

VERMONT FORWARD

ROADMAP TO REOPENING

Phased Reopening Plan

On April 6, 2021, Governor Phil Scott released a reopening guide to help Vermonters and local businesses see the path for a phased return to unrestricted travel, business operations, and event gatherings. The plan was developed by the Department of Health, the Department of Public Safety, and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and uses vaccination milestones to ensure a safe easing of personal restrictions and continued reopening of the state's economy.



VERMONT FORWARD

ROADMAP TO REOPENING

Please refer to vermont.gov for complete guidance and additional details. Education and health care retain specialized guidance.

Note: All dates are subject to change.



STEP 1

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):
Vulnerable population substantially complete;
35–45% of all Vermonters; 45–55% of Vermonters 16+

Business Operations

4/9

Group A Sectors:
Move to required universal guidance

Cross State Travel

4/9

No quarantine is required for unvaccinated visitors with a negative test within 3 days prior to arrival. Unvaccinated Vermonters must be tested within 3 days upon return to the state.

Masks and Physical Distancing



Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

APRIL

STEP 2

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):
50–60% of all Vermonters;
60–70% of Vermonters 16+

Business Operations

5/1

Group B Sectors:
Move to required universal guidance

Gatherings and Events

5/1

Indoor: 1 unvaccinated person per 100 sq ft up to 150, plus any number of vaccinated people
Outdoor: 300, plus any number of vaccinated people

Masks and Physical Distancing



Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

MAY

STEP 3

VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE):
60–70% of all Vermonters;
70–85% of Vermonters 16+

Cross State Travel

6/1

No quarantine or testing requirements

Gatherings and Events

6/1

Indoor: 1 unvaccinated person per 50 sq ft up to 300, plus any number of vaccinated people
Outdoor: 900, plus any number of vaccinated people

Masks and Physical Distancing



Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

JUNE

JULY 4

Business Operations

Universal guidance encouraged for all sectors

Gatherings and Events

No capacity restrictions

Masks and Physical Distancing.

Encouraged

JULY

Note: All dates are subject to change.

STEP 1 VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE): Vulnerable population substantially complete; 35–45% of all Vermonters; 45–55% of Vermonters 16+

Business Operations

4/9

Group A Sectors:
Move to required
universal guidance

Cross State Travel

4/9

No quarantine is required for unvaccinated visitors with a negative test within 3 days prior to arrival. Unvaccinated Vermonters must be tested within 3 days upon return to the state.



Masks and Physical Distancing

Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

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STEP 1 Group A Sectors

**Effective
April 9**

- ▶ **Outdoor Businesses**
- ▶ **Outdoor Recreation and Fitness**
- ▶ **Low or No Contact Professional Services**
- ▶ **Farmers Markets**
- ▶ **Retail Operations**
- ▶ **Lodging, Campgrounds, and Other Accommodations**
- ▶ **Religious Facilities and Places of Worship**

Note: All dates are subject to change.

Universal Guidance

1

Stay Home if Sick

Organizations must have policies in place to remind employees to stay home if they have [signs and symptoms of COVID-19](#). No symptomatic or COVID-19 positive workers are allowed on site. Unvaccinated employees who have not had COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have had close contact for more than 15 minutes with any person who is diagnosed with COVID-19 are required to quarantine for 14 days or for 7 days prior to obtaining a COVID-19 test. See the [Department of Health's guidance](#) for more information on work place exposures.

2

Wear a Mask

The State of Vermont currently has a [mask mandate](#) in place. All employees must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when in the presence of others. In the case of retail cashiers, a translucent shield or “sneeze guard” is acceptable in lieu of a mask if the employee works alone and does not interact with customers outside the workstation. Businesses, non-profit and government entities may decline service to individuals who are not wearing a mask. This includes refusing service to those who are exempt from the mask mandate, however, the business shall provide an alternate way for those unable to wear a mask to access the business, such as offering curbside pick-up, delivery, or other innovative solutions.

3

Ensure Six-foot Spaces and Uncrowded Places

Employees must observe strict social distancing of 6 feet while on the job. Businesses and non-profit or government entities must ensure customers observe strict social distancing of 6 feet while on location, to the extent possible. Employers are encouraged to use their best efforts to accommodate those workers who may have childcare needs which cannot be met due to the closure of schools or childcare facilities for reasons relating to COVID-19.

4

Practice Good Hygiene

Employees must have easy and frequent access to soap and water or hand sanitizer during the duration of work, and handwashing or hand sanitization is required frequently including before entering, and leaving, job sites. All common spaces (when open) and equipment, including bathrooms, frequently touched surfaces and doors, tools and equipment, and vehicles must be cleaned regularly and, when possible, prior to transfer from one person to another, in accordance with [CDC guidance](#).

5

Think Before You Travel

Follow the state's travel guidance and educate your employees and customers about the state's policies. Guests of lodging, campgrounds and other accommodations must complete a [Certificate of Compliance](#).

Note: All dates are subject to change.

