

From: [Read, Jennifer](#)
To: [Plowden, Mark](#)
Cc: [Simpson, Cody](#); [Walker, Trey](#); [Toomey, Rick K.](#); [Duwve, Joan M.](#)
Subject: [External] Recommendations on Restaurants & Close Contact Businesses
Date: Friday, May 1, 2020 11:05:47 AM

Mark,

As a follow-up, please see our recommendations below:

Restaurant Re-Opening

Our recommendation is to wait to resume in-person dining at South Carolina restaurants until May 18. This will allow us to see if there is any impact to infection rates in the state from lifting the mandatory home or work order, partial resumption of retail sales, and resumption of outdoor dining services.

If the decision is made to resume in-person dining on May 11, we request that the following protective measures be added:

- Maximum of 25% occupancy
- Tables must be spaced at least 6 feet apart
- All employees must wear masks and gloves
- Limit tables to groups of no more than 6
- A minimum of 6 feet of distance must be maintained for people waiting to be seated
- For buffets, facilities must provide staff to serve the food directly to patrons
- Facilities must continue to follow DHEC COVID-19 guidance on cleaning

Note, these protections should be in place even if in-person dining is resumed on May 18 for all indoor and outdoor dining. We will provide a full list of recommended practices as required.

Close Contact Businesses

(e.g., barber shops, hair salons, waxing salons, threading salons, nail salons and spas, body-art facilities and tattoo services, tanning salons, massage-therapy establishments and massage services, etc.)

If the decision is made to reopen these facilities, based on current infection rates in South Carolina, our recommendation is to wait to reopen them until at least 2 weeks after restaurants resume in-person dining services. This will allow us to monitor any impact the resumption of in-person dining may have on case counts in the state. In addition, we anticipate that re-opening these facilities will have a greater impact on minority populations where we continue to see higher than expected infection rates.

DHEC will provide recommendations for a phased reopening of these businesses as listed in the Governor's Executive Order.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Jennifer Read

Chief of Staff

S.C. Dept. of Health & Environmental Control

Office: (803) 898-1259

Mobile: [REDACTED]

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