



# **Reopening McPherson County Guidance Documents**

## **Phase 1**

McPherson County Health Department  
&  
McPherson County Local Health Officer

Effective May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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**RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS/CHURCH SERVICES  
GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

Phase 1 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS

- Make services virtually available when possible
  - Vulnerable and high-risk populations can still participate safely from home
- Offer various service times so the number of people in the facility is reduced at each in-person service
- Only allow the amount of people that can fit in your facility when spaced 6 feet apart
  - Pews could be roped off to support social distancing
  - Seating and tables should be spread out at least 6 feet with no more than 10 people that reside in the same household to a table or in an enclosed area at a time (like waiting areas, entrances, restrooms, offices, etc.)
- Sign-in log for who is present during specific dates and times
  - Name and phone number is helpful in case a positive COVID-19 case attended service during their infectious period and we need to contact anyone exposed to that person
  - This information does not need to be shared with McPherson County Health Department prior to any identification of exposure. This is personal information that should remain safe with trusted individuals unless a health concern arises.
- Suspend child programs until we reach Phase 2 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS
- Ask attendees and staff to wear face coverings or homemade masks when in the facility to reduce potential exposure by asymptomatic people
- Ask attendees and staff to stay home and seek medical care, if needed, if they have **any** symptoms of illness
- Consider suspending Communion services or modifying the service by ensuring religious leaders wash hands with soap and water and place the Communion elements in the recipient's hand, not their mouth.
  - Avoid using a common cup
  - Seek out individually packaged elements that are already sealed and in separate wrapping
- Use a stationary collection box, mail or electronic method to receive regular financial contributions instead of passing a collection tray
- Avoid visiting ill members in person in hospitals or members in long-term care facilities (facilities may continue to issue visitor bans throughout the pandemic, virtual visits may be available)

Please consider seeking guidance from verified, nationally recognized organizations like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment website ([coronavirus.kdheks.gov](https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov)).

If we see a local increase in cases and the public's safety and wellbeing is threatened, the above recommendations may change and become more restrictive. Communication about those changed recommendations would be released immediately.

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**LIBRARIES AND SIMILAR SERVICES  
GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

Phase 1 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS

- Look at implementing a phased approach
- Reach out to other local libraries to see what plans they've made
- Slowly bring staff back to work
  - Provide training on cleaning practices, proper utilization of facemasks, and guidance on what a slow opening looks like for the library
- No patrons or limited patrons by appointment in your building during the first phase
  - Appointments allow staff to properly clean the area the patron uses after they are done
- Encourage mail service, curbside pickup and delivery, and online ordering when possible
- Discourage patrons from bringing children inside the facility
- Encourage staff and patrons to wear cloth face coverings
- Require staff and patrons to stay home with **any** sign of illness and encourage them to seek medical care

Helpful resource link: <http://www.ala.org/>

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**NON-EMERGENT HEALTHCARE/SURGERIES/DENTISTRY  
GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

Recommendations from McPherson County Health Department are based on CDC, KDHE and other nationally recognized organizations that will be listed when referenced.

At any point if our healthcare system is impacted by a surge that cannot be managed effectively, the local health officer will put an order in place locally to restrict back all non-emergent services and elective surgeries so all professionals and resources are available.

