

COVID-19 Fact Sheet

Ohio Stay at Home Tonight Order

As the spread of COVID-19 remains high across the state, Ohio Department of Health Director Stephanie McCloud has ordered Ohioans to stay home between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m., except for work or necessary food, medical care, or social services. The new hours are effective beginning Jan. 28, 2021 at 12:01 p.m. and lasting through Feb. 11, 2021 at 12:01 p.m. This change, from the previous curfew start time of 10 p.m., was a result of an announcement Governor Mike DeWine made regarding a gradual easing of the curfew based upon hospitalization rates, which are a key indicator of disease severity.

The following sliding scale based on [steadily decreasing hospitalization numbers in Ohio](#) has been developed to allow for the shortening of curfew hours or ending the curfew:

- Because hospitalization rates have remained below 3,500 daily hospitalizations for seven consecutive days, the curfew hours will have been changed to 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. for two weeks.
- If hospitalization rates dip below 3,000 daily hospitalizations for seven consecutive days, the curfew will be changed from midnight to 5 a.m. for two weeks.
- If hospitalization rates dip below 2,500 daily hospitalizations for seven consecutive days, the curfew will be eliminated.

However, if the hospitalization number were to rise again, the appropriate curfew measures would be reinstated.

This curfew is intended to reduce COVID-19 spread, keep Ohioans safe, minimize the risk of major limitations or economic shutdowns, and reduce the impact on the healthcare and hospital system.

The curfew order:

- Requires anyone residing in Ohio to stay at a place of residence between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Homes or residences include single family homes, apartments, condominiums, dormitory living units, hotels, motels, shared rental units, and shelters.
- Does NOT mandate the closing of any businesses or services; however, restaurants are limited to pickup, carryout and/or delivery services between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.
- Allows travel in and out of the state.

Populations exempt from the curfew include:

- People who are homeless. If you are homeless, you are strongly encouraged to obtain shelter. Governmental and other entities are urged to make shelter available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent feasible, implementing COVID-19 risk mitigation practices.
- People who are unsafe in their homes, including victims of domestic violence. If you are in an unsafe situation, you are urged to leave home and stay at a safe alternative location.

Activities exempt from the curfew include:

- Religious observances.
- First Amendment protected speech, including activity by the media.
- The following essential activities:
 - Activities or tasks essential to the health and safety of oneself, family or other household members and pets, or people who are unable to/should not leave their homes. Examples include seeking emergency healthcare services, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a healthcare professional, and taking care of a homebound friend.
 - Obtaining necessary supplies and services for oneself, family or other household members, or people who are unable to/should not leave their homes. Examples of necessary supplies include groceries and food, household products, supplies needed to work from home, and products needed to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of a residence.
 - Between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m., food and beverages may be obtained only for consumption off-premises, such as via delivery, drive-thru, curbside pickup, or carryout.
 - Obtaining necessary social services from any provider funded by the Ohio Department of Aging, Department of Developmental Disabilities, Department of Health, Department of Job and Family Services, Department of Medicaid, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, Department of Veterans Services, Department of Youth Services or other organization providing services to the public.
 - Examples of such services include long-term care facilities; day care centers and day care homes; residential settings/shelters; transitional facilities; needed home-based services; field offices that provide/help determine eligibility for basic needs; developmental centers; adoption agencies; and businesses that provide services and necessities to those in need.
 - Working, including employment and volunteer work.
 - Taking care of and transporting family, friends, or pets in another household.
 - Performing or accessing government services.
 - Travel required by law enforcement or court order — including to transport children according to a custody agreement — or to obtain fuel.
- Attendance at professional and amateur sports games that have national media contracts preventing the rescheduling of game start times.

Updated Jan. 28, 2021.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov. For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).