

Coronavirus Protection Ordinance – provisionally valid until 15 September

How long is the Coronavirus Protection Ordinance in place?

The regulations of the Coronavirus Protection Ordinance have been extended. They are now in place until at least 15 September 2020.

When are regional adaptations to the spread of infection required?

The state government continues to strive to inhibit the spread of the infection with tailored, regional measures. A "coronavirus inhibitor" starting at 35 new infections within seven days, based on 100,000 residents (7-day incidence) is being introduced. As of this threshold the respective municipalities, the Landeszentrum Gesundheit and the respective district government will immediately take further concrete protective measures to inhibit the spread of the virus. Starting at a 7-day incidence of 50, additional protective measures must urgently be implemented. In these cases the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs must also be involved in the consultations.

Are there new regulations for accommodations?

If guests are coming from an area subject to a special, regional coronavirus ordinance due to an increased spread of the virus, these persons may only use hotels, inns, hostels, etc. under special conditions. For example, the guest must have a negative coronavirus test. This must have been conducted no sooner than 48 hours (starting with the time at which the test results are known) before arrival. Note: Accommodation for obligatory occupational or other pertinent travel reasons (visiting relatives or life partner, etc.) is not subject to this regulation.

Will the mask requirement be extended?

Yes, until 15 September 2020 for the time being.

Where does the mask requirement apply?

Mouth and nose protection must be worn in all commercial, cultural and recreational facilities with public and customer traffic, as well as on public transit, but also in medical practices and similar healthcare facilities. Note: Anyone who disregards the mask requirement will be prohibited from using the respective services and entering the respective premises.

Are there exemptions from the mask requirement?

Yes, the mask requirement does not apply to children who are not yet of school age. Persons who cannot wear mouth or nose covering for medical reasons are also exempt from the mask requirement. Furthermore, the mask can be temporarily put away for specific reasons, such as to communicate with persons who are deaf or have a hearing impairment.

Will the checks and punishments for violations of the mask requirement be expanded?

Yes, mask violations on public transit are punished with a fine of 150 euros as a direct administrative offence. In other cases, violators are fined 50 euros.

What do the contact ban regulations mean?

Groups of no more than ten people can still meet in public. This maximum number of people does not apply to direct relatives or people from two different households. The general distance requirement of 1.5 metres remains in place, as does the obligation to wear mouth and nose protection in certain areas.

Do the distance requirements also apply in the voting rooms during the municipal election?

Yes. The 1.5 metre distance requirement, and the obligation to wear mouth and nose covering, apply in the voting rooms and queues outside them. Only voting assistants may abstain from wearing mouth and nose protection in the voting office if they are able to adhere to the minimum distance from all other persons.

A question for people with disabilities: Can they be accompanied to meetings with other groups of people by their helper or a caretaker?

Yes. A helper may be present with the allowed number of persons or households if you require assistance.

How is simple and special traceability defined?

In the event of an infection with the coronavirus, the contact information of persons whom the patient met with must be reported to the health authorities. Hosts, landlords, facility operators, company owners, etc., must record in writing the name, address, telephone number, and (if applicable) time of the stay for all visitors, with their consent, and securely store these data for four weeks. These data must be secured against unauthorised access and completely destroyed after four weeks have passed. This is known as "simple traceability".

"Special traceability" involves all of the aforementioned data in addition to a seating chart that shows where which person sat. There is no obligation to create such a seating chart. However, a minimum distance between seats may be disregarded at certain events if a seating chart is created. If this option is utilised, the seating chart must also be stored for four weeks.

What regulations apply to events and gatherings?

Events and gatherings with up to 300 participants may only take place if suitable precautions are taken with regard to hygiene, controlling access, and ensuring a minimum distance of 1.5 metres (including in queues). Simple traceability must also be ensured, except outdoors. If

participants are sitting at assigned seats during the event, the minimum distance does not have to be adhered to (with assurance of special traceability). The mask requirement applies indoors when not at one's seat.

Events with more than 300 participants require a special hygiene and infection protection concept.

Large festivities will remain prohibited until 31 December 2020; these include fairs, carnivals, city/village/street fairs, shooting matches, and wine festivals, among others.

What regulations apply to social events such as weddings?

The 150-person limit still applies. For safety reasons, any staff on site (bartenders, technicians, etc.) must wear masks indoors and outdoors, but are not counted among the 150 people.

Are there new regulations for events with 500 people or more?

For events with more than 500 people, the hygiene concept that has been mandatory up to this point must also explicitly state that the arrival and departure of such a large number of people are possible with adherence to infection prevention requirements, e.g. that the public transit will not be overwhelmed by the additional number of passengers.

Are there new regulations for events with 1000 people or more?