Phase 1 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Recommendations
  - Maximize use of all telehealth modalities
  - Prioritize surgical/procedural care and high complexity chronic disease management
  - Establish Non-COVID (NCC) Zones
    - Screen everyone who enters these zones for symptoms and temperatures
  - Health providers and staff should wear facemasks at all times
  - Patients should be encouraged to wear cloth face coverings at all times
  - Staff who work in NCC Zones should be limited to that area only, not rotating into the COVID-19 Care Zones
    - For example, don't participate in Hospital rounds and then come to the NCC Zone
  - Minimize waiting times, space seating 6 feet apart, and maintain low patient volumes in the office at all times
  - Prohibit visitors unless necessary to patient care
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Recommendations
  - Reiterate CMS guidelines
  - Actively monitor the facility's Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supply numbers
  - Establish processes to identify contact exposures if a positive COVID-19 patient was in the NCC Zone while infectious
    - Utilize appointment schedules and staffing schedules
- American College of Surgeons
  - If and when available, rapid RT-PCR testing for COVID-19 should be a preoperative requirement
  - Establish postoperative guidelines for symptomatic patients
    - For example, atelectasis, fever, etc. aren't uncommon postoperatively
  - 30-day supply of PPE should be available before relaxing restrictions to non-emergent/elective surgeries
  - Healthcare providers and staff should wear facemasks at all times
  - Patients should be encouraged to wear cloth face coverings at all times
  - Schedule cases according to priority and group like-cases together to increase scheduling efficiency
  - Ensure that an elective procedure surge will not overwhelm the facility during preoperative, intraoperative, postoperative, and post-acute care phases
  - Consider the number of cancelled/postponed patients

- Consider facility capacity for usual level of emergency care needs
- American Dental Association/Kansas Dental Association
  - Screen patients over the phone prior to arriving at office
  - When arriving at office, screen patients for symptoms, recent travel and temperatures
  - Place barriers between office staff and patients
  - Remove seating in waiting areas to create distance of at least 6 feet
  - Remove magazines/toys/remotes from the waiting area
  - Healthcare providers and staff should wear facemasks at all times
  - Patients should be encouraged to wear cloth face coverings when not being operated on
  - Adhering to PPE recommendations is strongly recommended as dental procedures are high-risk for exposure between patient and provider
  - Screen staff for illness and require sick staff to go home, encourage them to seek medical attention if needed

Helpful resource links:

- <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>
- <https://www.facs.org/covid-19>
- [https://pages.ada.org/return-to-work-toolkit-american-dental-association?utm\\_campaign=covid-19-Return-to-Work-Toolkit&utm\\_source=adaorg-home-rotator&utm\\_medium=adahomerotator&utm\\_content=covid-19-interim-return-to-work](https://pages.ada.org/return-to-work-toolkit-american-dental-association?utm_campaign=covid-19-Return-to-Work-Toolkit&utm_source=adaorg-home-rotator&utm_medium=adahomerotator&utm_content=covid-19-interim-return-to-work)

Please consider seeking guidance from verified, nationally recognized organizations like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website (cdc.gov) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment website (coronavirus.kdheks.gov).

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**LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES/GROUP HOME SETTINGS/HOSPITALS/ETC.  
GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

Phase 1 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS

- Continue to restrict visitors except for end-of-life situations or extenuating circumstances that would be handled on a case-by-case basis
- Continue to restrict communal dining, group activities, or any other services that group patients/residents/clients together
- Staff continue to wear facemasks at all times, with additional levels of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when interacting with ill patients/residents/clients
  - Continuously monitor your PPE supply counts
  - Have policies and procedures in place for when counts are low and certain levels of conservation of PPE are initiated
- Continue to screen those entering the facility for symptoms of illness and temperatures, requiring sick staff to stay home
- Maintain staffing schedules that indicate patient/resident/client assignments so if a positive case is identified, contact tracing can be implemented quickly and efficiently
- Create policies and procedures for cohorting strategies if patients/residents/clients become ill and should be isolated away from everyone else
  - Identify a team that would only work with these groups to keep exposure away from the rest of the facility
- Continue to have open communication with your resident's or client's family

Helpful resource link: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/4220-covid-19-long-term-care-facility-guidance.pdf>

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**RESTAURANTS/BARS/FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS  
GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

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- Reservations or call-ahead system is highly encouraged to assure compliance of social distancing requirements
- Cannot allow a waiting line to form outside of doors
- Screen employees for symptoms of illness and temperatures, require them to stay home if **any** symptom of illness is present and encourage them to seek medical care if needed
- Require employees to wear cloth face coverings while at work
- Encourage customers to wear cloth face coverings while in your facility
- People with symptoms of illness should not be allowed to enter the facility or remain in the premises
- Cannot provide service at the bar counter, only at tables/booths that are appropriately distanced by 6 feet or more and/or physical barriers
- Cannot allow self-serve food or beverages per local order, including but not limited to salad bars, buffets and beverage dispensers
- Must comply with the industry's best practices available through the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Kansas Department of Agriculture, and the National Restaurant Association

Helpful resource link: <https://agriculture.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/guidance-for-re-opening-food-service-establishments.pdf>

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**RETAIL BUSINESSES**  
**GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

Phase 1 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS

- Screen employees for symptoms of illness and temperatures, require them to stay home if **any** symptom of illness is present and encourage them to seek medical care if needed
- Require employees to wear cloth face coverings while at work
- Encourage customers to wear cloth face coverings while in your facility
- Limit the number of customers in your facility based on how many can be safely monitored and socially distanced by at least 6 feet
  - Consider taping or roping sections off to direct flow of traffic in a way that would limit close contact between customers
- Shopping carts or baskets should be disinfected before use by staff
  - If not able to disinfect by staff, cleaning material like sanitation wipes should be made available for customers to use on their own
- If possible, a sign-in log for who is present during specific dates and times should be established
  - Name and phone number is helpful in case a positive COVID-19 case was in the facility during their infectious period and we need to contact anyone exposed to that person
  - This information does not need to be shared with McPherson County Health Department prior to any identification of exposure. This is personal information that should remain safe with trusted individuals unless a health concern arises.
- Owner is responsible for managing the crowd outside the store, assuring distancing is maintained
- Must comply with the industry's best practices available through the National Retail Federation and other reputable sources

Helpful resource link: <https://nrf.com/resources/retail-safety-and-security-tools/coronavirus-resources-retailers>

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**REAL ESTATE**  
**GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

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- Individual showings are allowed, provided that the limit to social gathering size is respected and social distancing is maintained at all times
- Encourage virtual communication when possible
- All individuals and agents should wear a cloth face covering
- Open houses are strongly discouraged during this phase
- Must comply with the industry's best practices, which can be found at the following links:
  - <https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/139/Guidance-for-Workers-WhoGo-Into-Homes-PDF---4-13-20>
  - <https://www.nar.realtor/coronavirus-a-guide-for-realtors>
  - <https://blog.alta.org/2020/03/title-settlement-companies-develop-safe-closing-protocols.html>

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**CHILDCARE**  
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- Outdoor activities are encouraged
- Perform hand hygiene with children and staff frequently, especially before and after play
- Perform enhanced cleaning daily, using products and procedures recommended by the CDC
- Children should be cared for in rooms of 10 or less with the same caregiver(s) each day placed into cohorts so that the same children are in the same room each day
- Barriers such as tape or rope should be used to direct traffic in a manner that discourages mixing of rooms, children, and families as possible
- Screen staff and children each day for any symptoms of illness and temperatures, exclude any staff or child with a temperature above 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Parents and caregivers should not enter the facility except for the time needed to drop off and pick up children
- McPherson County Childcare Licensing is managed by Saline County. For official recommendations, please reach out to them at 785-826-6600

Helpful resource link: <http://www.dcf.ks.gov/COVID19/Pages/default.aspx>

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**ANIMAL GROOMING SERVICES  
GUIDANCE FOR MCPHERSON COUNTY**

Phase 1 of Ad Astra: A Plan to Reopen KANSAS

- Services should be provided by appointment only
  - An appointment book would assist public health contact tracing if a positive case was identified
- Distancing should be maintained while dropping off/picking up the animal
  - Meet the customer outside to exchange the animal unless distancing can be maintained inside the facility
- Limit the number of individuals inside the facility at all times
- Screen employees for symptoms of illness and temperatures, require them to stay home if **any** symptom of illness is present and encourage them to seek medical care if needed
- Encourage employees to wear cloth face coverings while at work
- Frequently practice hand hygiene, especially before and after service is provided

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