Recent updates: (Changes highlighted in yellow)

4/22/2021: Updated to align with updated state guidance that allows facilities to host private events. Cleaning guidance has been updated to reflect changes to CDC cleaning guidance. Paid sick leave language has been updated.

3/12/2021: Updated requirements on ventilation, entry screening, shuttle operations, and masking.

COVID-19 case rates, hospitalizations, and deaths continue to fall, but community spread still remains moderate. COVID-19 continues to pose a high risk to communities and requires all people and businesses to take precautions and modify operations and activities to reduce the risk of spread.

Due to Los Angeles County entering the “Orange” Tier of the State’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy framework, this protocol has been updated to lift some local activity-specific restrictions. Hotels, Lodging and Short-Term Rentals should proceed with caution and adhere to the requirements in this protocol to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19 within their business operations.

The requirements below are specific to hotels, lodging, and short-term rental industries.

Since indoor activities carry higher risks associated with the transmission of COVID-19, especially in spaces with poor ventilation, it is critical that facilities ensure that: appropriate physical distancing is maintained, that customers and staff wear face masks at all times, hand hygiene is strictly observed, and that ventilation is optimized. Outdoor areas must be used only in a manner allowed by the Health Officer Order.

Hotels, Lodging and Short Term Rentals have a number of operational aspects and service offerings covered in other guidance and which are available at: http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/reopening-la.htm. Performance groups and venues must review this guidance to apply the appropriate protocols to all aspects of operations, unless otherwise required in this document, including:

a. LA County DPH Protocol for Retail Establishments
b. LA County DPH Protocol for Office-based Worksites
c. LA County DPH Protocol for Restaurants
d. LA County DPH Protocol for Bars
e. LA County DPH Protocol for Private Events
f. LA County DPH Protocol for Personal Care Establishments
g. LA County DPH Protocol for Public Swimming Pools
h. LA County DPH Protocol for Gyms and Fitness Establishments

Property managers, timeshare operators, and other rental unit owners and operators are only allowed to rent unoccupied units and cannot rent rooms or spaces within an occupied residence until otherwise notified. A residence or unit that is rented while the operator is not physically present or has a separate exterior entrance and exit that does not require the use of shared facilities, and is otherwise unoccupied, should be considered an unoccupied unit.

Please note: This document may be updated as additional information and resources become available so be sure to check the LA County website http://www.ph.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/ regularly for any updates to this document and related guidance, including those listed above.
This checklist covers:

(1) Workplace policies and practices to protect employee health
(2) Measures to ensure physical distancing
(3) Measures to ensure infection control
(4) Communication with employees and the public
(5) Measures to ensure equitable access to critical services

These five key areas must be addressed as your facility develops any reopening protocols.

All businesses covered by this protocol must implement all applicable measures listed below and be prepared to explain why any measure that is not implemented is not applicable to the business.

Business name: 
Facility Address: 
Maximum Occupancy, per Fire Code: 
Approximate total square footage of space open to the public: 

A. WORKPLACE POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO PROTECT EMPLOYEE HEALTH (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO THE FACILITY)

☐ Everyone who can carry out their work duties from home has been directed to do so.

☐ Vulnerable staff (those above age 65, those who are pregnant, and those with chronic health conditions) are assigned work that can be done from home whenever possible, and should discuss any concerns with their healthcare provider or occupational health services to make appropriate decisions on returning to the workplace.

☐ All employees have been told not to come to work if sick or if they are exposed to a person who has COVID-19.

☐ Workers are provided information on employer or government-sponsored leave benefits the employee may be entitled to receive that would make it financially easier to stay at home. See additional information on government programs supporting sick leave and worker’s compensation for COVID-19, including employee’s sick leave rights under the 2021 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Law.

☐ Upon being informed that one or more employees test positive for, or has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (case), the employer has a plan or protocol in place to have the case(s) isolate themselves at home and require the immediate self-quarantine of all employees that had a workplace exposure to the case(s). The employer’s plan should include a protocol for all quarantined employees to have access to or be tested for COVID-19 in order to determine whether there have been additional workplace exposures, which may require additional COVID-19 control measures. See the public health guidance on responding to COVID-19 in the workplace.

