

The Current *State of Play*: States Act with Stay at Home Orders and Relaxation of Licensure Requirements for Healthcare Providers

This content was last updated as of Friday, April 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. CST.

Alabama: State Health Officer, Dr. Scott Harris, issued an [order](#) that was [amended](#) on March 27, prohibiting large gatherings, closing beaches and directing non-essential businesses to close. Visitors are prohibited at long-term care facilities, subject to exceptions, and all elective dental and medical procedures must be postponed, effective through April 17. On April 2, Governor Ivey issued an [order](#) expanding the scope of practice for certain healthcare providers and expediting the licensing process for out-of-state practitioners. On April 3, Dr. Harris issued an [amended order](#) requiring citizens to stay at home until April 30 unless engaged in essential activities.

Alaska: On March 19, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued [COVID-19 Health Mandate 005](#) and [COVID-19 Health Mandate 006](#), requiring all hospitals and surgical centers to postpone or cancel non-urgent medical and dental procedures for 3 months. On March 23, Governor Dunleavy issued a [COVID-19 Health Mandate 010](#) requiring all persons arriving in the state – whether residents or visitors – to self-quarantine for 14 days, subject to limited exceptions. However, state authorities have not yet issued a stay at home order. On March 27, Governor Dunleavy issued [COVID-19 Health Mandate 011](#), mandating all persons remain at home, except those engaged in certain essential businesses, and [COVID-19 Health Mandate 012](#), generally limiting travel between communities. Violations are punishable by fine or imprisonment.

Arizona: On March 19, Governor Douglas A. Ducey issued [Executive Order No. 2020-10](#) prohibiting healthcare providers and facilities from performing non-essential or elective surgeries (including dental surgeries) that utilize PPE or ventilators. The Enhanced Surveillance Advisory in [Executive Order No. 2020-13](#) provides for access to certain confidential patient information by the Arizona Department of Health Services and local health authorities for a period of 60 days. On March 26, Governor Ducey issued an [order](#) requiring hospitals to increase bed capacity by 50% by April 24. The [Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected](#) policy issued by Governor Ducey on March 30 promotes social distancing and directs non-essential activities and business operations to cease on-site; however, a stay at home order has not yet been issued.

Arkansas: On March 13, Governor Asa Hutchinson issued [an order](#) suspending certain requirements applicable to telehealth services. On March 26, Governor Hutchinson issued an [order](#) restricting large gatherings; violation of the order is a criminal misdemeanor. On March 30, the Arkansas Department of Health issued an [advisory](#) recommending that travelers arriving in the state from certain high-risk regions self-quarantine for 14 days. No state-level stay at home order has been issued for Arkansas residents.

California: On March 19, Governor Gavin Newsom issued [an order](#) directing residents to comply with the [State Department of Public Health Order](#) requiring residents to stay at home and certain resources such as PPE to be conserved. Californians working in critical sectors may continue their

work. Refusal to comply with, or willful neglect of, the executive order is a criminal misdemeanor punishable by fine or confinement.

Colorado: On March 19, Governor Jared Polis [directed](#) certain hospitals and facilities to cease non-essential procedures until April 14. Hospitals and facilities must preserve PPE, ventilators and respirators for allocation to COVID-19 response efforts. As of March 25, Colorado residents must stay at home unless engaged in certain critical activities, and non-critical businesses must temporarily close, until April 11 pursuant to orders issued by [Governor Polis](#) and the [Department of Public Health](#). Failure to comply could result in fines or imprisonment. On April 1, Governor Polis issued an [order](#) temporarily suspending certain telemedicine requirements.

Connecticut: On March 20, Governor Ned Lamont issued [an order](#) requiring all non-essential businesses and nonprofits to reduce in-person workforces by 100% and employ remote working arrangements until April 22, except for those in [critical sectors](#). Governor Lamont's [Stay Safe, Stay Home](#) initiative directs Connecticut residents not to leave their homes for medical care unless advised to do so during a telehealth visit with a healthcare professional.

