



Health, Housing & Community Services Department
Public Health Officer

**ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER
OF THE CITY OF BERKELEY FOR THE CONTROL OF COVID-19**

Public Health Emergency Isolation Order

Date Order Issued: July 31, 2020

This Order is in effect until rescinded in writing by the Health Officer.

SUMMARY OF THE ORDER

California is in a State of Emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a substantial danger to the health of the public within the City of Berkeley. COVID-19 can easily spread between people who are in close contact with one another. This Order is issued based on scientific evidence and best practices as currently known and available to protect vulnerable members of the public from avoidable risk of serious illness or death resulting from exposure to COVID-19. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the City of Berkeley places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Although some individuals who contract COVID-19 do not have severe symptoms, persons with COVID-19 with mild symptoms or who are asymptomatic may place other vulnerable members of the public at significant risk. Currently, there is no vaccine available to protect against COVID-19 and no universally effective treatment for its symptoms.

To help slow COVID-19's spread, protect vulnerable individuals, and prevent the healthcare system in the City of Berkeley from being overwhelmed, it is necessary for the City of Berkeley Public Health ("Public Health") to require the isolation of persons with COVID-19.

This Order has been updated to reflect Centers for Disease Control guidance on the [Duration of Isolation and Precautions for Adults](#) with COVID-19 released on July 22, 2020. This Order supersedes the Public Health Emergency Isolation Order issued on July 15, 2020.

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND
SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101475 AND 120175, THE CITY OF BERKELEY
HEALTH OFFICER ORDERS:**

All individuals who have been diagnosed with or are likely to have COVID-19 must isolate themselves. These persons are required to follow all instructions in this Order and the Public Health guidance documents referenced in this Order.



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Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code §§ 120220, 120295.)

ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS DIAGNOSED WITH OR LIKELY TO HAVE COVID-19

All individuals who have been diagnosed with or are likely to have COVID-19 must immediately take the following actions:

1. **Isolate themselves in their home or another residence** until: (a) at least 24 hours have passed since recovery, defined as a resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of any COVID-19 related symptoms as defined by the [CDC](#) (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, **AND** (b) at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or when tested positive in an asymptomatic case, whichever is later. Until this time, they may not leave their place of isolation or enter any other public or private place, except to receive necessary medical care.
2. Carefully review and closely follow all requirements listed in the “Home Isolation Instructions for People with Coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19) Infection and People Awaiting COVID-19 Test Results,” which is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
3. Tell others who live in their residence and all other persons who were in close contact with them two days prior and while they were symptomatic or diagnosed that they need to quarantine themselves. Refer them to the “Home Quarantine Guidance for Close Contacts to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)” document, which is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). This document describes steps that household contacts, intimate partners, and caregivers must take to prevent spread of COVID-19. This is necessary because these close contacts have likely been exposed to COVID-19 and if infected, can easily spread COVID-19 to others, even if they have only mild symptoms.

Individuals are required to isolate themselves because they have or are likely to have COVID-19.

This determination is based on one or more of the following factors:

1. A positive lab test for the coronavirus known as COVID-19;



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2. Signs and symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days of being in close contact with a person who had or was believed to have had COVID-19;
OR
3. A health care provider has informed the individual that they are presumptively positive for COVID-19.

These persons are required to self-isolate because a person infected with or likely to have COVID-19 can easily spread the virus to others.

Isolated individuals must isolate themselves in a residence and follow all directions in this Order until they are no longer at risk for spreading COVID-19 based on the following criteria:

1. At least 24 hours have passed since recovery, defined as resolution of both fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of cough, shortness of breath and other symptoms; **AND** at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms started or date of diagnosis (*e.g.*, the date a lab test was conducted) if asymptomatic, whichever is later;
OR
2. Individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been informed that they are presumptively positive for COVID-19 are no longer required to self-isolate if they receive a negative lab test that confirms they are not infected with COVID-19.

Persons experiencing homelessness are required to comply with this Order where a location is available for them to safely isolate themselves from other individuals, but are exempt from this Order if no such location is available.

The Health Officer may take additional action(s), which may include civil detention or requiring one to stay at a health facility or other location, to protect the public's health if an individual who is subject to this Order violates or fails to comply with this Order. Violation of this Order is also a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment, fine or both.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Date: 07/31/2020

Lisa B. Hernandez, MD, MPH
Health Officer, City of Berkeley