



November 17, 2020

## COVID-19 Update

### State Moves Alameda County from Orange - Past Red - to Purple Tier

In response to local and statewide increases in the daily COVID-19 case rates, today the State placed Alameda County – along with 40 other counties – in the Purple Tier, the most restrictive level in the State's reopening framework. Before today's notice, Alameda County was in the Orange Tier, two tiers down from Purple.

#### What this means for Alameda County Businesses and Residents:

Effective Wednesday, November 18, any activity that was only permitted in the Red or Orange Tier will need to close! For example:

- No indoor gatherings
- Restaurants: Outdoor *only*. Alameda County will soon provide guidance to local restaurants on operating outdoors safely as colder, wetter weather approaches
- Indoor retail: 25% capacity (except stand-alone grocers)
- Places of worship, gyms: movie theaters, outdoor *only*
- Indoor hair salons/barbers – open with modifications
- Offices: Remote work only
- Schools: Any school with students currently attending classes in person may continue to do so. Effective November 18 no additional schools may open for in-person instruction, and Alameda County is not offering a waiver process for elementary schools. Schools that are not open are encouraged to utilize the [State's school-based small cohort guidance](#) ([State's FAQ](#)). Alameda County Health Care Services Agency in partnership with the Alameda County Office of Education will continue to support local schools with guidance and technical expertise.

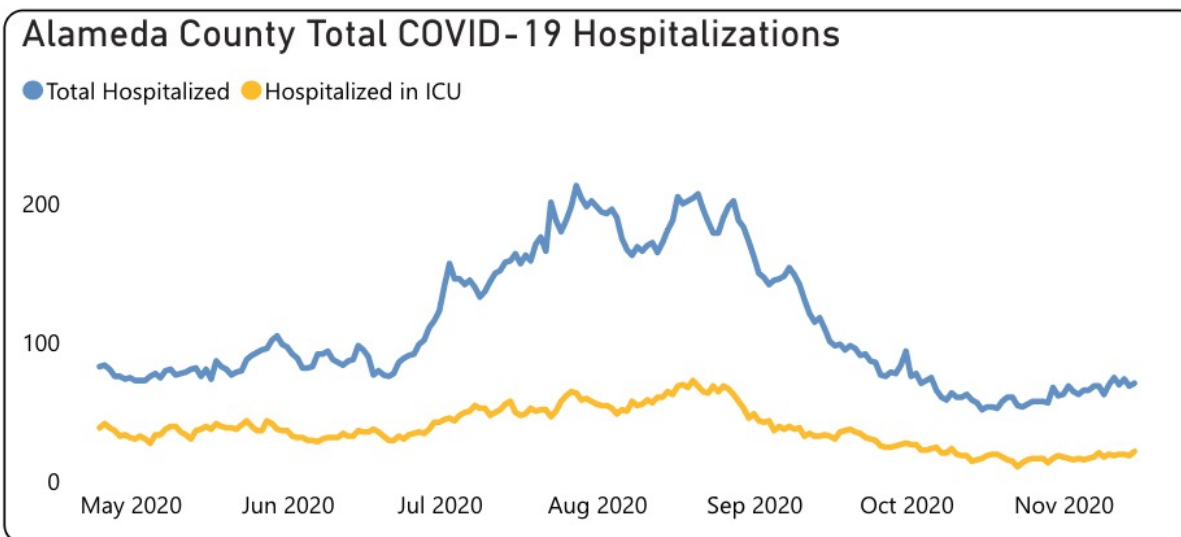
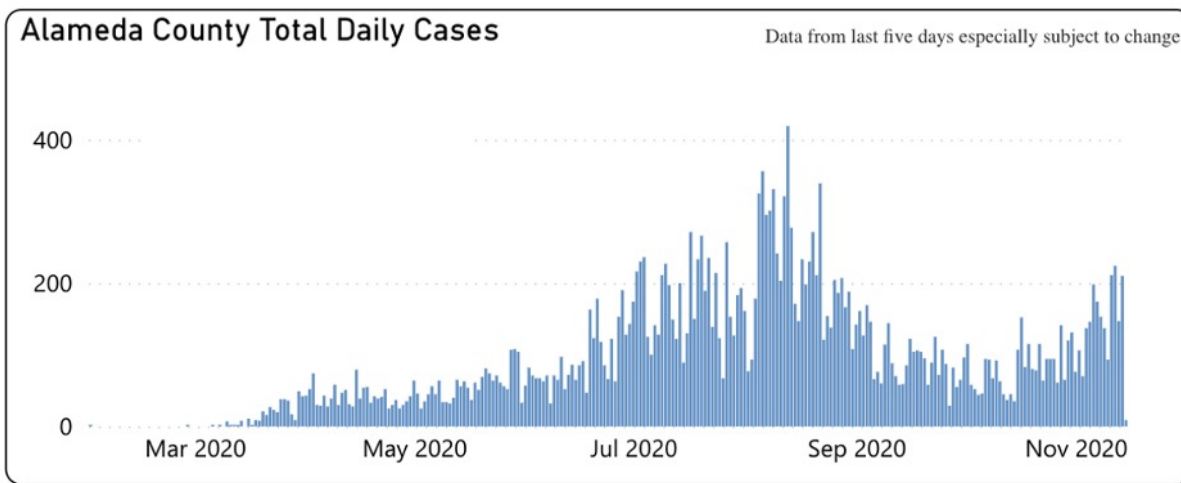
[See this link for the full list](#) of restrictions and openings. As the situation develops, health officials may need to further restrict activities to slow the spread of the virus.