☐ In the event that the owner, manager, or operator knows of three (3) or more cases of COVID-19 within the workplace within a span of 14 days the employer must report this cluster to the Department of Public Health.
at (888) 397-3993 or (213) 240-7821 or online at www.redcap.link/covidreport. If a cluster is identified at a worksite, the Department of Public Health will initiate a cluster response which includes providing infection control guidance and recommendations, technical support and site-specific control measures. A public health case manager will be assigned to the cluster investigation to help guide the facility response.

- Entry screenings are conducted before employees, contractors, vendors, delivery personnel, and other visitors may enter the workspace, in compliance with the DPH Entry Screening guidance. Checks must include a check-in concerning cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing and fever or chills and if the individual is currently under isolation or quarantine orders. These checks can be done in person or through alternative methods such as on-line check-in systems or through signage posted at the entrance to the facility stating that visitors with these symptoms may not enter the premises. A temperature check should also be done at the worksite if feasible.
  - Negative Screen (Cleared). If the person has no symptoms, is not currently under isolation and quarantine orders, and no contact to a known or suspected COVID-19 case in the last 10 days, they can be cleared to work for that day.
  - Positive Screen (Not Cleared):
    - If the person has had contact to a known or suspected COVID-19 case in the last 10 days or is currently under quarantine orders, they may not enter or start work in the field and must be sent home immediately to quarantine at home. Provide them with the quarantine instructions found at ph.lacounty.gov/covidquarantine.
    - If the person is showing any of the symptoms noted above or is currently under isolation orders, they may not enter or start work in the field and must be sent home immediately to isolate at home. Provide them with the isolation instructions found at ph.lacounty.gov/covidisolation

- Employees who have contact with others are offered, at no cost, an appropriate face mask that covers the nose and mouth. For more information, see LAC DPH COVID-19 Mask webpage at http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/masks. The face mask is to be worn by the employee at all times during the workday when in contact or likely to come into contact with others. Employees who have been instructed by their medical provider that they should not wear a face covering must wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, to be in compliance with State directives, as long as their condition permits it. A drape that is form fitting under the chin is preferred. Masks with one-way valves must not be used. All employees must wear face masks at all times except when working alone in private offices with closed doors or when eating or drinking. The exception made previously for employees working in cubicles with solid partitions exceeding the height of the employee while standing is overridden until further notice.

- Employees are instructed on the proper use of face masks, including the need to wash, if applicable, or replace their face masks daily.

- To ensure that masks are worn consistently and correctly, employees are prohibited from eating or drinking except during their breaks when they are able to safely remove their masks and physically distance from others. At all times when eating or drinking, employees must maintain at least a six-foot distance from others. When eating or drinking, it is preferred to do so outdoors and away from others, if possible. Eating or drinking at a cubicle or workstation is preferred to eating in a breakroom if eating in a cubicle or workstation provides greater distance from and barriers between workers. COVID-19 transmission is more likely to occur when employees are present together when not wearing face masks.

- Occupancy is reduced and space between employees is maximized in any room or area used by employees for meals and/or breaks. This has been achieved by:
  - Posting a maximum occupancy that is consistent with enabling a distance of at least six feet between individuals in rooms or areas used for breaks;
  - Staggering break or mealtimes to reduce occupancy in rooms or areas used for meals and breaks;
Placing tables at least eight feet apart and assuring six feet between seats, removing or taping seats to reduce occupancy, placing markings on floors to assure distancing, and arranging seating in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact. Use of partitions is encouraged to further prevent spread but should not be considered a substitute for reducing occupancy and maintaining physical distancing.

Where possible, outdoor break areas with shade covers and seating that ensures physical distancing between employees is provided.

