



# BACP

# NOTICE: STATEWIDE CLOSURE OF RESTAURANTS AND BARS

All bars and restaurants in the state of Illinois will be closed to the public, beginning at the close of business Monday, March 16th through Monday, March 30th following Governor JB Pritzker's latest action to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. The Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) is working in close partnership with Chicago's restaurant owners and entrepreneurs on how they can continue to serve our residents during this difficult time, including ensuring kitchens can safely remain open by implementing food delivery, drive-thru and carry out at local establishments.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and this document will be updated regularly with new guidance and answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) impacts on the food industry. For up-to-date health guidance, please visit [www.chicago.gov/coronavirus](http://www.chicago.gov/coronavirus).

## ★ WHAT TIME IS END-OF-BUSINESS ON MONDAY FOR BARS AND RESTAURANTS?

- The mandated closure goes into effect at 9:00pm on Monday, March 16, 2020.

## ★ ARE PATRONS ALLOWED TO ENTER THE RESTAURANT TO PICK-UP FOOD AND/OR ORDER AND THEN LEAVE?

- Residents will be permitted to enter a restaurant to order food and then immediately leave upon receiving the food. Restaurant and bar owners are responsible to ensure social distancing policies are in place and that people do not congregate inside or outside. Sidewalk cafes must be closed.

## ★ WHAT TYPES OF ESTABLISHMENTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE MANDATED BAR AND RESTAURANT CLOSURE?

- Are movie theaters, bowling alleys and other entertainment venues covered by the closure?
  - The statewide closure applies to all restaurants or services that provide on-site consumption of food or beverages, including concession stands.
- Can food trucks still operate?
  - Yes, the statewide closure does not apply to City-licensed food trucks or mobile food vehicles. However, the Chicago Department of Public Health guidance on social distancing should be maintained and lines should not be permitted.
- Can residents still go to coffee shops or cafes?
  - Coffee shops and cafes are considered restaurants. There should be no onsite consumption of food or beverages at coffee shops or cafes. Delivery, drive-thru or carry-out will be permitted.
- Can residents still go to grocery stores or bakeries?
  - Bakeries and grocery stores can allow customers to enter and buy food to go. No onsite consumption of food or beverage is permitted.
- How about cafes, coffee bars, ice cream counters and other establishments that are operating within grocery stores?
  - These locations are considered restaurants as they serve on-site consumption of food or beverages. Food can only be sold to-go and for carry-out at these locations.

## ★ CAN BARS AND RESTAURANTS CONTINUE WITH PRIVATE EVENTS?

- All private events taking place at bars or restaurants are required to be postponed or cancelled as a result of the statewide mandate.

## ★ WILL CATERING STILL BE PERMITTED?

- Restaurants with valid catering licenses can provide food for delivery or customer pick up.

## ★ ARE AIRPORT CONCESSIONS INCLUDED IN THE BAN?

- In order to ensure the availability of food for travelers, food concessions at O'Hare and Midway Airport are exempt from the ban. However, the Chicago Department of Aviation is taking steps to ensure social distancing policies are in place at our airports to protect the health and safety of Chicago residents and visitors.



City of Chicago  
Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection

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