Delaware: Governor John Carney issued the [fourth modification](#) to his State of Emergency declaration, directing Delaware residents to stay home unless engaged in essential activities, as well as a [fifth modification](#), directing non-essential businesses to close until May 15. A detailed list of essential and non-essential businesses as defined by the Office of the Governor is available [here](#). Failure to comply with these recent measures amounts to a criminal offense. On March 29, Governor Carney issued the [seventh modification](#), requiring all persons entering Delaware from another state – whether residents or visitors – to self-quarantine for 14 days, subject to limited exceptions. Governor Carney issued another [order](#) on March 30 requiring state buildings and essential businesses deemed high-risk to screen every employee and visitor upon entering. On April 1, Governor Carney issued an [order](#) prohibiting large gatherings, with limited exceptions, and requiring businesses to adhere to customer occupancy guidelines.

District of Columbia: Mayor Muriel Bowser issued an [order](#) on March 24 prohibiting large gatherings and directing non-essential businesses to cease in-person operations. Essential businesses include businesses in healthcare and public health operations, among others. On March 30, Mayor Bowser issued a [stay at home order](#), effective until April 24. Violation of either order can result in civil, criminal or administrative penalties.

Florida: On March 20, Governor Ron DeSantis issued [Executive Order No. 20-72](#), generally prohibiting practitioners from performing certain non-elective medical and dental procedures. On March 23 and March 24, Governor DeSantis issued [Executive Order No. 20-80](#) and [Executive Order No. 20-82](#), generally requiring travelers arriving from certain locations with substantial community spread to self-quarantine for up to 14 days upon arrival. On April 1, Governor DeSantis [ordered](#) certain vulnerable individuals to stay at home, and all other Florida residents must only leave their homes to obtain or provide essential services or conduct essential activities. Large gatherings are prohibited and non-essential businesses must limit on-premises operations or close.

Georgia: On March 23, Governor Brian Kemp issued an [order](#) effective until April 6 requiring certain vulnerable populations to stay home and prohibiting large gatherings in the workplace. Businesses and other organizations that fail to comply with the order may be involuntarily closed by the Department of Health for as long as the order remains in effect. On April 2, Governor Kemp issued an [order](#) generally requiring residents to stay at home. Violation of the order constitutes a criminal misdemeanor.

Guam: On March 24, Governor Lourdes Guerrero issued an [order](#) requiring certain non-essential Guam governmental offices to close and limiting large gatherings until April 13. Healthcare facilities and providers are directed, as a condition of licensure, to provide any and all services and assist with treating patients in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Failure to comply with the order may result in civil penalties. Guam authorities have not yet issued a stay at home order.

Hawaii: Governor David Ige issued a [proclamation](#) on March 23 directing all Hawaii residents to stay home unless obtaining necessities or engaged in certain essential activities, effective through April 30. Only certain businesses in [critical sectors](#) may continue to operate in-person workforces. Large gatherings are generally prohibited. Any intentional or knowing violation of the order is a criminal misdemeanor punishable by fine or confinement. Incoming travelers to Hawaii or between Hawaiian islands are required to self-quarantine for 14 days pursuant to emergency proclamations issued on [March 26](#) and [March 31](#).

Idaho: On March 25, Dave Jeppeson, Director of the Department of Health & Welfare, issued an [Order to Self-Isolate](#) for the State of Idaho (subject to limited exceptions) effective until April 15. Large gatherings are prohibited and non-essential business activities must cease.

Illinois: Governor J. B. Pritzker issued an [order](#) on March 20, requiring all individuals to stay in their place of residence and banning large gatherings, except to carry out certain essential activities. Essential businesses permitted to remain in operation include pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, physician and dental practices, home health services and long-term care facilities, among others. An [order](#) issued on April 1 extended the terms of the March 20 order to remain effective through April 30. Governor Pritzker issued an [order](#) and the Illinois Department of Public Health issued guidance [on its website](#) requiring that all elective and non-emergent surgeries and procedures be canceled. The Department's guidance includes recommendations for reallocating healthcare staff, space for treatment and supplies.

