

REOPEN
Connecticut
SAFER. STRONGER. TOGETHER.



Governor Ned Lamont

Sector rules for May 20th reopen

May 8th, 2020

SECTOR RULES FOR MAY 20TH REOPEN

GOAL

Proactively protect public health and speed up the pace of economic, educational, and community recovery while Restoring Connecticut's quality of life.

1

SAFETY FIRST

We will reopen society safely and securely with a proactive program that safeguards the health of our vulnerable residents, continues physical distancing, and provides clear safeguard rules for businesses and institutions deemed safe to reopen.

2

SCIENCE-DRIVEN

Our strategy will rely on a scientifically validated set of public health interventions. Patient assessment, testing, proactive tracing, field studies, and public health guidance will be deployed simultaneously to contain infection.

3

PREPARED

We will work closely with hospitals and health systems to procure and distribute critical personal protective equipment, and assess capacity of beds and ventilators to ensure optimal standard of care.

4

CHOICE

Individual businesses within sectors allowed to open are empowered to make their own choice on when they reopen. When they open, they must comply with rules we lay out to safeguard their employees and customers.

5

DYNAMIC

We include a suite of tools to inform an adaptive plan that can be nimbly scaled or rolled back rapidly based on real-time critical health metrics.

SECTOR RULES FOR MAY 20TH REOPEN

HOW WE WILL OPEN OUR ECONOMY SAFELY

Our plan to open the economy will address two factors:

WHAT businesses can open and when.

HOW businesses must operate **if they choose to open**.

WHAT:

- We know that some businesses put employees and customers at greater risk of transmission.
- We will prioritize opening businesses that pose a lower transmission risk and drive outsized impact on the economy.
- Transmission risk is defined as contact intensity and modification potential of businesses.
 - Contact intensity considers contact proximity, contact length, and number of contacts.
 - Modification potential considers the businesses' ability to socially distance and sanitize in accordance with regulations.
- We will assess the impact on state economic health with a focus on number of employed individuals, total GDP impacted, and impact on small businesses that make up the backbone of our economy.

HOW:

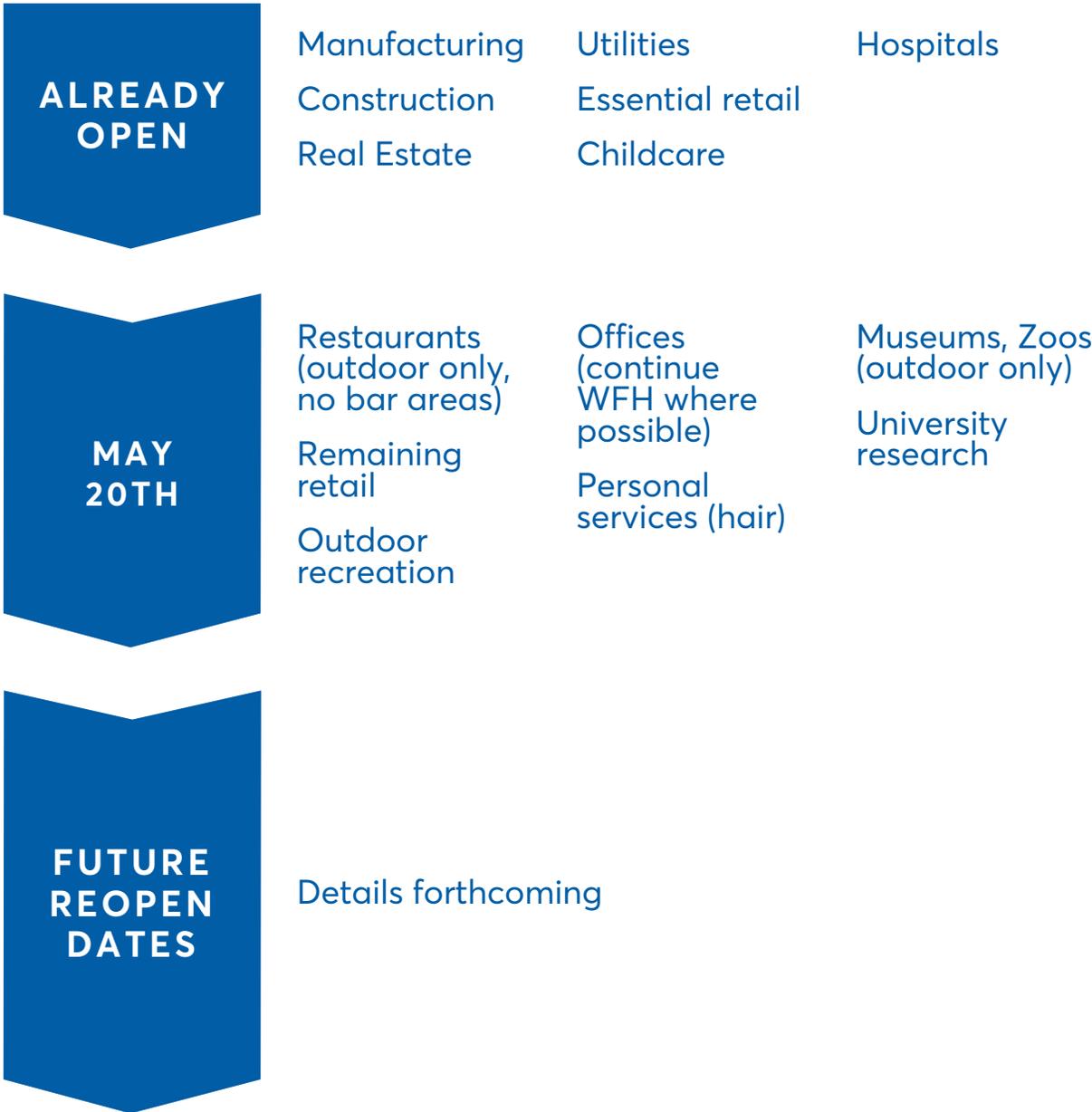
- We will provide clear operational guidance to businesses on how to reopen while ensuring the safety of both employees and customers.
- Guidance will include social distancing and hygiene, as well as the use of personal protection – for business operators, workers, and customers.
- The goal is to not only open safely, but create confidence in our society across employers, employees, and customers.
- The level of guidance will gradually become less restrictive over time, as our confidence in the ability to monitor and contain the disease increases.

