



NEWS ADVISORY  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2020

## State Announces Guidelines for Non-Essential Retail Businesses

AMARILLO, TX – Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has authorized the reopening of retail businesses that follow guidelines from the Texas Department of State Health Services. The governor's related executive order is effective beginning Friday (April 24). The guidance applies to employers, employees and customers of reopened retail businesses in the state of Texas. This guidance does not apply to businesses considered essential.

**Note to media:** A news release from the Texas Department of State Health Services is included as an attachment.

**For employees returning to work:** All employees must be trained on environmental cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette. All employees must be screened before coming into the business for new or worsening cough; shortness of breath; sore throat; loss of taste or smell; feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit; or known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Any employee who meets any of these criteria should be sent home. Upon entering the business, employees must wash or sanitize hands. All employees must wear face coverings. Employees must maintain at least 6 feet separation from one another.

**For customers:** Customers may purchase items from a retail location for pickup, delivery by mail, or delivery to the customer's doorstep, but may not enter the premises.

**For retail to-go:** All payments should be done by phone or internet, if possible, and contact should be minimized if remote payment is not available. Purchased items should be delivered by the employee to the backseat or trunk of the customer's vehicle whenever possible to minimize physical contact with the customer. Employees must wash or sanitize their hands after each interaction with a customer, and whenever possible, must disinfect any item that came into contact with the customer.

**Doorstep delivery:** All payments should be done by phone or internet, if possible, and contact should be minimized if remote payment is not available. Purchased items should be delivered by an employee or third-party carrier and delivered to the customer's doorstep. The employee or third-party carrier may not enter the customer's house or business.

**Retail delivery by mail:** All payments must be done over the phone or internet. Purchased items should be delivered by mail without customer contact. The customer should wash or sanitize their hands after the transaction.

For more information, contact City of Amarillo Communications Manager David Henry at (806) 378-5219 or david.henry@amarillo.gov.

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