Indiana: On March 16, Governor Eric J. Holcomb issued an [order](#) directing hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to cancel or postpone non-urgent surgical procedures. On March 23, Governor Holcomb issued [another order](#) directing Indiana residents to stay home unless engaged in certain essential activities. Businesses are to encourage personnel to operate on a remote basis other than those businesses operating in certain critical sectors. On March 30, Governor Holcomb issued an [order](#) directing the cancellation or postponement of all elective and non-urgent surgeries in an effort to conserve PPE. An [order](#) issued April 2 extended the terms of the March 23 and March 30 orders to remain in effect through April 30.

Iowa: On March 22, Governor Kimberly Reynolds issued a [proclamation](#), directing certain non-essential businesses to close and relaxing certain healthcare professional licensure requirements

through March 31. On March 26, Governor Reynolds issued [another proclamation](#) ordering all medical and dental surgeries utilizing PPE to be cancelled, suspending certain telemedicine regulations and closing certain non-essential businesses, among other measures. A stay at home order has not yet been issued by state authorities.

Kansas: The Kansas Department of Health and Environment issued a [Toolkit on COVID-19](#) recommending that hospitals limit non-critical use of ventilators and cancel or postpone elective procedures that might require use of ventilators. On March 28, Governor Laura Kelly issued an [order](#) directing Kansas residents to stay at home unless performing an essential activity.

Kentucky: Governor Andy Beshear issued an [order](#) on March 22 directing certain retailers to cease in-store operations. On March 23, the Secretary for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Eric Friedlander, issued a [directive](#) requiring all medical, surgical, dental and any other non-urgent procedures to cease and recommending telehealth alternatives to care. Governor Beshear [instructed](#) residents not to travel out-of-state, with limited exceptions, and directs travelers arriving in the state to self-quarantine for 14-days. Governor Beshear has not yet issued a stay at home order.

Louisiana: The Director of the Louisiana Department of Health, Dr. Jimmy Guidry, issued a [Healthcare Facility Notice](#) on March 21 requiring all non-emergent medical and surgical procedures to be postponed. The notice also directed healthcare providers to transition in-person healthcare services to a telehealth mode of delivery or postpone in-person services as practicable. On March 22, Governor John Bel Edwards issued a [proclamation](#) limiting large gatherings and directing certain non-essential businesses to close. Residents are directed to stay at home unless engaged in certain essential activities or working in a [critical sector](#). The limitations imposed by the order do not extend to normal operations at medical facilities. On March 31, Governor Edwards issued a [proclamation](#) temporarily suspending certain practitioner licensure requirements and limiting funeral service attendees.

Maine: Governor Janet Mills issued an [order](#) on March 24 generally directing businesses to transition in-person workforces to remote arrangements and employ social distancing measures for workforces on-premises. Certain non-essential businesses that are unable to implement these measures must close. Non-urgent medical and dental procedures, surgeries and appointments should generally be postponed and remote care alternatives are encouraged. Large gatherings are restricted until April 8. Failure to comply with the order is punishable as a Class E crime. Governor Mills issued an [order](#) on March 31, ordering residents to stay at home except to conduct essential activities. Violation of the order constitutes a criminal misdemeanor.

Maryland: On March 16, Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. issued an [order](#) suspending certain requirements applicable to healthcare providers and practitioners. Secretary of Health, Robert Neall, issued an [order](#) requiring hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers and other licensed healthcare facilities to cease non-urgent medical procedures. Practitioners may only perform critically necessary medical procedures, and non-urgent appointments must cease. The order also implemented measures for conservation of PPE. Governor Hogan issued [another order](#) that was [amended](#) on March 30, ordering citizens to stay at home except to participate in certain essential activities, prohibiting large gatherings and requiring that businesses, other than those in certain

critical sectors, close. Violation of the order constitutes a criminal misdemeanor. Governor Hogan issued an [amended order](#) on April 1 relaxing certain requirements pertaining to telehealth transmission methods.