SECTOR RULES FOR MAY 20TH REOPEN

WHAT: SECTOR REOPENING OVER TIME

The state will open its economy with a gradual approach

The first set of businesses will start reopening when we see a sustained 14-day decline in hospitalizations, have adequate testing capacity, have a contact tracing system in place, and have procured sufficient PPE. The tentative timing for that reopen is May 20th.



SECTOR RULES FOR MAY 20TH REOPEN

HOW: SAFEGUARDS

As we start opening select businesses on May 20th, we will open at our strictest controls on business operations and societal interaction. This will include, among other measures:

- Capacity limit of 50% for businesses that reopen.
- Strict cleaning and disinfection protocols in all settings.
- Those who can work from home should continue to do so
- Those in high-risk groups (comorbidities) and over the age of 65 should continue to stay safe and stay home.
- Facemasks should continue to be worn in public at all times.
- Social gatherings will be restricted to a maximum of 5 people.

As we see progress on a defined set of public health metrics (detail to follow), we will gradually loosen safeguards. This will allow for the next set of businesses to open and potentially for businesses already open to operate with additional leeway. We expect this will occur over the coming months through September 2020.

As always, we will make decisions based on data and science. Our plan intentionally allows for sufficient time for learning, adoption of behaviors, and ultimately the achievement of improved health metrics that create the necessary environment for new business operations. If public health metrics deteriorate, the State may choose to revert back to stricter safeguards.



**MUSEUMS & ZOOS
OUTDOOR ONLY**

In Phase 1, museums and zoos can open outdoor exhibits at up to 50% capacity.

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY

OVERVIEW

As Connecticut reopens its museums and zoos, the State wants to enable its citizens to continue to enjoy its rich cultural and historical heritage, as well as some quality times outdoors. Such activities must be undertaken only after prioritizing the health and safety of employees and consumers. Museums and zoos inherently present lower risks of contagion. There is little touching, and density of visitors in any particular space is usually low and can be further limited. This set of rules developed by the State of Connecticut aims to minimize the risks presented by these establishments while allowing its citizens to enjoy the state's cultural treasures.

Museums and zoos must exercise caution throughout the reopening, ensuring strict adherence to the protocols listed here.

While these provide a way for museums and zoos to reopen as safely as possible, risks to visitors and employees cannot be fully mitigated. Visitors who choose to come to museums and zoos during this time should be aware of potential risks. Individuals over the age of [65] or with other health conditions should not visit museums and zoos, but instead continue to shelter in place (unless museums/zoos are able to reserve times for them).

Museums and zoos should take these rules as the minimum baseline of precautions needed to protect public health in Connecticut. Individual establishments should take additional measures as recommended by industry guidelines or by common sense applied to their particular situation. We also urge visitors to stay vigilant and pay attention as to whether museums and zoos they visit are faithfully implementing these rules.

STATE RULES FOR MUSEUMS & ZOOS

Museums and zoos shall calculate maximum safe occupancy for each exhibit area/room to allow for social distancing between groups and to comply with state social gathering size guidance. Establishments should leverage signage, floor markings and enhanced presence of attendants and other personnel to enforce such occupancy rate.

These rules are intended to help museums and zoos safely get back to work. The information here can be supplemented with information developed by professional organizations and by other industry groups, some of which are listed below. These rules may be updated.

FURTHER RESOURCES

- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>
- OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY

PLAN FOR REOPENING

Share these rules with your employees and inform them of any additional specific measures being taken in response to COVID-19.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

Appoint a program administrator who is accountable for implementing the rules.

TRAINING

Institute a training program and ensure employee participation in the program. Training shall include relevant subcontractors, such as cleaners. There should also be weekly refreshers on policies. Training shall include:

- The guidelines outlined in this document.
- Protocols on how to clean and use cleaning products (incl. disinfectants) safely.
Additional guidance can be found here:
https://osha.washington.edu/sites/default/files/documents/FactSheet_Cleaning_Final_UWDEOHS_0.pdf

Note: If any on site duties are subcontracted, it is the employers responsibility to ensure subcontractors are also appropriately trained.



