

## **Actions to Combat Increase in COVID-19**

*Updated November 12, 2020*

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Linn County Public Health has sought to recommend action and practices based on available data and best practice research. This included recommended safety practices for keeping our community safe while continuing to support businesses, restaurants, and schools in the county. At this time, Linn County Public Health is recommending additional actions be taken to address the significant increase in COVID-19 cases in Linn County. This guidance outlines recommended actions across three tiers. The following health metrics are used to determine when the spread of the virus requires additional restrictive actions be taken or loosened.

### What could cause a recommendation for more restrictive actions be taken?

- Statistically significant increase in new cases over 7 days
  - **And**, one of the following:
    - Sustained 7-day increase in hospital admissions for COVID-19 illness
    - Reduction in hospital capacity (ICU capacity or medical surgical beds under 20%)
- OR**
- Test positivity rate greater than or equal to 8% over three consecutive days

**Actions:** Once Linn County meets the criteria above for more restrictive action, the following tiered guidance will be considered for recommended action. Tier 1 to 3 goes from most restrictive to least. All criteria listed under tier 3 applies as guidance is more restrictive. Movement across the tiers may fluctuate as the data is being monitored.

Setting	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
<b>General Guidance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require the use of masks or cloth face coverings in public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals should limit interaction with non-household members including during holiday's and special events</li> <li>Limit travel out of state</li> </ul>	<p>All previous guidance applies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals 65 and older and those with underlying health conditions stay home, as able</li> <li>Maintain physical distance of 6 foot or more from non-household members</li> <li>Wear a mask when in public or when physical distancing is not possible</li> <li>Wash hands often, cover cough, stay home when ill</li> <li>Clean frequently touched surfaces</li> </ul>
<b>Mass Gatherings &amp; Social Events</b> Including weddings, funerals, potlucks, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum indoor/outdoor gathering size of 10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit indoor/outdoor gatherings to the lesser of 25 or 25% of room capacity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit indoor/outdoor gatherings to the lesser of 50 or 50% of room capacity</li> </ul>
<b>Bars &amp; Restaurants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote carry-out only service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No ordering, seating, or congregating at the bar</li> <li>No seating of multiple parties at a single table</li> <li>Limit seating capacity to 50%.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tables and groups positioned at least 6 foot apart</li> <li>No standing or congregating indoors or at entrance/exits</li> <li>Customers should remain masked until seated</li> </ul>
<b>Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institute remote work practices for all non-essential workers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote telework for as many workers as possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stagger workstations/employees to allow for 6 foot physical distancing</li> <li>Screen onsite employees for COVID-19 symptoms</li> <li>Encourage employees to telework, if possible</li> </ul>
<b>Retail</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointment only personal services</li> <li>Limit groups to household members only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure 6 foot separation between client groups</li> <li>Limit occupancy of indoor facilities to allow for 6 foot separation</li> <li>Require patrons wear mask when in the establishment</li> </ul>