Massachusetts: On March 15, the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Dr. Monica Bharel, issued an [order](#) directing all hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to postpone or cancel any non-essential, elective invasive procedures pursuant to the Department of Public Health's [guidance](#). On March 23, Governor Charles Baker issued an [order](#) stating that [certain businesses providing essential services](#) should continue operations with in-person workforces. Other businesses were directed to continue operations remotely or, if impracticable, then to close [until May 4](#). Most large gatherings are prohibited. Violation of the order can result in criminal penalties or civil fines. On March 24, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health issued an [advisory](#), which strongly advises certain vulnerable populations and individuals not engaged in providing essential services to stay at home. On April 2, Commissioner Bharel issued an [order](#) suspending certain professional licensure and staffing requirements in light of COVID-19.

Michigan: Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued an [order](#) on March 23 directing Michigan residents to stay home unless engaged in certain essential activities. Such activities including reporting to work for certain critical infrastructure workers. The order will remain in effect through April 13. Governor Whitmer also directed all hospitals and facilities to postpone all non-essential medical and dental procedures pursuant to [another order](#). Violation of the terms of either order constitutes a criminal misdemeanor.

Minnesota: Governor Tim Walz issued executive orders [on March 19](#) and [on March 23](#) requiring that all non-essential procedures that utilize PPE or ventilators be postponed indefinitely. Violation of either order is a criminal misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment. Governor Walz issued an [order](#) on March 25 ordering persons living in Minnesota to stay at home except to engage in certain activities and critical sector work until April 10.

Mississippi: State Health Officer, Dr. Thomas Dobbs, of the Mississippi Department of Health issued a [COVID-19 Health Alert](#) directing healthcare providers to postpone non-urgent procedures and medical visits until the COVID-19 spread has diminished and the supply of PPE has been restored. On March 24, Governor Tate Reeves issued an [order](#) restricting public gatherings, suspending dine-in services, limiting visitations to nursing homes and requiring essential businesses to remain open until April 17. On April 1, Governor Reeves issued an [order](#) requiring residents to stay at home, except under certain circumstances, and requiring non-essential businesses to close until April 20. Violation of the order could result in civil or criminal penalties.

Missouri: On March 15, Governor Mike Parson issued a [statement](#) generally prohibiting large gatherings. On March 30, Governor Parson approved a [waiver](#) granting full reciprocity for licensed out-of-state healthcare professionals wishing to assist Missourians in combating the current healthcare crisis. No stay at home order has been issued by state authorities for Missouri residents.

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Montana: On March 26, Governor Steve Bullock issued a [directive](#) requiring Montana residents to stay at home. The order temporarily restricts all non-essential business operations and prohibits large gatherings, effective until April 10.

Nebraska: On March 16, Governor Pete Ricketts issued an [order](#) prohibiting state employees from out-of-state travel. On [March 25](#), [March 29](#), [March 31](#) and [April 1](#), Chief Medical Officer and Director of Public Health, Dr. Gary Anthonie, issued orders generally restricting non-essential business operations and large gatherings in certain counties; however, a statewide stay at home order has not yet been issued. The orders also generally prohibit elective surgeries and procedures. Violations could result in civil or criminal penalties. Governor Ricketts also signed an [order](#) on March 31, which suspends licensure requirements for various practitioners and facilities among other regulatory requirements.

Nevada: Governor Stephen F. Sisolak issued a [directive](#) on March 20 directing non-essential businesses to close through April 16. On March 24, Governor Sisolak issued [another directive](#), limiting large gatherings and directing individuals to practice social distancing. Violation of either order could result in criminal or civil penalties. On March 31, Governor Sisolak issued a directive for all Nevada residents to stay home. The [order](#) prohibits social gatherings and directs residents to only leave their homes to provide, perform, or obtain essential services. On April 1, Governor Sisolak issued a [directive](#) temporarily suspending certain professional licensing requirements.

