

# Places of Worship Reopening Guidance

Places of worship can reopen for in-person meetings or worship if they adhere to CDC-recommended social distancing and sanitation protocols.

## Recommended Guidelines for Temperature Checks & Employer Policies

Places of Worship should consider use of a touchless infrared thermometer to check the temperature of employees each day. Employees with a temperature above 100.4°F are recommended to be sent home until they have no fever and no evidence of COVID-19 symptoms. The employee conducting temperature checks should be wearing a mask. Employers should consider implementing flexible sick leave and supportive policies and practices for employees and consider needs of employees older than 65 years or in other vulnerable populations.

## Sanitation & Disinfecting Guidelines

- Ensure that your entire place of worship is properly cleaned and sanitized. Consider sanitizing pews, bathrooms, doorknobs, light switches, microphones, common musical instruments, and any other areas where germs might be transferred.
- Prior to reopening, retrain employees on best practices to avoid contamination.
- Sanitize between services, particularly high-touch surfaces.
- Clean and disinfect bathrooms regularly and ensure they have handwashing supplies.
- Consider strategic placement of hand sanitizers if appropriate.

## Maintain Social Distancing At All Times

- Recommend members abstain from shaking hands and encourage doing non-contact greetings.
- Encourage sick members to remain safe at home and avoid contact with others.
- Consider continuing online services for those who are unable to attend in person.
- If possible, offer multiple services to encourage a greater chance of social distancing.
- Abstain from serving food or coffee before or after services.
- Children's nursery should remain closed.
- Leave every other row or pew open and encourage family members from same household to sit together. Continue to maintain social distance in pews.



*Consider use of a touchless infrared thermometer*

*Please check with your local municipality for additional guidance or requirements for reopening.*