EXECUTIVE ORDER
2020-44

Adopting version 4.8 of the Phased Guidelines for the General Public and Businesses to Maximize Public Health and Economic Reactivation

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, I issued Executive Order 2020-1, declaring a state of emergency to facilitate the State’s response to novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19);

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Donald J. Trump, President of the United States, issued the Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to person, may result in serious illness or death, and has been characterized by the World Health Organization as a worldwide pandemic;

WHEREAS, the State must establish minimum standards to address a statewide emergency and recognizes the need for local authorities to impose directives and orders to address the unique circumstances in different locations in Utah;

WHEREAS, the Utah Department of Health has released and updated the Phased Guidelines for the General Public and Businesses to Maximize Public Health and Economic Reactivation, which provide a color-coded health guidance system comprising four levels of activity designated as Red (High Risk), Orange (Moderate Risk), Yellow (Low Risk), and Green (Normal Risk) (hereinafter, “Utah COVID-19 Health Risk Status”), where Red is most restrictive, and each level of guidance after Red becomes progressively less restrictive and more economically engaged while still protecting public health;

WHEREAS, the Utah Department of Health has updated the Phased Guidelines for the General Public and Businesses to Maximize Public Health and Economic Reactivation to version 4.8;

WHEREAS, the Utah Department of Health has determined that the Utah COVID-19 Health Risk Status set forth in Executive Order 2020-40 should be maintained to protect public health throughout the state;

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-209(1) provides that orders issued by the governor under Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 2, Disaster Response and Recovery Act, have the “full force and effect of law”;

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-204(1)(a) authorizes the governor to utilize all available resources of state government as reasonably necessary to cope with a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-204(1)(b) authorizes the governor to employ measures and give direction to state and local officers and agencies that are reasonable and necessary for the purpose of securing compliance with orders made pursuant to the Disaster Response and Recovery Act:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah, hereby order the following:


2. The Utah COVID-19 Public Health Risk Status is:
   a. Orange (Moderate Risk) in Salt Lake City;
   b. Green (Normal Risk) in Beaver County, Daggett County, Dukesene County, Emery County, Garfield County, Kane County, Millard County, Platte County, Uintah County, and Wayne County; and
   c. Yellow (Low Risk) in each area of the State not identified in Subsection (2)(a) or (2)(b).

3. The provisions of the Phased Guidelines apply as follows:
   a. An individual or business in an area identified in Subsection (2)(a) shall comply with the Orange (Moderate Risk) provisions of the Phased Guidelines;
   b. An individual or business in an area identified in Subsection (2)(b) shall comply with the Green (Normal Risk) provisions of the Phased Guidelines;
   c. An individual or business in an area identified in Subsection (2)(c) shall comply with the Yellow (Low Risk) provisions of the Phased Guidelines; and
   d. Notwithstanding any other provision of Section (3), any reference in the Phased Guidelines to the use of a mask or face covering is adopted:
      i. as an order for:
         A. each individual who is acting in the capacity as an employee of a business when the individual is unable to maintain a distance of six feet from another individual; and
         B. each individual in a healthcare setting; and
      ii. as a strong recommendation for any individual not identified in Subsection (3)(d)(i).

4. A political subdivision desiring an exception to this Order or the Phased Guidelines or desiring to move to Green (Normal Risk) shall submit the request and justification for the request through the applicable Local Health Department to the Utah Department of Health. The Utah Department of Health shall consult with the Office of the Governor as necessary.

5. This Order rescinds and replaces Executive Order 2020-40.

This Order is declared effective immediately and shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. on August 7, 2020, unless otherwise lawfully modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah, Done in Salt Lake City, Utah, on this, the 17th day of July, 2020.

(State Seal)

Gary R. Herbert
Governor
ATTEST:

Spencer J. Cox
Lieutenant Governor

2020/044/EO