New Hampshire: On March 26, Governor Christopher Sununu issued an [order](#) directing New Hampshire residents to stay home and for certain businesses (other than [essential businesses](#)) to cease operations, effective through May 4.

New Jersey: On March 21, Governor Philip Murphy issued an [order](#), which requires New Jersey residents to stay home unless engaged in certain essential activities. Businesses and nonprofits are directed to facilitate remote working arrangements and limit onsite to the minimum number necessary. On March 23, Governor Murphy issued [another order](#), generally suspending elective medical and dental surgeries and invasive procedures. The order additionally directs healthcare facilities to deliver any surplus PPE and other supplies to the State of New Jersey for use in its COVID-19 response efforts. Noncompliance with either order could result in criminal penalties. On March 28, Governor Murphy released an [order](#) imposing daily capacity reporting requirements on certain healthcare facilities. On April 1, Governor Murphy issued an [order](#) suspending certain professional licensing requirements. On April 2, Governor Murphy issued an [order](#) authorizing the State Director of Emergency Management to take or use personal services and/or real or personal property, including medical resources, to protect or promote public health, safety and welfare.

New Mexico: Cabinet Secretary Kathlyleen Kunkel of New Mexico's Department of Health issued an [order](#) on March 24 prohibiting large gatherings and directing businesses and nonprofits other than [those deemed essential](#) to reduce in-person workforces, maintain operations on a remote basis or close. Retailers must limit sales of PPE, medications and other healthcare supplies. New Mexico residents must stay at home and avoid unnecessary outings. Cabinet Secretary Kunkel issued [another order](#) imposing restrictions on non-essential healthcare services, procedures and surgeries. Noncompliance with this order could result in civil or criminal penalties. On April 2,

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham issued an [order](#) authorizing certain Canadian nursing professionals to practice in any New Mexico healthcare facility during the COVID-19 pandemic.

New York: Governor Andrew Cuomo's [New York State on PAUSE](#) Executive Order requires 100% of the workforce to stay home, other than workers in certain critical sectors, and limits large gatherings. Vulnerable populations in the state are now subject to Matilda's Law, which strongly discourages use of public transportation and limits home visits to immediate family members in urgent circumstances, provided that any such visitors have been prescreened for flu-like symptoms. Governor Cuomo also issued [an order](#) directing the Commissioner of Health to require hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, office-based surgery practices and diagnostic centers to increase the number of beds available to patients by means including the cancellation of all elective surgeries and procedures. On March 27, Governor Cuomo [announced](#) the completion of the first 1000-bed temporary hospital at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

North Carolina: On March 20, the Secretary of North Carolina's Department of Health and Human Services, Dr. Mandy Cohen, [directed](#) hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers to suspend non-urgent procedures. Governor Roy Cooper issued an [order](#) on March 23 prohibiting mass gatherings and ordering certain businesses to close for a period of 30 days. Noncompliance with these terms is punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor. Long-term care facilities are generally directed to restrict visitors to essential healthcare personnel only. On March 27, Governor Cooper issued an [order](#) directing residents to stay at home unless engaged in certain essential activities or business operations. Violation of the order is punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor.

North Dakota: On March 19, Governor Doug Burgum issued an [order](#), directing certain businesses to close until April 6. The order also directed state agencies to transition non-essential personnel to remote working arrangements. State authorities have not yet issued a stay at home order for North Dakota residents. On March 20, Governor Burgum issued [another order](#), suspending certain licensure requirements for healthcare professionals, hospitals and other healthcare facilities. Certain regulatory requirements for the provision of telehealth services were also suspended by the order. On March 28, State Health Officer, Mylynn Tufte, released a [confinement order](#) requiring individuals traveling to North Dakota from international or certain domestic locations to self-quarantine for 14 days. Essential critical infrastructure workers are exempt from this order.

Northern Mariana Islands: On March 17, Governor Ralph DLG Torres issued an [order](#) shutting down all non-essential government functions for 2 weeks and limiting large gatherings. On March 28, Governor Torres issued a [statement](#) recommending that residents only leave their homes for certain essential activities; however, the statement did not amount to a stay at home order.

