

Safer-at-Home Order Updates
Health Director Update - September 4, 2020

Good Afternoon, Durham, I'm Rod Jenkins, Director of the Durham County Department of Public Health. This week there have been changes to the state and local safer-at-home orders. Governor Roy Cooper has ordered that the state move into Phase 2.5 of the order, and today, our local leadership has ordered that Durham County will do the same. Phase 2.5 will allow additional venues to open, change limits on group gatherings, and more. There are some things that will stay the same. In today's video, I will go over a few key points.

So what's new? Within this update, mass gathering limits are increased from 10 people indoors to 25. The limits outdoors have increased from 25 people outdoors to 50. Social distancing guidelines should still be followed.

Additionally, playgrounds may open, and museums and aquariums may open at 50% capacity. Fitness and competitive physical activity facilities may also open, at 30% capacity. These facilities include gyms, basketball courts, yoga studios, bowling alleys, skating rinks, and more. These facilities must follow specific safety protocols in addition to limiting the number of individuals inside. These protocols include but are not limited to ensuring individuals and fitness machines remain 6 feet apart and implementing frequent sanitation.

What's staying the same in this update? As usual, face masks are required. This requirement is included within fitness facilities except while engaged in strenuous exercise. What else is the same? Indoor entertainment venues that are not fitness facilities are still closed. These include bars, night clubs, movie theaters, amusement parks, and more. Clearly not fitness facilities.

For a full list of what's open and what's closed, and to read the full order, visit [NCDHHS.gov](https://www.ncdhhs.gov). These changes will go into effect today, September 4, at 5 pm. This update is being made as we are seeing progress in slowing the spread of COVID-19. If this trend is reversed and cases begin increasing quickly, our elected leadership will consider returning to a previous phase of the order if needed. So remember Durham, as you head into this holiday weekend and beyond, be proud of the progress we have made! Continue to make smart choices to protect yourselves and others. If you choose to be out in the community or around friends and loved ones, remember to wear your face covering and try to stay at least 6 feet from others. By continuing to make smart

decisions, we can continue to see our community open even more, and we can put COVID behind us. We can do this, Durham!