

DELAWARE'S STAY AT HOME ORDERS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS





FAQ: STAY AT HOME ORDER

Q: When do I need to start staying at home?

- The Stay at Home Order started Tuesday morning on March 24, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. and is scheduled to last until May 15, 2020, or until the public health threat is eliminated.

Q: What does the stay at home order mean?

- The Stay at Home Order requires that people remain in their homes or places of residence and avoid going out in public unless they are engaged in an “Essential Activity” or “Essential Travel.”

Q: Who ordered us to stay at home?

- Delaware’s Governor, John Carney, as part of several adjustments to ensure the public health during this pandemic.

Q: Why do we need the stay at home order?

- The Stay at Home Order is needed to reduce the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (also known as COVID-19) in Delaware. Unless we all take steps to reduce the spread of this illness, Delaware’s health care systems will have more sick people than they can care for. By staying home and reducing your activities, you can help reduce the rate of spread of this illness in Delaware and avoid overburdening our health care systems.

Q: What happens if I ignore the Stay at Home Order?

- People who violate an emergency order can be fined up to \$500 or subject to imprisonment for up to six (6) months for each violation.

Q: How long will the stay at home order last?

- The Stay at Home Order will last until May 15, 2020 or until the public health threat is eliminated.

Q: Can I leave my home or place of residence?

- Yes, but only for Essential Activities or Essential Travel. If you leave your home, you must still practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away from other people.
- If you do not live in Delaware, please see the sections on the out-of-state quarantine order below.

Q: What is social distancing?

- Maintain at least a six-foot distance from other people who are not in your household
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds as frequently as possible or use hand sanitizer



- Cover coughs or sneezes by sneezing into a tissue or your inner elbow (not your hands)
- Regularly clean high-touch surfaces
- Do not shake hands
- Follow all CDC recommendations available at <https://www.cdc.gov/>

Q: I am young and healthy. Do I need to follow social distancing?

- Yes. Unless we all take steps to reduce the spread of this illness, Delaware’s healthcare systems will have more sick people than our hospitals can support. While the symptoms are often less severe in the young, young and healthy people can become infected and transmit the virus to others. We need everyone to be cautious and practice social distancing.

Q: Do I need to stay 6 feet away from members of my household?

- No, social distancing is not required between members of the same household or one’s caregivers.

Q: What are “Essential Activities”?

- Essential Activities are activities that are necessary for you to maintain your health, and the health and wellbeing of your family members, including pets. Here are some examples of Essential Activities:
 - getting medical care and medical supplies, such as prescriptions
 - buying food, household supplies, and pet supplies
 - caring for family members, friends, or pets in other households
 - doing laundry at a laundromat or dry cleaner
 - exercising and going outside, such as walking, running, biking, fishing, or walking your dog

Q: What is “Essential Travel”?

- Essential Travel is any travel necessary for an Essential Activity. Here are some examples of Essential Travel:
 - travel to care for, or deliver supplies to, elderly persons, children, and people with disabilities
 - travel to purchase food and other household supplies
 - travel to care for pets
 - travel to schools and other educational institutions where the travel is necessary to receive materials for distance learning, receiving meals, or any other related services
 - travel necessary to return to your home or place of residence in Delaware
 - travel necessary to return to your home or place of residence outside of Delaware
 - travel to comply with a court order, including a custody agreement
 - travel to work for those businesses deemed essential to remain open

Q: Do I need special permission to drive on Delaware roads during the stay at home order?

- No, special permission or documentation is not required to drive in Delaware at this time.



Q: Can I go outside?

- Outdoor exercise like walking, running, hiking and fishing is allowed. When you are outside, you should still practice social distancing by running or walking at least six feet away from other people.

Q: Can I go to the park?

- Yes, but you should still practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away from other people.

Q: What about a playground?

- Most public playgrounds are closed and should be avoided. Additionally, you should avoid using basketball courts with other people, or using jungle gyms because they are not being wiped down between children who may climb on them. Remember, while exercising or playing outside, you should still practice social distancing by keeping six feet away from other people.

Q: Can I go to the beach?

- Yes, but only to exercise or walk your dog where dogs are permitted, and you should still practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away from other people. Many towns have closed areas near beaches, like boardwalks and parking lots.

Q. May I play golf or access my club or preferred golf course in Delaware?

- Yes, but only if you are a Delaware resident or have been in Delaware for over 14 days. You should still practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away from other people on the course or in the facilities.

