

The White House “Opening Up America Again”

The president’s guidelines, “Opening Up America Again”, recommend a science-based, three-phase approach to reopening the economy once states accomplish certain “gating” criteria. States and local governments are encouraged to use the guidelines and modify them specific to their needs to continue to provide for the health and safety of their populations.

Proposed State or Regional Gating Criteria – States should meet gating criteria prior to entering a phased approach to reopening

Gating criteria include metrics around symptoms, positive case counts and hospital capacity.

- Symptoms:
 - Downward trajectory of flu-like illnesses reported within a 14-day period; **and**
 - Downward trajectory of covid-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period.
- Cases:
 - Downward trajectory of documented cases within 14-day period; **or**
 - Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within 14-day period.
(Essentially jurisdictions would have to show that they have flattened the curve or demonstrate they continue to significantly ramp up testing additional populations.)
- Hospitals:
 - Treat all patients without crisis care and ensure they have a robust testing program for their at-risk healthcare workers.

Phase One – For States and Regions that Satisfy the Gating Criteria

For Individuals:

- Vulnerable populations should continue to shelter in place.
- Individuals should continue to practice social distancing, and where practical, limit activity to groups of 10 or less. Group activities of larger than 10 where social distancing is not possible should be avoided unless precautionary measures are taken.
- Non-essential travel should be minimized and adhere to CDC guidelines when travel is necessary.

For Employers:

- Encourage Telework where possible and feasible within business operations.
- Return to work in phases.
- Close common areas.
- Non-essential travel should be minimized.
- Special accommodations should be made for vulnerable populations.

Specific Types of Employers:

- Schools and organized youth activities already closed should stay closed.
- Visitation to senior facilities should be prohibited.
- Large venues can operate under strict physical distancing protocols.
- Elective surgeries can resume.
- Gyms can open if they adhere to social distancing and sanitation protocols.

- Bars should remain closed.

Phase Two – For States and Regions with No Evidence of A Rebound and Satisfy Gating Criteria a Second Time

For Individuals:

- Vulnerable populations should continue to shelter in place.
- Individuals should continue to practice social distancing. Social settings of greater than 50 should be avoided.
- Non-essential travel can resume.

For Employers:

- Continue to encourage telework where possible and feasible within business operations.
- Close common areas.
- Non-essential travel can resume.
- Strongly consider special accommodations for vulnerable populations.

Specific Types of Employers:

- Schools and organized youth activities can reopen.
- Visitation to senior facilities should be prohibited.
- Large venues can operate under moderate physical distancing protocols.
- Elective surgeries can resume on outpatient and in-patient basis.
- Gyms can open if they adhere to social distancing and sanitation protocols.
- Bars may operate with diminished standing-room occupancy.

Phase Three – For States and Regions with No Evidence of A Rebound and Satisfy Gating Criteria a Third Time

For Individuals:

- Vulnerable populations can resume public interactions but should practice social distancing.
- Individuals should continue to practice social distancing. Social settings of greater than 50 should be avoided.
- Non-essential travel can resume.

For Employers:

- Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites.

Specific Types of Employers:

- Visitation to senior facilities can resume.
- Large venues can operate under limited physical distancing protocols.
- Gyms can operate adhering to standard sanitation protocols.
- Bars may operate with increased standing-room occupancy.