

Governor's Office COVID-19 Daily Q & A

March 18, 2020

Executive Order 2020-7: Business Compliance

Q: Can exemptions to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-7 prohibiting on-premise consumption and prohibiting gatherings of 50 people or more be made in counties where COVID-19 is not present?

A: No. The Governor's Executive Order, released on March 16, 2020, is a state-wide Executive Order and applies to all counties in the State of Illinois. The prohibition for on-premise food and beverage consumption is effective through March 30, 2020. The prohibition for gatherings of 50 people or more is effective through the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation.

Q: What can we do for the "mom and pop", independent businesses that traditionally have smaller crowds? Can they remain open?

A: Small businesses can continue to provide in-house delivery, third-party delivery (Uber Eats/Grub Hub), drive-through, curbside pick-up and carry-out services.

Q: Can restaurants cater at an individual's home under this Executive Order if there are less than 50 people in attendance?

A: Yes, restaurants and private caterers can continue to operate by providing catering services to gatherings of under 50 people.

Q: Will food trucks be impacted?

A: Food trucks may continue to operate and must ensure that they have an environment where patrons maintain adequate social distancing.

Q: Does this Governor's Executive Order 2020-7 apply to gyms, movie theaters, and video game cafes?

A: Yes. The Executive Order applies to any public or private gathering including community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based events, sporting events with spectators, concerts, conventions, and any similar event or activity that brings together 50 or more people in a single room or a single space at the same time. This includes venues such as fitness centers, health clubs, bowling alleys, private clubs, theaters, movie theaters, and other video gaming cafes.

Q: Does the Governor's Executive Order 2020-7 prohibit curbside pickup?

A: No. Businesses may continue to provide curbside pick up services. Businesses are also permitted and encouraged to serve food and beverages so that they can be consumed off-premises through means such as in-house delivery, third-party delivery, and drive-through.

Q: Can cafes/restaurants inside hospitals remain open for the healthcare workforce that may need to eat?

A: Yes. Dining areas in hospitals are exempted from the Governor's Executive Order 2020-7, released on March 16, 2020.

Q: Are colleges/universities, airports, hotels and hospitals exempted from providing food services?

A: Yes. These entities may continue to provide food services. Customers may dine-in at college/university dining halls, airports, and hospitals. While customers may not dine-in at hotel restaurants, customers may receive meals to-go or through room service.

Q: How many people can participate in a church service under the Governor's Executive Order 2020-7? There has been talk of 10 attendees but the Executive Order states less than 50?

A: Church services can still continue as long as the church maintain a crowd of fewer than 50 people.

Q: Are funerals restricted under the Governor's Executive Order 2020-7?

A: The Cemetery Association released a notice indicating that burials and graveside services may continue to be performed so long as the cemetery and the involved family and funeral director maintain a crowd of fewer than 50 people and maintain a distance of six or more feet.