- Housekeepers and others who must enter guest rooms are directed to wear a face mask.
- Employees are directed to ensure hand hygiene practices including handwash frequency, use of hand sanitizer and proper glove use are adhered to.
- Employees are allowed time to wash their hands frequently.
- Employees are reminded to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissue should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- All employees, vendors and delivery personnel have been provided instructions regarding maintaining physical distancing and the use of face masks when around others.
- Employees are properly trained on all COVID-19 policies and procedures.
- A written, worksite-specific COVID-19 plan including a risk assessment of all work areas has been developed.
- A designated person or small team has been identified to implement the plan.
  - Name(s) of person(s) responsible for COVID-19 Compliance:

Employees are trained on the proper use of cleaning and disinfecting products, including Cal/OSHA requirements for safe use. Employees are provided aprons, gloves and other protective equipment as required by the product.

Break rooms, restrooms and other common areas are disinfected at the frequency described below, but no less than one time per day, on the following schedule:

- Break rooms
- Restrooms
- Other

Disinfectant and related supplies are available to employees at the following location(s):

Hand sanitizer effective against COVID-19 is available to all employees at the following location(s):

Copies of this Protocol have been distributed to all employees.

Optional—Describe other measures:

**B. MEASURES TO ENSURE PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- Measures to ensure physical distancing of at least six feet between and among employees, guests, and the public are implemented, including areas where guests and employees line up.
  - This includes the use of physical partitions or visual cues (e.g., floor markings or signs to indicate where employees and/or guests should stand).
  - This includes check-in, check-out, elevator lobbies, coffee shops and dining, and taxi and ridesharing
lines.

- Physical barriers are installed at all transaction counters where 6 feet physical space is not possible between employees and guests.

- Guests enter doors that are either propped open, are automated or manually operated by an employee who is frequently handwashing and/or using proper hand sanitizer.

- Peak period queuing procedures are implemented, including a lobby greeter where applicable. Guests are queued to maintain at least six feet of physical distance between parties.

- All furniture in public spaces has been arranged to incorporate social distancing guidelines.

- Physical distancing measures are implemented in employee break areas, uniform control areas, training classrooms, shared office spaces, employee services window, and other high-density areas in order to appropriately distance between employees.

- Guest room service, laundry and dry-cleaning services, and amenity deliveries are made using contactless pick-up and delivery protocols, wherever possible.

- Room attendant only services rooms when guests are not present.

- Employee pre-shift meetings are conducted virtually or in areas that allow for appropriate physical distancing between employees.

- Employee arrival times are staggered to minimize traffic volume in back of house corridors and service elevators.

- Employees are discouraged from congregating in high traffic areas such as bathrooms and hallways. Established directional hallways and passageways for foot traffic, where possible, to eliminate people from passing by one another.

- Office spaces, lobbies, front desk check-in areas, business centers, concierge service areas, and other spaces are redesigned, where possible, to ensure workspace and guest accommodations allow for at least six feet distancing.

- Elevator capacity is limited to 4 individuals or a family at a time for any elevator that does not allow for 6-foot physical distance between riders. All riders are required to wear cloth face masks.

- Employees are instructed to avoid handshakes and similar greetings that break physical distancing.

- Person-to-person contact for delivery of goods to physical offices is eliminated, where possible. Avoid touching others’ pens and clipboards.

### C. MEASURES FOR INFECTION CONTROL

#### COMMON SPACES (CHECK-IN, LOBBY, ELEVATORS, ETC.)

- The HVAC system is in good, working order; to the maximum extent possible, ventilation has been increased in common spaces and guest rooms. Effective ventilation is one of the most important ways to control small aerosol transmission. Consider installing portable high-efficiency air cleaners, upgrading the building’s air filters to the highest efficiency possible, and making other modifications to increase the quantity of outside air and ventilation in all offices, guest rooms and other spaces. See California Department of Public Health [Interim Guidance for Ventilation, Filtration and Air Quality in Indoor Environments](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/ATSDR/Documents/Technical_Briefs/HighEfficiencyAirCleaner.pdf) for detailed information.