Ohio: On March 17, Department of Health Director, Dr. Amy Acton, issued an [order](#) directing that all non-essential procedures be cancelled and that PPE and critical hospital capacity resources be preserved. Director Acton amended the March 22 [Stay At Home Order](#) on April 2 directing Ohio residents to stay at home unless engaged in certain essential activities (such as working in a critical sector) until May 1. On March 30, Director Acton issued an [order](#) broadly imposing weekly reporting requirements for entities in the ventilator supply chain. On April 1, Director Acton

released an [order](#) containing measures to increase COVID-19 testing by hospitals and physicians in Ohio.

Oklahoma: On March 21, Governor J. Kevin Stitt issued an [order](#) easing requirements for recertification of nurses and limiting certain prescriptions. On March 27, Governor Stitt placed a [moratorium](#) on out-of-state travel for state employees, suspended certain lab certification requirements, and further relaxed certain professional licensure and telehealth requirements, among others. This order also imposed reporting requirements on hospitals and physician clinics with respect to capacity, ventilator and PPE inventory, and COVID-19 testing. Certain vulnerable populations were directed to stay at home unless working in a critical sector or engaging in essential errands. Large gatherings are prohibited and non-essential on-site business operations must cease and visitors are prohibited in various long-term care facilities. As of [March 29](#), travelers arriving in Oklahoma from a location with substantial community spread must self-quarantine for 14 days, with limited exceptions. Governor Stitt's [order](#) issued on April 1 expands hospitals' and physician clinics' equipment reporting requirements and provides that all elective surgeries, minor medical procedures and non-emergency dental procedures must be postponed until April 30.

Oregon: Governor Kate Brown issued an [order](#) on March 19 prohibiting non-urgent procedures in all care settings utilizing PPE and directing hospitals and facilities to conserve surplus PPE. New limitations and screening measures must be implemented at hospitals and facilities for any visitors. On March 23, Governor Brown issued [another order](#), requiring residents to stay home and refrain from travel to the maximum extent possible and directing certain non-essential businesses to operate on a remote basis or close. Violation of either order amounts to a Class C criminal misdemeanor.

Pennsylvania: On March 28, the Governor [announced](#) temporary license waivers for healthcare workers. On April 1, [Dr. Rachel Levine](#), the Secretary of Health, directed all Pennsylvania residents to stay home except as needed to access, support or provide certain [life-sustaining services](#) until April 30. Non-essential businesses must close on-premise operations and elective procedures in hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers are prohibited. Failure to comply could result in criminal penalties. Governor Wolf also signed a [bill](#) providing funds to healthcare providers to purchase medical equipment and supplies. On April 3, Governor Wolf issued a [statement](#) recommending that all residents wear a mask when leaving their homes for life-sustaining services.

Puerto Rico: On March 15, Governor Wanda Vázquez Garced issued an [order](#) requiring individuals to remain in their homes and directing all non-essential businesses and governmental operations to close. Individuals may leave their homes for certain exceptions, including to obtain necessities and medical care, and to work if engaged in essential operations. Residents are subject to a 9:00 p.m. curfew; however, exceptions are made for emergencies and personnel engaged in essential health and public service operations. Residents who fail to comply with these terms could face criminal penalties and fines. On March 30, Governor Vázquez Garced issued an [order](#) requiring travelers arriving in Puerto Rico from the United States or any international destination to self-quarantine for 14 days, with limited exceptions. On April 2, Governor Vázquez Garced issued an [order](#) imposing certain reporting requirements with respect to COVID-19 testing results.

Rhode Island: Governor Raimondo issued [Executive Order 20-06](#) on March 18, expanding access to telemedicine services. On March 22, Governor Raimondo issued [Executive Order 20-08](#) and [Executive Order 20-09](#), limiting large gatherings, directing certain businesses to limit on-premises workforces or close, and requiring workers with the ability to work remotely to do so. On March 28, Governor Raimondo issued [Executive Order 20-13](#) directing residents to stay at home and non-critical retail businesses to cease operations. The order additionally required travelers arriving in Rhode Island from another state to self-quarantine for 14 days, with limited exceptions.

