



Chambers County, Texas

GA-26 Summary and FAQ

June 4, 2020

Below is a brief summary of Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order GA-26, as well as a FAQ to answer questions that may arise. This summary is provided for convenience only. Visit gov.texas.gov to read the Governor's full Order.

Please note, pursuant to Section 418.016(a) of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has dictated that this order supersedes any orders issued by local officials in response to COVID-19. As such, Chambers County can only provide the information located in the Executive Order and cannot interpret the rules laid forth below.

1. Every business in Texas is permitted to operate at up to 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the establishment, with the exceptions listed below:
 - a. There is no occupancy limit for:
 - i. Any US Department of Homeland Security CISA designated Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce
 - ii. Religious services conducted in churches, congregations and houses of worship
 - iii. Childcare services
 - iv. Youth camps
 - b. The following outdoor areas or venues shall operate at no more than 50 percent of the normal operating limits as determined by the owner:
 - i. Professional, collegiate or similar sporting events
 - ii. Swimming pools
 - iii. Water parks
 - iv. Museums and libraries
 - v. Rodeos and equestrian events
 - vi. Those outdoor areas, events or establishments not listed above are not subject to the 50 percent occupancy limit
 - c. The 50 percent occupancy limit does not apply to the following establishments (provided that they operate with at least six feet of social distancing between work stations):
 - i. Cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops, nail salons/shops and other establishments where licensed cosmetologists or barbers practice their trade
 - ii. Massage establishments and other facilities where licensed massage therapists or other persons licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under Chapter 455 of the Texas Occupations Code practice their trade
 - iii. Other personal-care and beauty services such as tanning salons, tattoo studios, piercing studios, hair removal salons and hair loss treatment and growth services

- d. The County Judge, in consultation with the local public health authority, may set restrictions as needed on any outdoor gathering in excess of 500 people
- e. Beginning June 12, occupancy for dine-in services at restaurants that have less than 51 percent of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages may increase to 75 percent of the total listed occupancy for the restaurant
- f. Only customers who are seated may be served at indoor bars and similar indoor establishments that are not restaurants as defined above

Additional changes to note:

1. GA-26 no longer states that people shall stay home except when participating in or providing Essential Services. It does, however, state that people should not be in groups larger than 10 and should maintain six feet of social distancing from those not in their group. Additionally, people over the age of 65 are still strongly encouraged to stay home as much as possible.
2. Individuals are encouraged to wear appropriate face coverings.
3. Schools are permitted to resume operations for the summer as provided by the minimum standard health protocols found in guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency.
4. Jail confinement is no longer an available penalty for violating these executive orders.

People are still prohibited from visiting nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities or long-term care facilities unless as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

GA-26 FAQ

1. Is there a Stay at Home Order for Chambers County?
 - a. No, there is no active Stay at Home Order for Chambers County residents.
2. Can I host or visit gatherings of more than 10 people in a private residence?
 - a. Per the GA-26, people should not be in groups larger than ten and should maintain at least six feet of social distancing from those not in their group.
3. Are Chambers County Parks open to visitors?
 - a. Yes, Chambers County Parks are open to visitors.
4. Are playgrounds at Chambers County Parks open to the public?
 - a. Yes, they are now open.
5. Is the Chambers County Splash Pad at the Winnie-Stowell Park open to the public?
 - a. The Splash Pad is currently open at 50 percent occupancy. A total of 22 people are permitted to use the Splash Pad at one time.
6. Can convenience stores offer self-service items (i.e. fountain beverages)?
 - a. Yes, convenience stores may permitted customers to self-serve items like fountain beverages.
7. Can I go to services at my church?
 - a. Yes, church services are permitted and occupancy limits have been rescinded.
8. Do I have to wear a mask in Chambers County?
 - a. A mask is recommended but not required.
9. Can COVID-19 be transmitted through mosquitos or ticks?
 - a. No, mosquitos and ticks are not carriers for COVID-19.
10. Are employees or contractors counted toward the occupancy limitations listed in the Executive Order?
 - a. No, employees and paid contractors are not included in occupancy limits.