- Please Note: Ventilation and other indoor air quality improvements are an addition to, and not a replacement for, mandatory protections including wearing face coverings (except in certain high-risk environments that require using proper respiratory protection), maintaining at least six feet of distance between people, washing hands frequently, and limiting activities that bring together people from different households.

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APPENDIX P: Reopening Protocol for Hotels, Lodging and Short-Term Rentals

Revised 4/22/2021
Symptom checks are conducted before visitors or guests may enter the facility. Checks must include a check-in concerning cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever or chills, recent positive test for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and whether the guest is currently under isolation or quarantine orders. These checks can be done in person or through alternative methods such as on-line check in systems or through signage posted at the entrance to the facility.

- Visitors answering affirmatively to any of these questions should not enter the premises.
- Guests that answer affirmatively must be given instructions to limit their stay to their room and that they must not use the common areas.
- Guests that answer affirmatively may be re-booked into rooms in a more remote area of the hotel pre-selected for use by such guests. Hotels are encouraged to offer additional services to any guests who are isolating or quarantining, such as daily wellness checks by phone, room service, and additional concierge assistance to allow the guest to stay in their room.

Guests and visitors arriving at the establishment are reminded to wear a face mask at all times (except while eating or drinking in designated dining areas, if applicable) while in the establishment or on the grounds of the establishment. This applies to all adults and to children 2 years of age and older. Individuals who have been instructed not to wear a face mask by their medical provider must wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, to be in compliance with State directives, as long as their condition permits it. A drape that is form fitting under the chin is preferred. Masks with one-way valves must not be used. To support the safety of your employees and other guests, a face mask should be made available to guests who arrive without them.

- Customers arriving at the site with children must ensure that their children stay next to a parent, avoid touching any other person or any item that does not belong to them, and are wearing face masks if age permits.

Guests are notified that if they become ill, or otherwise infected with COVID-19, or if they exposed to the virus causing COVID-19 during their stay, or if they are subject to any travel-related quarantine, they must notify the hotel management. They must isolate or quarantine in their room and stay out of common areas. Such guest should be offered additional services to facilitate their remaining in their room and out of common areas.

For facilities or guest rooms that have not been operating, flush each of the hot and cold-water fixtures for five minutes prior to reopening to replace stale water in the facility’s plumbing with a fresh and safe water supply.

Cleaning and disinfecting products that are approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)- approved list are used per the manufacturer’s instructions.

- Disinfectant products on the N list with asthma-safer ingredients are selected.

Guests, visitors, and employees should enter through doors that are propped open or automated if possible.

Hand sanitizer dispensers (touchless, when possible) are installed at key guest and employee entrances and contact areas such as driveways, reception areas, hotel lobbies, restaurant entrances, meeting and convention spaces, elevator landings, pools, salons and exercise areas.

Servers, bussers, and other employees moving items used by customers while dining (dirty cups, plates, napkins, etc.) are to wear disposable gloves prior to handling.

Cashless transactions are encouraged. If reasonable for the food facility, customers are enabled to swipe their own credit/debit cards, and card readers are fully sanitized between each guest use.

Optional - Describe other measures (e.g. pre-planned “down-time” of indoor areas between uses for additional ventilation and disinfection):
Contactless technology is implemented for check-in, payment, accessing rooms or making special requests, wherever possible.

- Key cards are sanitized after use.

To the extent possible, guests to the hotel are registered in a guest log that includes the guest’s name, phone number and email address which can also be done at the time of registration.

Phones, tablets, laptops, desks, pens and other work supplies are cleaned and disinfected at least once per day during business hours using EPA approved disinfectants. This includes phones, radios, computers and other communication devices, payment terminals, kitchen implements, engineering tools, safety buttons, folios, housekeeping carts and cleaning equipment, keys, time clocks, and all other direct contact items.

Workstations, desks, and help counters are provided with proper sanitation products, including hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes, and personal hand sanitzers to all staff directly assisting customers.

Vacuum cleaners are equipped with HEPA filters. Employees are to use vacuum cleaners instead of sweeping floors with brooms, where possible.

