

## Governor's Office provides FAQs for nonprofits on reopening during the pandemic

*updated June 30, 2020*

### Event venues and gatherings

#### ***When can we host in-person fundraisers and conferences?***

Large in-person conferences are in Stage 4 of Governor Newsom's [Resilience Roadmap](#), which is the final stage of reopening and has no start date as yet. Small in-person fundraising events might be possible with six-foot physical distancing and mask-wearing, so the size of your venue will make a big difference. Holding events outdoors is recommended.

#### ***What are the guidelines for renting nonprofit space for events like outdoor weddings?***

Outdoor weddings are currently allowed with the proper masking and distancing. The [guidance for places of worship](#) has information regarding services held indoors or outdoors, including recommendations about offering food and live music at these gatherings. Guidance for open-space, outdoor performance venues is in development.

#### ***If our nonprofit rents out space, who is responsible for enforcing distancing and masks?***

The Governor's Office recommends that you, as lessor, have a conversation with your tenants and work out those details as part of your lease, making modifications as needed. For information about how to handle reopening for short-term rentals, you can look at the [guidance for hotels and lodging](#), which includes special cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

### Child care, afterschool programs, and camps

#### ***Can nonessential workers for child care programs begin working onsite?***

Yes, they can. As you prepare for employees to return, you should review the [office reopening guidance](#). The state also updated its [guidance for child care programs](#) on June 5th, so please check to be sure you have the latest protocols in place.

#### ***What are the guidelines for reopening children's camps and afterschool programs?***

The state has issued [guidance for day camps](#) but not for overnight camps.

Recreational team sports are not permitted, and camp staff will need specific training to make sure activities follow the guidelines. Outdoor activities with six-foot physical distancing are the safest, as are small groups of children that stay together and do not mix with other groups. [The guidance for schools and school-based programs](#) can also help as you plan to reopen day camp or afterschool programs.

## Group treatment programs, adult day programs, and in-home services

### ***When can in-person group treatment programs begin again?***

Group treatment programs can only resume in facilities that have space for six-foot physical distancing and must follow all the other protocols for cleaning facilities and wearing masks.

### ***What are the guidelines for day programs for adults with developmental disabilities?***

The Governor's Office recommends that you review the hygiene protocols in the childcare guidance and consult the school and camp guidelines listed above, to develop your reopening protocols. Programs that serve food to participants should consult the [guidance for places of worship](#), and the [restaurant guidance](#), to put safe food preparation and service protocols in place.

Specific guidelines for day programs for seniors and other adults who are particularly vulnerable to harmful outcomes from the virus have not yet been developed. Please consult the [CDPH COVID-19 website](#) for updates.

### ***What are the guidelines for resuming nonessential in-home services?***

The California Department of Social Services has issued a [letter to in-home supportive services \(IHSS\) providers](#) with information about the virus, what to do to stay healthy, and what to do if you are symptomatic. A comparable [letter](#) is available for IHSS recipients. State guidance for other types of in-home services is still in the works.

## Museums, zoos, and performance venues

### ***Where do museums and historic buildings fit in the reopening plans?***

The state has issued [guidance for outdoor museums](#) as part of the current stage of reopening and created a safety [checklist for outdoor museums](#) to post so employees and patrons can see it and follow it. The outdoor museum guidance can also be used by other outdoor-exhibit programs such as zoos, botanical gardens, outdoor galleries, and walking tours, and includes training recommendations for employees and volunteers.

Galleries and museums that have retail spaces should review the [guidance for retailers](#) before reopening those retail spaces. For information about creating safe indoor exhibit spaces, see this [guidance for museums, galleries, zoos, and aquariums](#).

### ***When can performance venues reopen?***

The reopening of performance venues, including theaters and concert venues, is part of stage 4 in the California [Resilience Roadmap](#). There is no timeline yet for reopening these venues, and state guidance is under development.

## Other questions

### ***When can fitness centers and dance studios open?***

The state's [guidance for fitness facilities](#) can be used for protocols for gyms, dance and yoga studios, and other fitness centers.

### ***Where do offices fit in the reopening plans?***

The state's [guidance for office workspaces](#) provides information about creating a safer work environment for employees. Before reopening your office, you will need to create a COVID-19 prevention plan and designate an employee responsible for implementing that plan. Recommendations include creating barriers between work stations and establishing directional pathways for foot traffic, whenever possible. Staggering the in-office work schedule is also recommended to reduce the number of employees sharing the office space at any given time.

### ***When can we resume door-to-door outreach to undercounted communities for the Census?***

Door-to-door outreach for the Census is considered an essential service, so it can already be done, as can other essential services, before and during the reopening stages. You should check with your local public health department for any specific guidelines they might have regarding Census-related and other types of door-to-door outreach.

### ***Can nonprofits comment on existing or future state reopening guidance?***

Yes, through the [California Recovery Roadmap Survey](#), you can provide input on how different types of nonprofits should reopen.

## Looking ahead

With all of these reopening issues, it is important to **consult with your county public health department before you make any big decisions. And remember that with changing conditions, state reopening guidelines will also change, so you'll want to check them frequently.**

Whenever you are able to reopen, or if you are already open as an essential business, we wish you and the communities you serve a safe and healthy experience!

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Our thanks to Kaina Pereira, Marie Davis, and Emily Desai at GO-Biz for so patiently going over the questions and answers with us.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [lucyc@calnonprofits.org](mailto:lucyc@calnonprofits.org) if you have questions or if there are other nonprofit-related policy issues you want to discuss.