



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 21-005

Rescinding Executive Directives and Lifting Certain COVID-19 Restrictions

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order 103, declaring the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App A:9-33 et seq., in the State of New Jersey for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Emergency was extended by Governor Murphy under subsequent Executive Orders and remains in effect to date; and

WHEREAS, Governor Murphy announced a multi-stage New Jersey's Road Back Plan (the "Plan") for the methodical and strategic reopening of businesses and activities based on scientific data and metrics concerning the level of disease transmission risk and essential classification; and

WHEREAS, in line with the Plan, the State has been able to relax a number of restrictions, each time tailored to the relative risk the activity presents, and additional

restrictions on activities and businesses have been lifted over the past several months;
and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2021, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 242, which, subject to certain exceptions, lifted COVID-19 restrictions, including but not limited to masking, social distancing and capacity limits; and

WHEREAS, given the decreasing rate of reported new cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, including a reduction in the total number of individuals being admitted to hospitals for COVID-19, and given the availability of and increasing number of COVID-19 vaccination doses administered, it is appropriate to relax some of the restrictions and limitations that were placed on certain activities and businesses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDITH PERSICILLI, Commissioner of the DOH, pursuant to the powers afforded to me under the Emergency Health Powers Act, hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** the following:

1. The following Executive Directives (EDs) are hereby **rescinded**:
 - **ED Nos. 20-019 and 20-030** – Health and Safety Standards for Indoor Dining
 - **ED Nos. 20-014 and 20-019** – Health and Safety Standards for Outdoor Dining
 - **ED No. 20-029** – Health and Safety Standards for Outdoor and Indoor High-Touch Amusement and Recreation Activities
 - **ED No. 20-031** – Standards for Pools & Aquatic Recreation Facilities
 - **ED No. 20-015** – COVID-19 Protocols for Tanning Facilities & Body Art Establishments
 - **ED No. 20-028** – Guidelines for Health Clubs, Gyms and Fitness Centers

Although the above-listed EDs are no longer in effect, businesses must continue to follow applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders, and are encouraged to follow applicable guidance documents issued by the Department of Health. Business are strongly encouraged to consult available public health protocols for best practices.

This Directive shall take effect immediately.



Date: May 28, 2021

Judith M. Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A.
Commissioner