Thorough cleaning in high traffic areas such as hotel lobbies, front desk check-in counters, bell desks, break rooms and lunch areas, changing areas, loading docks, kitchens, and areas of ingress and egress including stairways, stairwells, handrails, and elevator controls is performed.

Commonly used surfaces, including door handles, vending and ice machines, light switches, phones, washer and dryer doors and controls, baggage carts, shuttle door handles, toilet and handwashing facilities, are cleaned more often as determined is necessary based on high traffic areas or for surfaces that are exposed to unmasked individuals.

Workers are provided time to implement cleaning practices during their shift.

Restrooms are cleaned and disinfected hourly using EPA approved disinfectants according to the manufacturer’s directions, on the following schedule:

- Valet service drivers, baggage handlers, and housekeepers are to wash their hands regularly during their shift and/or use proper hand sanitizer.
- If valet service is provided, valet service drivers are required to wear face masks and maintain social distancing guidelines.
- If van or shuttle service is provided, they are to adhere to valet service requirements, including cleaning and disinfecting seating areas between guests. Use a higher-capacity vehicle as much as possible to allow for six (6) feet of physical distancing as much as is feasible. Establish a passenger capacity number and post it on the side of the vehicle. If needed, provide more vehicle trips with fewer passengers per trip. Require face masks use by all passengers and the driver and leave windows open to increase the ventilation, if possible, during the ride. If all passengers and driver are fully vaccinated, then van or shuttle may be operated at 100% capacity.
- Self-parking options are encouraged with guests.

**GUEST ROOMS**

- Bellman/Porters are to wear face masks when handling guest baggage. Where possible, baggage deliveries are to be placed in the room by the guest.
- **Room mini bar is open for guest use.**
- Room attendant is to minimize contact with guests’ personal belongings when cleaning.
- Room attendants have ventilation system operating and/or open windows whenever possible to increase air circulation when servicing rooms. See public health guidance on optimizing ventilation.
Room attendant is allowed extra time to clean rooms to account for required precautions and to allow them to conduct more thorough cleaning and disinfection of rooms between guests, when required.

- Housekeepers are provided appropriate protective equipment for cleaning.

During daily cleanings, surfaces within guest rooms are cleaned and disinfected.

- Adequate dish soap and new, unused sponges, disinfecting wipes are provided for each guest upon arrival.
- All appliances and kitchen areas, including refrigerator shelving, the oven stovetop, coffeemakers, toasters, pantry shelves and other areas are cleaned between each guest stay.
- Housekeeping employees are provided with gloves when removing dirty linens. Dirty linen is placed in single-use, sealed bags.

- All towels and linens are removed and cleaned at the conclusion of each guest stay regardless of whether they appear to have been used or not.
- All bed linen and laundry is washed at a high temperature and cleaned according with CDC guidelines.
- All nonessential maintenance is scheduled when room is not occupied. Handle only emergency or urgent issues as allowed by applicable law where possible.

For guest rooms in which a guest is isolating or quarantining, staff are advised to leave and retrieve all items by leaving them at the door, outside of the room.

If possible, wellness checks, in the form of daily phone calls, are offered to any guests that are isolating or quarantining in a guest room. If such a guest needs to leave the hotel for medical care, hotel staff facilitate by helping the guest exit through areas clear of other guests.

**SHORT-TERM RENTAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- Self or remote check-in and checkout is offered where possible.
- Standard check-in and checkout times are implemented to allow for enhanced cleaning processes between guest stays.

- The rental unit is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each guest stay. This includes wiping down and cleaning and disinfecting all high-touch areas, including bed rails, tables, TV remotes, headboards, countertops, kitchen appliances, refrigerator handles, stove knobs, mirrors, and other items.

- If the guest was known to have been isolating or quarantining in the room, let the room sit closed and unoccupied for 24 hours, then perform a deep cleaning as directed in the cleaning matrix: [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/protection/CleaningMatrix.pdf](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/protection/CleaningMatrix.pdf).