STEP 2 VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE): 50–60% of all Vermonters; 60–70% of Vermonters 16+

Business Operations

5/1

Group B Sectors:
Move to required
universal guidance

Gathering and Events

5/1

Indoor: 1 unvaccinated person per 100 sq ft up to 150, plus any number of vaccinated people
Outdoor: 300, plus any number of vaccinated people



Masks and Physical Distancing

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STEP 2 Group B Sectors

**Effective
May 1**

- ▶ Restaurants, Catering, Food Service, Social Clubs and Bars
- ▶ Hair Salons and Barber Shops
- ▶ Close Contact Business like gyms and fitness centers
- ▶ Indoor Arts, Culture and Entertainment
- ▶ Meetings of Public Bodies
- ▶ Manufacturing and Distribution

Note: All dates are subject to change.

Events

Effective May 1, 2021

Indoors: One unvaccinated person per 100 square feet up to 150 unvaccinated people, plus any number of vaccinated people as Universal Guidance spacing allows.

Outdoors: 300 unvaccinated people, plus any number of vaccinated individuals as Universal Guidance and spacing allows.

Effective June 1, 2021

Indoors: One unvaccinated person per 50 square feet up to 300 unvaccinated people, plus any number vaccinated people as Universal Guidance spacing allows.

Outdoors: 900 unvaccinated people, plus any number of vaccinated individuals as Universal Guidance spacing allows.

**If an event has no way of determining if an individual is vaccinated, assume all are unvaccinated for capacity limit.*

**All events and gatherings must also follow the Universal Guidance including spacing requirements and mask mandates.*

Note: All dates are subject to change.

Event Capacity Calculation

Example: Large Indoor Arena with an event in May*

| | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| 1 | Determine room size: (length x width of room) | 30,000 |
| 2 | Determine # of Unvaccinated Guests possible based on current guidance | |
| a | square feet per person required for unvaccinated guests | 100 |
| b | Total number of unvaccinated guests based on square foot calculation (#1 divided by #2a) | 300 |
| c | Max number of unvaccinated permitted as of May 1 | 150 |
| d | Lessor of 2b and 2c above = total unvaccinated guests permitted | 150 |
| 3 | Determine # of Vaccinated Guests possible based on current guidance | |
| a | 6 feet of space per guest = 30 square feet (#1 / 30) | 1,000 |
| b | # of total unvaccinated guests (not to exceed 2d above) | 150 |
| c | # of total vaccinated guests (3a-3b) | 850 |
| Total guests: vaccinated and unvaccinated (3b + 3c) | | 1,000 |

Example: Small Indoor Banquet Room with an event in May*

| | | |
|--|--|------------|
| 1 | Determine room size: (length x width of room) | 7,500 |
| 2 | Determine # of Unvaccinated Guests possible based on current guidance | |
| a | square feet per person required for unvaccinated guests | 100 |
| b | Total number of unvaccinated guests based on square foot calculation (#1 divided by #2a) | 75 |
| c | Max number of unvaccinated permitted as of May 1 | 150 |
| d | Lessor of 2b and 2c above = total unvaccinated guests permitted | 75 |
| 3 | Determine # of Vaccinated Guests possible based on current guidance | |
| a | 6 feet of space per guest = 30 square feet (#1 / 30) | 250 |
| b | # of total unvaccinated guests (not to exceed 2d above) | 75 |
| c | # of total vaccinated guests (3a-3b) | 175 |
| Total guests: vaccinated and unvaccinated (3b + 3c) | | 250 |

* Event capacity guidance changes on June 1 to 50 square feet per unvaccinated guests up to 300 inside, and up to 900 unvaccinated guests outside.

Note: All dates are subject to change.

STEP 3 VACCINATION PROGRESS (FIRST DOSE): 60–70% of all Vermonters; 70–85% of Vermonters 16+

Cross State Travel

6/1

No quarantine or testing requirements

Gathering and Events

6/1

Indoor: 1 unvaccinated person per 50 sq ft up to 300, plus any number of vaccinated people

Outdoor: 900, plus any number of vaccinated people



Masks and Physical Distancing

Required when in the presence of those outside your household.

JULY 4

Business Operations

Universal guidance
encouraged for
all sectors

Gatherings and Events

No capacity
restrictions

Masks and Physical Distancing

Encouraged



Note: All dates are subject to change.

Specialized Guidance

At this time, the following will retain specialized guidance and not move to Universal Guidance.

- ▶ [8.2: Overnight Summer Camps and Limited Residential Summer College Programming](#)
- ▶ [9.1 Sports/Organized Sports Including Youth Leagues, Adult Leagues, Practices, Games, and Tournaments](#)
- ▶ [10.1: Occupancy Limits for Event Venues \(Weddings, Funerals, Parties, Concerts, Large Sporting Events\)](#) *(effective until May 1)*
- ▶ [11.1: College and University Campus Learning](#)
- ▶ [12.1: Ski Resorts](#) *(effective until end of winter operations)*
- ▶ [Health Care](#)
- ▶ [Education](#)
- ▶ [Childcare](#)

Note: All dates are subject to change.

Resources

Web Links

Vermont Forward Plan: State of Vermont
[vermont.gov/vermont-forward](https://www.vermont.gov/vermont-forward)

Universal Guidance: Vermont Forward Plan: Business Operations | Agency of Commerce and Community Development
accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/vermont-forward/business-operations#universal-guidance

Cross State Travel: COVID-19/TRAVEL | Vermont Department of Health
healthvermont.gov/covid-19/travel-quarantine

Gatherings and Events: Vermont Forward Plan: Gatherings and Events | Agency of Commerce and Community Development
accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/vermont-forward/events-and-gatherings

For Additional Questions

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