID-19 related symptoms before beginning their shift.

#### **Requirements for Gyms and Fitness Centers**

- For all gyms and fitness center, high-touch areas must be sanitized at least once every two hours.
- Gyms and fitness centers shall limit hours to accommodate for necessary sanitizing measures: 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Face coverings will be worn by all clients when entering, exiting, moving about the facility or during workout.
- If possible, create boundaries that establish one entrance for check in and another for exiting.
- All common areas must remain closed, with the exception of bathrooms/locker rooms. Do not allow gathering in lobby, break rooms, changing areas or throughout the facility.
- If the gym or fitness center serves high-risk populations, it is encouraged to set aside times and do so when fewer people are in the shop to maximize distancing and reduce risk of community transmission.
- Restrooms should remain open. Develop regular cleaning and additional sanitation of restrooms.
- Gyms and fitness centers must post signage at each entrance stating no customer with a fever or COVID-19 symptoms are allowed in.
- Limiting use of equipment by rearranging, taping, blocking or removing/deactivating equipment ensuring that clients are at a minimum of six (6) feet apart.
- Station hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, or similar disinfectant in visible and accessible locations throughout the facility.
- Clients must sanitize their hands when entering and exiting the gym and when moving between exercise equipment.
- If the gym provides towels for use by customers, such towels shall be stored in an airtight container.
- All linen hampers and trash containers shall be cleaned and disinfected daily, and all such containers must have a lid.
- All gyms and fitness center must also meet the requirements of Governor Reeves' Executive Order 1480. If there is any conflicting guideline between this order and Executive Order 1480, the stricter shall take precedent.

#### **Requirements for Screening Check-in**

An onsite employee shall conduct a screening process of all clients, prior to their entry into the gym, that includes:

- Temperature screening
- Symptom screening: cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, or medical issues the staff should be aware of while in the facility.

#### **Requirements on Capacity**

Capacities would be determined by square footage of the gym area.

- 0 - 5,000 square feet: 20 or fewer clients at one time
- 5,001 - 10,000: 30 or fewer clients at one time
- 10,001 - 20,000: 40 or fewer clients at one time
- 20,001 - above: 50 or fewer clients at one time
- All facilities that offer indoor single reservation style classes must be kept to groups of 10 or under with protocols to stagger classes and prohibit gathering. If class space is smaller than

2,500 reduce group sizes to 5 or less. All participants shall maintain a minimum of six (6) feet of distance apart.

- Gyms are encouraged to limit each customer's time in the gym to a maximum of one hour per day, especially if such use is during peak times.

**Requirements for Employees of Gyms and Fitness Centers –**

- All employees will be screened daily at the beginning of their shifts, including asking whether they have been in contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and answering all screening questions from Governor Reeves' Executive Order 1480. All employees shall be required to report any symptoms of COVID-19 to their supervisor, and any employee that exhibits any of the symptoms of COVID-19 during their shift shall be sent home immediately and advised to consult with their physician.
- Every employee shall be provided a face covering, covering nose and mouth, and shall be required to wear that face covering throughout their shift and shall be cleaned or replaced daily.
- In addition to other staff, a minimum of one employee must be on-site during the gym's hours of operation dedicated to wiping down equipment following use by customers.
- All employees on the gym floor or in contact with clients must wear disposable gloves. Gloves should be changed at least once an hour.
- Break rooms shall be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized, and the number of employees in the break room shall be limited to allow for strict social distancing (a minimum of six (6) feet between employees and no gathering of more than 10 employees).
- Develop hourly or similar routine cleaning schedule of equipment and frequently touched surfaces.
- All high-touch areas, including all door handles shall be sanitized, at a minimum, once every two hours.
- Monitor gym to ensure social distancing guidelines are followed.
- All employees must be provided training on how to limit the spread of COVID-19, including reinforcement of proper sanitation, hand washing, cough and sneeze etiquette and proper use of personal protective equipment.
- If assisting or training a client separate equipment should be used and social distancing measures followed.
- While cleaning, staff must wear gloves and a mask.

**Other Facility Restrictions**

- Close or block off all water fountains or drink stations. Single service or individual drink sales are permitted.
- If client brings their own towel, be sure the towel is kept with the client at all times and the surfaces where a towel is put down must be cleaned.
- If merchandise is for sale offer measures for contactless payment and single point of distribution.
- If meals or food are provided or for sale individually package and secure items for each individual.
- All steam rooms or saunas shall remain closed until further notice.
- Any facility with a pool, whirlpool or hot tub shall assign an employee to monitor safe social distancing practices.

**SECTION 3: PREEMPTION BY GOVERNOR REEVES' EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

If any part of this Order made during the COVID-19 State of Emergency in the City of Hattiesburg is found and deemed to be in conflict with Executive Orders 1463, 1466, 1473, 1477, 1478 and/or 1480 or any subsequent Executive Order of Governor Tate Reeves, the remaining parts of this Order not found to be in conflict shall remain in full force and effect.

This executive order (EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-5) supersedes and amends all references to barber shops, hair salons and gyms/fitness centers from Executive Orders 2020-1, 2020-2, 2020-3, 2020-4 and 2020-5.

SO ORDERED on this 10th day of May, 2020.

ATTEST:   
Kermas Eaton, City Clerk

  
Toby Barker, Mayor, City of Hattiesburg