CLEANING PLAN

Develop cleaning checklists that incorporate these rules. Ensure it is clear which employees are responsible for implementing the plans.



LOG EMPLOYEES

Maintain a log of employees on premise over time, to support contact tracing.



THOROUGH CLEANING

Complete of facility prior to reopening, including but not limited to:

- Backroom common areas, high traffic areas such as ticket counters, restrooms.



PERSONAL PROTECTION

Estimate required personal protection for employees and begin procuring.

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY



SHIFTS

Stagger shift start/stop times, break times, and lunchtimes to minimize contact across employees.



CERTIFICATION

Complete the self-certification on the DECD website to receive a Reopen CT badge. Once complete, businesses can choose to post the badge on-site and on social media to advertise adherence to CT rules & build customer confidence.

VISUAL TO COME

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY



INTERACTIVE OR INDOOR EXHIBITS

Close all interactive or indoor exhibits.



GIFT SHOPS AND FOOD PLACES

Close all gift shops and food places.

- Outdoor food counters/snack bars permitted in accordance with restaurant rules.



GUIDED TOURS

No guided group tours.



SHARED EQUIPMENT

Ensure employees do not share equipment to the extent possible; if shared, clean after each use.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

Calculate maximum number of people allowed under the rules for each exhibition room/area.

- Attendants to remain at same workstation throughout the day to minimize movement.
- Install physical barriers for ticket counters where possible.
- Attendants to enforce maximum occupancy per exhibition room/area where possible.



SOCIAL DISTANCING MARKERS

Install visual social distancing markers to encourage customers to remain 6ft apart (e.g., lines outside of the museums/zoos if applicable, lines to purchase tickets, lines to use the restroom).



ONE-WAY FLOW

Post floor markings to direct visitors in a one-way flow where possible.

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY

SIGNAGE

Post clear signage that reinforces new policies, including:

- Maximum occupancy of each exhibit area/room
- Social distancing protocols
- Cleaning and disinfection protocols
- Personal protection protocols (face masks, gloves) for customers and employees
- Employees shall stay home if sick/experiencing symptoms
- Customers shall not enter if they are experiencing symptoms



TOUCHLESS APPLIANCES

Install touchless appliances wherever possible, including:

- Paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers, trash cans



HOTLINE FOR VIOLATIONS

Post clear signage that includes the state hotline (211) for employees and customers to report potential violations of these rules.

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY

PERSONAL PROTECTION FOR EMPLOYEES

- All employees are required to wear a facemask or other cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth, unless doing so would be contrary to his or her health or safety due to medical conditions.
- Employees may utilize their own cloth face covering over that provided by their employer if they choose.
- Gloves and eye protection is required when using cleaning chemicals.

EMPLOYERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING PERSONAL PROTECTION TO THEIR EMPLOYEES

- If businesses do not have adequate personal protection, they cannot open.

PERSONAL PROTECTION FOR CUSTOMERS

- Customers are required to bring & wear masks or cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth unless doing so would be contrary to his or her health or safety due to a medical condition.

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY



HAND SANITIZER

Hand sanitizer shall be made available at entrance points and common areas, where possible.



HANDWASHING

Ensure employees wash their hands routinely using soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



CLEANING, DISINFECTANT PRODUCTS, &/OR DISPOSABLE DISINFECTANT WIPES

Make available near commonly used surfaces, where possible (e.g., ticket counters).



BATHROOMS

Clean and disinfect frequently, implement use of cleaning log for tracking. Clean multiple times a day and hourly during busy times.



AUDIO-GUIDES

Disinfect after each use.



CLEANING & DISINFECTING

Businesses shall follow federal guidelines (CDC, EPA) on what specific products shall be used and how:

- Disinfectants are irritants and sensitizers and should be used cautiously. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (for example, door handles, cash registers) at least daily and shared objects (for example, payment terminals) after each use.
- Use products that meet EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2 and that are appropriate for the surface. Prior to wiping the surface, allow the disinfectant to sit for the necessary contact time recommended by the manufacturer. Train staff on proper cleaning procedures to ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants.

MUSEUMS & ZOOS OUTDOOR ONLY



DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Ask employees resuming on-premise work to confirm they have not experienced COVID-19 CDC-defined symptoms and to monitor their own symptoms, including cough, shortness of breath, or any two of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Employees shall stay home if sick.



IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE

Employees shall inform their employers and follow state testing and contact tracing protocols.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

Employers may not retaliate against workers for raising concerns about COVID related safety and health conditions.

- Additional information can be accessed at www.OSHA.gov
- Additional information for the public sector can be accessed at www.connosha.com



LEAVE

Employers shall adhere to federal guidance pertaining to paid leave for employees and provide this guidance to employees.

Employers shall post the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) Department of Labor poster. The poster can be accessed at:

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/posters>

- Additional guidance can be accessed at: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave>