

## Illinois Reopens to Phase IV

Importance to remember your CDC guidance

June 26, 2020

The State of Illinois and the City of Chicago has officially entered Phase IV of reopening from the coronavirus pandemic. While the new phase loosens restrictions on Illinois businesses, Governor J.B. Pritzker's is expecting residents to continue to follow his April 30 [Executive Order](#) to wear a face mask while in public, and follow [CDC sanitation and social distancing guidelines](#).

To allow businesses and organizations to prepare for Phase IV, Chicago's Mayor Lori Lightfoot, in partnership with CDPH, industry leaders, labor leaders, and public officials from around Chicago, [released an additional set of industry-specific guidelines](#) for businesses, employees, and customers to follow as the city moves into Phase IV. Industry-specific guidelines include details such as how businesses can encourage healthy interactions between workers and customers, how to maintain safe working spaces and conditions, and how to design and monitor workplace operations to create flexibility and maintain safety for employees and customers. To inform businesses of the new guidelines for Phase IV, the City of Chicago - Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) have [a series of educational webinars](#) available for newly reopening industries such as arts/performance venues, museums, health and fitness centers and personal services.

The "Restore Illinois" plan allows for the reopening of or expansion of several industries, including indoor dining at restaurants, health and fitness, movies and theaters, museums and zoos all with some level of restrictions. Health and fitness centers to reopen with the lesser of up to 50 people or 50% of overall room capacity. With this next phase we see the largest step for Illinois businesses since Governor Pritzker issued the "State At Home" order on March 20. Phase IV increases the size of gatherings to a maximum of 50 people and outdoor spectator sports may resume with no more than 20% of seating capacity. Newly revised guidelines for youth and recreational sports venues follow a similar restriction to operate at 50% of facility capacity and 20% seating capacity for spectators, with group sizes up to 50 however multiple groups are permitted during practice and competitive games given venues have space to appropriately social distance and can limit interaction between groups. Further concessions will be permitted with restrictions. Day camps may open with no more than 50% of facility capacity with group size of no more than 15 participants in a group, unless participants changing weekly.

Prior to workforce re-entry, all employers should review current guidelines and requirements of federal, state, and local regulatory departments and agencies and should have an infectious disease/pandemic plan in place and assess your workplace for needed controls and procedures. For further information see RHP authored COVID-19 documents, "[Preparing Workplaces for Re-Entry](#)", "[Cleaning & Disinfecting Amid COVID-19](#)", and "[Pandemic Infectious Disease Plan: Returning to a New Normal](#)".

*At RHP Risk Management, we help our clients navigate the uncertainties associated with environmental and occupational hazards and risks. Our staff of public health professionals are experienced and trained in recognizing, anticipating and controlling hazards. For more resources concerning COVID-19, visit <https://rhprisk.com/coronavirus/>*