



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Public Health

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FAQ: Events and Gatherings

Q: What size gathering is allowed under current rules?

A: Current state and local rules prohibit gatherings of any size. This prohibition includes professional, social, and community meetings or events that bring together persons from multiple households in a single room, space, or place, such as auditorium, stadium, arena, room, meeting hall or other indoor or outdoor space. Gatherings pose an especially high danger of transmission and spread of COVID-19.

There are a few very specific exceptions to the prohibition on gatherings. These include allowances for faith-based services as well as cultural ceremonies and protests (for weddings and funerals, see below). Faith-based, cultural, and protest gatherings are permitted outdoors as long as face coverings are required and physical distancing of 6 feet is maintained at all times. Indoor faith-based services, cultural ceremonies, and protests are NOT allowed at this time. **All other gatherings are prohibited until further notice, except as otherwise specifically permitted in state public health directives (including in applicable industry guidance).**

Q: Can I have some family and friends outside my immediate household over to visit? Or can I visit them?

A: Visiting friends and family and having visitors is not allowed under the current guidance. Even small at-home gatherings have been linked to increased COVID-19 transmission. No gatherings outside of the immediate household are allowable at this time. If it is absolutely necessary to gather with people from outside your household, for example for a wedding ceremony, memorial ceremony, or protest, you must stay outside, stay six feet apart, and ensure all participants wear a mask.

Remember, non-essential travel is still not allowed in California. Do not encourage people from out of the area to travel to Inyo County, and do not travel to other areas to visit others.

Q: Can we hold drive-in events?

A: The State of California and Inyo County Health Officer have determined that drive-in events are permissible at this time, as long as all public health precautions are taken, social distancing is maintained, and only members of the same household are in the same car. During drive-in events, attendees are expected to stay inside their vehicle unless expressly permitted to sit next to or on their vehicle, or in a truck bed. Masks must be worn anytime attendees are outside of their vehicle and social distancing cannot be maintained.

Attendees may not line up or congregate to purchase food or other items. Vendors may circulate to sell goods directly to persons in and around their vehicles, but must maintain face covering and social distancing at all times. Vehicles must be parked far enough apart to allow for walking between vehicles with at least 6

feet social distancing in all directions. Staff, vendors, and participants must be able to maintain physical distancing at all times.

Bathrooms must be available during drive-in events, provide hygiene products, and must be cleaned regularly according to [CDC guidelines](#). All Drive-In event planners must submit a complete plan for approval by Public Health.

Q: Can I hold events with live music/live theater/other entertainment?

A: Events with a live audience are not permissible at this time. Drive-in events, as described above, may be permissible with the approval of Public Health. Performances may be broadcast for home viewing or offered as a drive-in event. Live Theater, music, and other entertainers are expected to wear masks and physically distance while performing.

Q: Can I hold a wedding in Inyo County?

A: Wedding **ceremonies** (religious or non-religious) are permitted outdoors, and must follow the [COVID-19 Guidance for Place of Worship](#). This guidance specifies that the capacity of outdoor venues are limited by the available outdoor space that permits six feet social distancing between all guests. Outdoor wedding ceremony plans must be submitted to Public Health for approval.

Other requirements around cleaning, disinfecting, social distancing, facial covering, chanting and singing, and other rituals are included in the Guidance for Places of Worship.

Wedding receptions/parties are not permitted at this time. When gatherings and receptions will be permitted will depend on public health metrics and cannot be predicted in advance.

Q: Can I hold a funeral/memorial service?

A: Similar to weddings, above, memorial **ceremonies** (religious or non-religious) are permitted following the [Places of Worship guidance](#). The same rules apply for memorial ceremonies as for weddings. No parties, receptions, wakes, or celebrations of life are allowed at this time.