

Washington, DC Reopening Status – as of Aug. 10, 2020

Destination DC, the official destination marketing organization for Washington, DC, is working in coordination with local officials and industry partners including the U.S. Travel Association, Events DC, the Hotel Association of Washington, DC, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington in line with guidance from the CDC to communicate current information and best practices.

Washington, DC Status

- You are [required to wear a mask](#) in DC when out with a few exceptions for vigorous exercise or while you're actively eating or drinking.
- As of July 27, visitors on **non-essential travel** from high-risk states are required to [self-quarantine for 14 days](#) upon arriving in Washington, DC.
 - The list of states is [online](#) and will be updated every two weeks (Maryland and Virginia are excluded).
 - As of Aug. 10, the states included are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin
 - States added: Alaska, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota
 - States removed: Delaware, Ohio, Washington
- If you are on **essential travel**, as defined by the Mayor's [March 30 order](#), you are required to self-monitor for symptoms and limit activities to the extent possible.
- [On July 29](#), the Mayor defined essential travel to include essential business and government activities, but not work conferences.
- As of June 22, Mayor Bowser has announced that Washington, DC is in Phase Two of reopening. (coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo)
- For the latest information, visit washington.org.
- In Phase 2:
 - Mass gatherings of **up to 50** are allowed
 - Restaurants may have **indoor dining** with **50% capacity** with 6 feet between tables (detailed guidance: [Restaurants](#))
 - **Museums**, galleries and the **National Zoo** may reopen with limited capacity of up to 50 people in enclosed rooms or exhibit spaces (detailed guidance: [Museums and Exhibits](#)). Tours are allowed with physical distancing.
 - **Hotels**: limited meetings are permitted; hotel restaurants may open in accordance with restaurant guidance (detailed guidance: [Hotel Accommodations](#))
 - **Theaters, cinemas** and **entertainment venues will remain closed** but may apply for a waiver to hold arts, entertainment or cultural events.
 - No live music permitted in July – from Mayor's office
 - Non-essential **retailers** may have patrons inside with **50% capacity**.
 - Non-essential **travel** outside the region remains discouraged (detailed guidance: [Travel](#))
 - Additional Phase 2 Guidance for the [General Public](#), [Public Transit](#) and [Shared Transit](#)
- To understand when DC is ready to move between stages, DC Health is monitoring "gating criteria," described further below.
- The Mayor is reviewing recommendations from ReOpen DC committees and will operationalize what the government will require in future phases by a Mayor's Order.

- Businesses should review a [restaurant and small business reopening checklist](#) prior to reopening.
- Metro will [restore most service](#) to pre-COVID-19 levels beginning Aug. 16. For current and future service hours, visit wmata.com. Face masks are required. Find additional local transportation information at [goDCgo](#).
- [Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority](#) COVID-19 information; beginning May 29, [face coverings are required](#) at Reagan National and Dulles International airports.
- [Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington](#) COVID-19 resources

Health-related Information

- For the latest data on COVID-19 cases in the District, visit coronavirus.dc.gov.
- DC Health [guidance for the general public](#)
- The Walter E. Washington Convention Center (WEWCC) is prepared as an [alternate care site](#) to help alleviate strain on DC’s hospital system on a month-to-month basis, and anticipated to remain through the fall. In coordination with Mayor Bowser’s office, HSEMA, DC Health and Events DC, the Army Corp of Engineers oversaw the construction. Mayor Bowser has stressed that the goal is to remain prepared, but to not have to use the Center in this way.

washington.org

Destination DC will be updating **washington.org** with the latest information on DC’s [travel status](#) and the safety protocols in place as the city begins to reopen. We encourage the local community to use **#DCtogether** to support local businesses and provide inspiration about the city. Content includes:

- [Coronavirus-Related Reopenings, Closures And Canceled Events In Washington, DC](#)
- [Things to do This Weekend: Stay Home Edition](#)
- [DC Hotels That Are Open](#)
- [DC Restaurant and Carryout Guide](#)
- [How to Show Your Support for DC & Local Businesses](#)
- [Virtual DC Museum Exhibits](#)
- [How to Enjoy Washington’s Iconic Food Scene from Home](#)
- [Washington, DC Zoom Backgrounds](#)
- [Ways to Stay Engaged With DC’s Sports Teams](#)
- [A DC Music Playlist to Satisfy Your Soul](#)

ReOpen DC Recommendations - Details

Q: What safeguards for Businesses and Employers are recommended?

A: Current recommendations are below. Note that a Mayor’s Order will define requirements.

- Physical distancing of at least 6 ft. for employees and patrons or other safeguards where not possible due to the nature of the service
- Stringent cleaning and sanitation standards in the workplace
- Health screenings and personal protective equipment for employees and patrons
- Protections for workers and their families who are fearful of illness, especially those from vulnerable populations
- Education of employees about COVID-19 Strategies for addressing and accommodating ill employees (e.g., paid sick and family leave)

Q: How will the city determine the opening stage?

A: To understand when DC is ready to move between the four stages of reopening, DC Health is monitoring “gating criteria” below. Meeting the criteria can move us to the next stage; deterioration can revert the city to an earlier stage.

- Level of community spread (e.g., low transmission rate)
- Healthcare system capacity (e.g., sufficient healthcare capacity without surge)
- Testing capacity (e.g., ability to test all priority groups)
- Public health system capacity (e.g., sufficient contact tracing capacity for all new cases and their close contacts)

Q: What are the recommendations submitted for each stage for businesses throughout the city?

A: For a detailed summary of businesses open throughout each stage, see the [reopening](#) information provide by Mayor Bowser by category. Note that these are currently recommendations before a Mayor's Order is signed.

[Faith, Arts, Culture, Hotels, Sports, and Entertainment](#)

[Open Spaces and Recreation](#)

[Restaurants and Food](#)

[Small Business and Retail](#)

[Transportation and Infrastructure](#)

Current Travel Recommendations:

Travelers should consult with the latest guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other officials. Resources include:

- CDC [advisories](#)
 - On [June 12](#), the CDC issued guidance that recommends taking the stairs at hotels or riding in elevators with only members of your household.
- U.S. Department of State [guidance](#)
- U.S. state health agencies [links](#)

Industry/Meetings Resources:

- U.S. Travel Association's comprehensive [information](#) for the travel industry
- CDC's [guide for businesses](#)
- PCMA [FAQs](#) and [recovery plan](#)

National/International Resources:

- [CDC travel notices](#)
- CDC COVID-19 [webpage](#)
- WHO COVID-19 [webpage](#)