South Carolina: Governor Henry McMaster issued an [order](#) on March 19, prohibiting certain non-essential state employees from reporting in-person to work and temporarily suspending enforcement of certain healthcare regulations. The order also provided for emergency procurement of critical healthcare resources and supplies. Noncompliance with the order is a criminal misdemeanor. In a [press conference](#) announcing the order, Governor McMaster indicated that healthcare providers should no longer perform elective procedures; however, no official guidance or directive has yet been issued on this point. On March 23, Governor McMaster issued [another order](#), generally authorizing law enforcement to prohibit or disperse groups of 3 or more people. On March 31, Governor McMaster issued an [order](#) generally directing non-essential businesses to close. Violation of the order will be treated as a misdemeanor. Governor McMaster has not yet issued a stay at home order. On April 2, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation [extended](#) professional licensure renewal deadlines.

South Dakota: Governor Kristi Noem issued an [order](#) on March 23, generally directing individuals to abide by social distancing protocols, employers to encourage remote working arrangements, businesses to suspend or limit in-person operations, healthcare organizations to postpone all non-essential elective surgeries and conserve PPE, and localities to restrict large gatherings. State authorities have not issued a stay at home order for South Dakota residents.

Tennessee: On March 19, Governor Bill Lee issued [Executive Order 15](#) relaxing licensure, registration, telehealth and medication dispensing and administration requirements, among other measures. On March 22, Governor Lee issued [Executive Order 17](#), directing businesses to reduce on-site workforces and implement remote working arrangements where possible. The order implements visitor restrictions for residential care facilities and encourages businesses to reserve certain hours for vulnerable populations. Governor Lee also issued [Executive Order 18](#) on March 23, prohibiting certain non-essential medical and dental procedures until April 13. Surplus PPE not required for emergency care must be delivered to the Tennessee National Guard Armory for the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency's COVID-19 response efforts. On March 26, Governor Lee issued [Executive Order 20](#), suspending certain licensure and oversight requirements and restrictions on the ratio of pharmacy technicians to pharmacists. The order introduces additional measures further facilitating remote access to care. On March 30, Governor Lee issued [Executive Order 22](#), urging, but not requiring, residents to stay home and for certain non-essential businesses to close, as further discussed [here](#). On April 2, Governor Lee issued [Executive Order 23](#), requiring Tennesseans to stay at home. On April 4, Governor Lee amended [Executive Order 15](#) suspended certain licensure requirements to expand the availability of behavioral and mental health services via telehealth.

Texas: On March 22, Governor Greg Abbott issued an [order](#) generally directing that all surgeries and procedures that are not immediately medically necessary be postponed, effective through April 21. Governor Abbott implemented new hospital capacity [reporting requirements](#) on March 24. Persons visiting the State of Texas from certain high-risk regions are required to self-quarantine for 14 days pursuant to an [order](#) issued on March 26. Failure to comply with orders issued during the COVID-19 pandemic is punishable by fine or confinement in jail. On March 28, Governor Abbott [waived](#) certain licensing regulations for pharmacy personnel and [removed](#) licensing barriers for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. On March 29, Governor Abbott issued a [proclamation](#) requiring travelers arriving in the state from certain high-risk regions to self-quarantine for 14 days. On March 31, Governor Abbott signed an [order](#) suggesting, though not requiring, that residents stay at home and minimize non-essential activities. Violation could result in civil or criminal penalties. On April 2, Governor Abbott [suspended regulations](#) to increase the number of first responders. A stay at home order has not yet been issued by state authorities.

U.S. Virgin Islands: On March 23, Governor Albert Bryan, Jr. issued an [order](#) prohibiting large gatherings, requiring all citizens to stay at home and generally directing non-essential business operations to cease. Certain essential businesses are exempt from the order, but they are encouraged to employ workforces remotely. On March 30, Governor Bryan issued an amended [order](#) extending the State of Emergency through May 12 and the stay at home order through April 30. Violation of the order is punishable as a misdemeanor.