Q: Can I go camping?

- No, Delaware campgrounds are closed at this time.

Q: My grandma wants to visit for social reasons. What should I tell her?

- Encourage her to stay home, call each other on the phone, or use FaceTime, Skype, or another video call option. Remember that you can travel to care for or deliver supplies to elderly persons, children, and people with disabilities, but not for social visits.

Q: Should I stock up on food and paper products?

- No. Grocery stores are open and are essential businesses. You are permitted to go to the store as needed to pick up what you need, including food, groceries, formula, and diapers, and toilet paper. Sellers have repeatedly indicated that there is plenty of supply and there is no reason to over-purchase.

Q: Is takeout and delivery from restaurants still available?

- Yes, takeout and delivery from restaurants is permitted in Delaware at this time.



Q: Can I hold a wake, a viewing, or a funeral?

- You should delay the service if at all possible. If the service must take place, it must be limited to less than 10 individuals and must be conducted with strict adherence to the guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, including proper hand hygiene and other social distancing requirements.

Q: Where can I find more information about the Stay at Home Order?

- Additional information about COVID-19 and the Stay at Home Order is available at: <https://news.delaware.gov/2020/03/22/governor-carney-issues-stay-at-home-order-for-delawareans>



FAQ: OUT-OF-STATE SELF-QUARANTINE ORDER

Q: I live in Pennsylvania, but I prefer to shop in Delaware. Can I continue to do so?

- No. You should shop in your home state.

Q: Can I travel from Maryland to work in Delaware?

- Yes, but only if you work for an essential business. If you can do your job remotely (from home), you should do so.

Q: Can I travel to Delaware for professional visits with my doctor or pharmacist?

- Yes.

Q: I live out-of-state, may I play golf or access my club or preferred golf course in Delaware?

- No.

Q: I recently came to Delaware, but I live in another state. Can I return home, or am I required first to self-quarantine in Delaware?

- You can return home now. You may be subject to similar self-quarantine requirements imposed by your home state.

Q: I live in Pennsylvania. Can I drop off groceries to my grandma in Delaware?

- Yes. Individuals traveling to care for a family member, friend, or pet in Delaware are not subject to the self-quarantine requirement.

Q: Can I cross state lines to make deliveries?

- Only if you are performing an essential business function or providing assistance or emergency services related to COVID-19.

Q: I live out-of-state. Can I visit my beach house in Delaware?

- You should remain in your primary residence. If you travel to Delaware to stay at your beach house, you must self-quarantine for fourteen (14) days upon arrival.

Q: I live in Pennsylvania. Am I permitted to travel on I-95 to get to work in Maryland?

- Yes. Motorists may pass through Delaware on their way to other states.

Q: How do I self-quarantine?

- If you are required to self-quarantine, you must stay in your residence unless you have a medical emergency or require medical care. You may not go to work, school or public areas or use public transportation. You should separate from other people in your residence as much as possible and avoid sharing personal items. You must follow any subsequent quarantine guidance issued by the CDC or the Delaware Division of Public Health.



Q: While in self-quarantine, can I go to the grocery store?

- No, loved ones or friends should do your shopping for you. You are only permitted to leave for essential medical appointments.



FAQ: TESTING AND SYMPTOMS

Q: How can I get tested for coronavirus?

- To be tested, a referral from your provider is required. (*Bayhealth patients will be pre-screened via phone without needing to see a provider first). Symptoms include: fever AND either cough OR difficulty breathing, body aches and sore throat. Contact your primary care provider if you have one. Those without a healthcare provider should call the DPH Call Center at 1-866-408-1899.
- **Further info:** <https://coronavirus.delaware.gov/testing/>

Q: What should I do if I think I have coronavirus symptoms?

- If you have a primary care provider, please call them for further information. If you do not have a health care provider, please call the DPH Call Center at 1-866-408-1899.

Q: Can I find out if someone I know or came in contact with tested positive for COVID-19?

- Due to restrictions in HIPAA and state privacy laws, the Division of Public Health is not permitted to provide that information.

Q: Can I go to my medical/behavioral health appointment?

- Call your provider before your appointment to see if they are still conducting appointments. Many providers offer telemedicine services, call them in advance to find out if this is a service they offer. If you are unwell, please let your provider know and follow their guidance.