More than 1000 people may only come together if the event location is occupied at no more than one third of its normal capacity. This means that 1000 people may only convene at locations that are intended for at least 3000 people. This rule applies accordingly to higher numbers. The limit of 300 spectators still applies to sporting events. There is also a new state-wide regulation stating that, as of a threshold value of 1000 people, the event must first be authorised not only by the municipal authorities but also by the state. This is because such large events are typically more than just locally relevant. The municipal authorities coordinate such matters with the state.

Can event spaces be occupied in accordance with their normal capacities?

It depends. For events with more than 1000 people, the venue must be occupied at no more than one third of its normal capacity. This means that 1000 people may only convene at locations that are intended for at least 3000 people. This rule applies accordingly to every venue. The limit of 300 spectators still applies to sporting events.

Are there special regulations for cultural events?

Similar regulations apply to other events: special precautions concerning hygiene, controlling access, basic minimum distance, permanent and sufficient ventilation of the space, ensuring simple traceability, and (if applicable) the mask requirement must be put in place. Starting at

more than 300 spectators, the event is only permissible on the basis of a special hygiene and infection prevention concept.

What regulations apply to community and recreational sports?

Engaging in sports and training on and in public or private sporting facilities, as well as in public, is possible under certain conditions. These include suitable precautions concerning hygiene, controlling access, and ensuring a minimum distance of 1.5 metres, including in showering, washing and changing areas. Good ventilation must also be ensured for indoor sports.

Are contact sports permitted now?

Yes. As of 15 July, groups of up to 30 people can engage in contact sports indoors, just as groups of 30 people can engage in contact sports outdoors. Simple traceability must be ensured.

As of 15 July up to 300 spectators can also enter sporting facilities, but only if simple traceability of personal data is ensured. Sporting festivals and similar sporting events are prohibited until at least 31 December 2020.

What regulations apply to physical education?

Contact sports are also permitted in physical education. Swimming lessons are allowed as well.

Are athletic competitions permitted now?

Yes, competitions in community and recreational sports, as well as elite sports (excluding professional sports), are allowed pending adherence to precautions concerning hygiene, infection prevention, controlling access and ensuring a minimum distance of 1.5 metres. Special regulations apply to professional sports that authorise professional leagues as well as horse riding and horse racing competitions under certain conditions.

As of 15 July up to 300 spectators have been allowed to enter sporting facilities during matches, but only with ensured simple traceability of personal data. Sporting festivals and similar sporting events are prohibited until at least 31 December 2020.

Can spas, saunas and swimming pools reopen?

Yes, wellness facilities, water parks and swimming pools have been able to reopen since 15 June. Saunas and similar facilities may reopen. These wellness services may also be used once more in accommodation facilities. The respective hygiene and infection prevention regulations must be adhered to.

Can canteens and university dining halls reopen?

Yes, public canteens and dining halls have been able to open since 15 June, and are subject to hygiene and infection prevention requirements.

What relaxations are being put in place for commerce?

Relaxations have also been in place for area-based access monitoring in commercial areas since 15 June. This will be expanded from one person per ten square metres to one person per seven square metres of the sales area of the respective shop.

Does this apply in museums and exhibits as well as zoos?

Yes, in these areas the visitor limit will also be expanded from one person per ten square metres to one person per seven square metres.

Can bars reopen?

Yes, bars have been allowed to reopen since 15 June, pending certain requirements.

What about clubs, night clubs and brothels?

Clubs, night clubs and similar facilities remain closed. Sex work services within and outside of prostitution facilities, brothels and similar facilities remain prohibited.

Can casinos reopen?

Yes, casinos have been able to resume full operations since 15 June.

What regulations apply to food service?

A maximum of ten people can still sit at one table, as can people from two households or direct relatives. Suitable precautions pertaining to hygiene, access controlling, ensuring a minimum distance of 1.5 metres, and traceability must be taken, the details of which can be found in the respective hygiene and infection prevention standards. As of 15 July food service facilities can also host parties (e.g. wedding parties, milestone birthdays) with up to 150 people.

Can I play darts or billiards at the pub?

Yes, pending certain requirements: the contact surfaces must be regularly cleaned and disinfected, and guests must wash and disinfect their hands before use.

What regulations apply to shisha bars?

Shisha pipes must not be used by multiple people at once, and can only be used in conjunction with disposable mouthpieces and hoses that can be disposed of, and only with complete, permanent ventilation of the areas.

Is grilling allowed now?

Yes, grilling is allowed in public places and facilities. The contact restrictions (only groups of up to 10 people, close relatives, people from two different households) must be followed.

Can flea markets and jumble sales be held?

Yes, these are allowed pending a special hygiene and infection prevention concept.