

# REOPENING RI: TESTING THE WATER

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Update on Phase I

May 4, 2020

RHODE  
ISLAND

# THE PLAN

Our strategy to reopen the economy is a phased approach to maintain flexibility.



# IN PHASE I: STAY CLOSE TO HOME

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## We're focused on getting back to work – while protecting health and safety.

- The stay-at-home order lifts, but we should still aim to stay close to home. The goal is to limit our networks.
- Everyone who can work from home should continue to work from home. Employees of office-based businesses who need to go to the office may do so on a very limited basis.
- Elective medical procedures resume under safety guidelines.
- All Rhode Islanders who have deferred healthcare needs, including immunizations, well visits, or specialty care, are encouraged to reach out to their primary care doctor. Many specialty providers such as orthopedists, neurologists, and cardiologists remain open for telehealth and needed care. Telehealth is covered and encouraged, including for mental health care.
- Some parks open, and public parking is now available. Pick a convenient park for a walk or a run (and please limit your time).
- Non-critical retailers that were previously closed reopen with capacity restrictions, though preorders are encouraged, and shoppers should limit browsing time.
- Continue ordering delivery and take-out from restaurants. Options will begin to expand – hopefully including outdoor dining later in Phase I.
- Nursing homes, assisted living and other congregate care facilities remain closed to visitors.

# ADDITIONAL WORKPLACE RULES

In order to reopen safely, we all have to do more.

- Providing additional cleaning guidelines.
- Screen employees for symptoms.
- Signage with guidance for employees, customers, and visitors.
- Plus, developing setting-specific guidelines.

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### Employer cleaning guidance

#### Cleaning frequencies



At least daily.



High-touch surfaces: frequently.

#### Procedures

Follow CDC guidance for each setting (at a minimum).



1 Clean with soap and water or another cleaning product.



2 Wait until the surface is completely dry before using disinfectant.



3 Apply disinfectant for at least one minute, following instructions on label, with proper ventilation.



4 Put disposable cleaning materials in a sealed plastic bag with regular trash.



5 Wear disposable or reusable rubber gloves for cleaning and handling trash.



6 Wash hands after cleaning, handling materials or removing gloves.

#### For employees, customers and visitors



Provide ready access to soap and water and/or hand sanitizer with >60% alcohol at all times.



Place posters with guidance in common areas and at entrances.



Provide ready access to cleaning materials for employees.

#### Training



Ensure employees know their roles in relevant procedures and protocols.

Note: This is a summary. Please refer to full guidance at [ReopeningRI.com](https://reopeningri.com)

[reopeningri.com](https://reopeningri.com) | [health.ri.gov/covid](https://health.ri.gov/covid)

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# WE ALL HAVE TO DO OUR PART

## Guidance for all Rhode Islanders

- Don't go out if you are sick.
- Continue washing hands and following other hygiene best practices.
- Maintain six-foot spacing.
- Wear a face covering.
- Limit group sizes per RI Department of Health guidance.

### REOPENING RI

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#### Rules to keep you safe at work

##### Going to work



Stay home if you're sick; return to work only when cleared to do so.

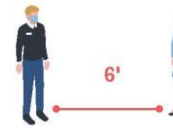


Undergo symptom screenings before entering your workplace.



Wear a clean cloth or surgical mask over your nose and mouth.

##### Interacting



Keep 6 feet distant from others at all times.



Stay behind any shield that is meant to be between you and customers.



Keep in-person interactions to small groups.



Avoid communal areas.

##### Hygiene



Clean and disinfect shared surfaces before you use them.



Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.  
If unavailable, use sanitizer with >60% alcohol.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.



Cover coughs and sneezes with your elbow or with a tissue you throw away.

**Note:** This is a summary. Please refer to full guidance at [ReopeningRI.com](https://reopeningri.com)

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# RETAIL PREVIEW

## Non-critical retail reopens with enhanced safety measures.

- Retailers may reopen for in-store pickup and limited browsing. No more than one customer per 300 square feet is allowed in the store at a time.
- Six-foot markings guide customers to maintain safe distance while in line.
- Contactless payment is encouraged as an option.
- Check-out areas should have see-through barriers between employees and customers.



# OFFICES

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## **Working from home is still preferred and encouraged for those who can do business remotely.**

- Everyone who can work from home should still work from home. Remote work should continue whenever possible.
- Employees may pick up a file or print a document at the office if needed.
- Employees can visit the office on a very limited basis for reasons such as critical meetings -- provided that social distancing and other rules are carefully followed.

# WHAT'S NEXT IN THE REOPENING PLAN?

## Not all Phase I changes will happen on the first day of Phase I.

- Preparations are underway to allow for the limited reopening of other businesses -- including outdoor dining at restaurants.
- Outdoor dining precautions will include seating by reservation only, no shared condiments, and spacing between tables (in accordance with guidelines).
- Regulations to allow the reopening of close-contact businesses (including hairdressers and barbers) in a future phase are under development.

