COVID-19

Restaurants and Bars FAQs

Food Safety Program

How can each customer be 6 feet apart?
- Each group of people that arrive at the same time (up to 10 people) may sit together within 6 feet.
- Each separate party must sit 6 feet apart or have a physical barrier that goes above guests' heads while sitting or standing for proper protection. This is also applicable for bars and counter service areas.

What kind of physical barrier?
- Barrier must be smooth, nonabsorbent, and easily cleanable to be able to be properly disinfected. Ex: Plexiglas or painted wood.
- Businesses should also consult with their local fire and building department to ensure code compliance.

How can I eat and wear a face covering?
- Facial coverings/Masks are not required, only highly recommended for customers. Businesses can deny entry of customers with no masks.
- Facial coverings/Masks can be home made, scarf or cloth.
- Face shields cannot be worn alone, a facial covering/mask is required with the use of a face shield.

Who is responsible for policing the social distancing?
- Each business should assign a person, preferably in management, to address customers not complying and who need to keep 6 ft apart.

Does an employee need to wear a facial covering/Masks?
- Yes, unless:
  - Working with flames on equipment.
  - The employee works alone in an assigned work area.
  - Medical reasons.
- Businesses must provide written justification, upon request, explaining why an employee is not required to wear a facial covering/mask in the workplace.

What is the proper way to wear a face covering?
- At minimum, facial coverings/masks should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

Where can I find proper PPE?
- [https://repurposingproject.sharetribe.com/](https://repurposingproject.sharetribe.com/)

Where can I find the ServSafe training referenced in the Stay Safe Ohio Guidelines?
- [www.servsafe.com](http://www.servsafe.com)

Are buffets and other customer self-service operations open?
- No. Employees must serve customers while maintaining social distancing requirements.

We have garage doors on our building that open into dining area, can I open on the 15th?
- No. The opening on the 15th is for outdoor patios only.

Can we use our parking lot/drive way to extend our outdoor patio?
- Contact your city building/zoning department for approval.
When should we be cleaning our facility?
- Surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized between seatings and after use. Facilities must be cleaned daily with approved sanitizers and disinfectants.

What kind of sanitizer/disinfectant can I use?
- Quaternary ammonium or chlorine per manufacturer’s instructions.
- [https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2](https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2)

Do we need to keep a log book for employees Health Assessment?
- No, a log is not required to be maintained. It is recommended to maintain a log.

What symptoms do we need to look out for?
- Assess for symptoms and take your temperature with a thermometer to monitor for fever.
- Per the CDC, symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficult breathing, and two of the following: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headaches, sore throat and new loss of taste or smell.

What do we do if we have a confirmed or suspected case?
- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms while at work.
- Contact the local health district about suspected cases or exposures.
- Shutdown area for deep sanitation if possible.

Have hand washing requirements changed?
- Hand washing must occur as required in the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code.
- Recommend that hands should be washed at least every two hours for all employees.

What are high touch areas?
- e.g. door handles; light switches; phones, pens, touch screens.
- Need to be cleaned every two hours, and more frequently as needed.

Can we leave items on the tables?
- All self-service items should be removed from the tables. Ex. Condiments, vases, table tents, straws, stir sticks, etc.

Can we allow guests to use the pool table or other entertainment equipment?
- No. All open congregate areas in restaurants and bars must remain closed.
  - Billiards
  - Card Playing
  - Video Games
  - Arcade Games
  - Dancing
  - Entertainment areas such as Karaoke and dance floors

Where can I get a COVID-19 Symptom sign for our facility?
- [https://covid-19.myfcph.org/shareable-resources/#flyers](https://covid-19.myfcph.org/shareable-resources/#flyers)

Should all employees wear gloves?
- Glove should only be worn in situations where employees are required to be wearing gloves as outlined in the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code such as when handling ready-to-eat food items.