- All recycling, garbage and trash is removed between guest stays. This includes removing and disposing of any food items that may have been left in the refrigerator, freezer, and pantry.
  - Trash cans are lined with disposable bags.

- Laundry hampers are to be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
  - Hampers are lined with a bag liner that is either disposable or can be laundered after each use.

- All linens are removed and laundered between each guest stay, including items that appear to not have been used.
  - Use gloves when removing dirty linens. Dirty linen is placed in single-use, sealed bags.
  - Wash hands with soap or use hand sanitizer immediately after gloves are removed.

- No extra linens are stored in the rental unit. Linens are provided only upon request.
- All bed linen and laundry is washed at a high temperature and cleaned according to CDC guidelines.
- All soft surfaces are cleaned based on the manufacturer’s instructions. This includes items like carpet,
bedding, curtains, and upholstery.

- Vacuum cleaners are equipped with HEPA filters. A vacuum cleaner is used instead of sweeping floors with brooms, where possible.
- Bathroom toilets, showers, bathtubs, sinks, cabinets, and shelving are sprayed with a multi-surface cleaner approved for use against COVID-19. Mirrors and any glass are properly wiped. Bathroom floors are mopped and/or vacuumed.
- The rental unit is provided with additional hand soap, paper towels, toilet paper, disinfecting spray or wipes and hand sanitizer.
- External or professional cleaning companies, when used, provide periodic confirmation that cleaning, and disinfection standards are being followed.
- Guests are notified of cleaning and safety measures both pre-stay and during stay, via the listing content and property information booklet.
- All nonessential maintenance is scheduled when the rental unit is not occupied. Handle only emergency or urgent issues as allowed by applicable law where possible.
- The HVAC system is in good, working order; to the maximum extent possible, ventilation has been increased. Effective ventilation is one of the most important ways to control small aerosol transmission. High filtration efficiency filters are used and replaced regularly. See California Department of Public Health Interim Guidance for Ventilation, Filtration and Air Quality in Indoor Environments for detailed information.
  - Please Note: Ventilation and other indoor air quality improvements are an addition to, and not a replacement for, mandatory protections including wearing face coverings (except in certain high-risk environments that require using proper respiratory protection), maintaining at least six feet of distance between people, washing hands frequently, and limiting activities that bring together people from different households.

D. MEASURES THAT COMMUNICATE TO THE PUBLIC

- A copy of this protocol or, if received, the facility’s printed Los Angeles County COVID-19 Safety Compliance Certificate is posted at all public entrances to the facility. For more information or to complete the COVID-19 safety compliance self-certification program, visit http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/covid19cert.htm. Facilities must keep a copy of the Protocols onsite at the facility for review, upon request.
- Guests are notified of the facility’s policies and procedures prior to their arrival. This includes the right to cancel reservations for parties with symptomatic guests and the new check-in procedures, physical distancing requirements, and cleaning and disinfecting schedules for accommodations, amenities, and common areas. Note that hotels are encouraged to be prepared to accommodate guests with COVID-19 or exposure to the virus in specific rooms in the hotel, and to facilitate their ability to isolate or quarantine.
- Signage is posted that reminds guests and the public to maintain physical distancing of six feet, wear cloth facemask, wash hands or use sanitizer upon entry, and to stay home if they are ill or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
  - Guests will be provided face masks upon entry to the hotel if they do not have one.
- Signage is posted at elevators that communicates to riders the maximum number of riders and that cloth face masks must be worn.

E. MEASURES THAT ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CRITICAL SERVICES

- Services that are critical to the customers/clients have been prioritized.
- Transactions or services that can be offered remotely have been moved on-line.
Measures are instituted to assure access to goods and services for customers who have mobility limitations and/or are at high risk in public spaces.

Any additional measures not included above should be listed on separate pages, which the business should attach to this document.

You may contact the following person with any questions or comments about this protocol:

Business Contact Name: ________________________________________________

Phone number: ________________________________________________________

Date Last Revised: _____________________________________________________