Utah: On [March 21](#) and [April 2](#), Dr. Joseph Miner, the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Health, issued orders imposing limits on operations at dining establishments, large gatherings and certain social activities. Businesses are encouraged to implement remote working arrangements as possible. Dr. Miner issued [another order](#) on March 23, directing licensed healthcare practitioners and facilities to postpone all elective surgeries and procedures. On March 26, Governor Gary Herbert issued an [order](#) relaxing requirements for telehealth providers. State authorities have not yet issued a stay at home order for Utah residents.

Vermont: On March 20, Governor Philip Scott issued an [order](#) directing all clinicians to postpone all non-essential adult elective medical and dental procedures. The order will remain in effect until April 15. On March 24, Governor Philip Scott issued [another order](#), requiring residents to stay at home other than for purposes of certain essential activities. Most businesses and nonprofits (other than those in critical sectors) must suspend in-person operations, and all workers must work remotely if possible. On March 30, Governor Scott issued an [order](#) requiring anyone traveling to Vermont to self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival. Governor Scott signed a [bill](#) on March 31 relaxing licensure requirements for healthcare professionals, among other measures.

Virginia: On March 20, Governor Ralph S. Northam signed an [order](#) authorizing the State Health Commissioner to increase licensed bed capacity for general hospitals and nursing homes. Governor Northam issued an [order](#) on March 23, prohibiting large gatherings and directing businesses other than certain essential businesses to close, effective until April 23. On March 25, Governor Northam issued an [order](#) generally prohibiting hospitals and facilities from providing non-essential procedures and surgeries that require PPE. On March 30, Governor Northam issued a [stay at home order](#) generally requiring Virginia residents to stay at home, with exceptions for essential activities. Noncompliance with any of these orders is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Washington: On March 19, Governor Jay Inslee issued a [proclamation](#), effective until May 18, prohibiting hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, and dental offices from providing non-emergent healthcare services, subject to limited exceptions. Governor Inslee issued a [Stay Home – Stay Healthy Order](#) on March 23, prohibiting Washington residents from leaving their homes other than for purposes of engaging in essential activities or working in a [critical sector](#), effective through April 6. Most large gatherings are prohibited. Non-essential businesses must generally cease operations (other than remote operations) through April 8. Violation of these state measures could result in criminal penalties. On March 25, Governor Inslee issued a [proclamation](#) implementing healthcare provider payment parity in providing telemedicine.

West Virginia: Governor Jim Justice issued an [order](#) on March 23, directing residents to stay home unless engaged in essential activities or working in critical sectors. Non-elective medical care is explicitly deemed to be a permissible essential activity by the order, and by implication, elective medical care is not. Certain essential businesses may continue in-person operations; however, non-essential business operations are generally directed to operate remotely. On March 30, Governor Justice issued an [order](#) requiring individuals traveling from areas with substantial community spread to isolate for 14 days upon entry into West Virginia, with certain exceptions.

Wisconsin: On March 24, Secretary-designee of the Department of Health Services, Andrea Palm, issued the [Safer At Home Order](#), requiring all residents to remain at home until April 24. Exceptions to the order include obtaining necessities, visiting a healthcare professional (although telehealth visits are encouraged), or performing work in one of the delineated essential businesses or operations. Violation of the order could result in fines or imprisonment.

Wyoming: On March 19, State Health Officer, Alexia Harrist, issued an [order](#) directing that places of public accommodation be closed. On March 20, Officer Harrist issued [another order](#), prohibiting large gatherings, subject to broad exceptions for healthcare and long-term care facilities. Both [orders](#) have been [extended](#) through April 30 and any violation could result in criminal prosecution. On April 3, Governor Mark Gordon issued a [directive](#) requiring certain travelers arriving in the state from high-risk regions self-quarantine for 14 days. No stay at home order has been issued by state authorities.