[Click here for Alameda County resources and guidance for businesses and organizations](#) to plan for safe, modified reopening, as permitted by local and State Health Orders. For specific questions and guidance email [COVIDrecovery@acgov.org](mailto:COVIDrecovery@acgov.org).

#### Trends in Cases and Hospitalizations:

The number of new cases per day and hospitalizations increased again slightly over the last weeks. Health officials anticipate that the hospitalizations rates will increase since these rates typically increase several weeks after there is an increase in case rates.

See below for a sample of available graphs; more information can be found on the County's [Covid Data Website](#).



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## COVID Relief Grants for Small Businesses in Alameda County

***Application Deadline: Monday, November 30, 2020, 11:30 PM***

The Alameda County [CARES grant program](#) was authorized by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors on November 10, 2020 when it redirected \$5 million in CARES Act funds for a small business grant program in response to the economic, health and safety impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program prioritizes grants for small, local and emerging businesses within Alameda County and is intended to promote and foster inclusiveness in the County's diverse communities. Grants are intended to assist small businesses facing revenue losses and ongoing expenses for business impacts occurring between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020.

Eligible businesses can receive a one-time grant of \$5,000. The funds will not require repayment. Funds are limited and not everyone who applies is guaranteed to receive funding.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Businesses physically located in Alameda County (excluding the unincorporated areas) that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19
- Employ between 1 and 25 employees
- Must upload a business IRS Form W-9

- Valid business license for the location (self-certify)
- Business has been negatively impacted by one of these measures (self-certify)
  - Closure of any length due to COVID-19; or
  - Layoff of one or more staff due to COVID-19

Exclusions: Alameda County CARES grants excludes all chain businesses not headquartered in Alameda County, financial institutions, banks, lenders, landlords of residential or commercial businesses, publicly traded companies, and non-profit entities.

Home-based businesses ARE eligible to apply.

#### USE OF FUNDS:

- Rent/lease/mortgage and utility payments for business facilities
- Payroll (may not be used to meet the same Payrolls an organization is paying for with funds received from the Paycheck Protection Program, but may be used to meet Payrolls after the organization has depleted their Payroll Protection Program funds) (self-certify)
- Operating Expenses such as supplies, materials, insurance, etc.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), sanitation or health safety equipment
- Reimbursement for digital technology equipment required to transition existing programs online.
- Business adaptations to comply with or relating to new COVID-19 requirements needed for business operations or re-opening, such as interior and exterior reconfigurations including curb-side or storefront pick-up and delivery, partitions, temporary signage, outdoor seating (to encourage social distancing), and other required adaptations

[Click here for more information](#) and [here for Frequently Asked Questions](#).

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#### **Travel and Gatherings During the Holiday Season:**

Public health officials are strongly recommending that you avoid unnecessary travel and indoor gatherings during the holiday season. [Click here for recommendations on gatherings and travel](#).

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#### **COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Planning:**

You may have read exciting news about positive results of Covid vaccine efficacy tests – from Pfizer last week and more recently from Moderna. However, positive scientific results are only the first step to making sure everyone who needs the vaccine will receive it. Complex logistical planning is required to maintain the vaccine’s efficacy through the “cold chain” – no small feat, especially regarding Pfizer’s vaccine which reportedly needs to be stored at -70° C (-94° F). In addition to logistical distribution challenges, health providers need to be trained, the most vulnerable populations need to be identified and contacted, locations for delivering the vaccine needs to be secured, and communications channels to bring people back for second doses need to be created.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) continue to work on a COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan. The CDC and CDPH will determine how the vaccines will be distributed and counties will be responsible for identifying and meeting unique local needs. Counties are required to submit an initial plan to the State by December 1, with logistics and distribution, stakeholder engagement, identification of critical populations, and reporting and monitoring.

Alameda County is planning to distribute the vaccine using an equity lens to ensure that high risk and highly impacted populations are prioritized. Health officials will be working closely with health care providers across

the County and seeking input from community providers and representatives of priority populations and neighborhoods. CDPH and CDC plans don't currently require mandatory vaccination.

Information on COVID-19 **Testing** in Alameda County can be found here: <https://covid-19.acgov.org/testing.page>.

Councilmember Kalb's COVID Resources and Information page can be found here: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/resources/councilmember-kalbs-covid-19-resources>.

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## Contacts:

Dan's [COVID Resources](#) page.

Oakland SeeClickFix - Call 311 - <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/oak311>

Alameda County Social Services and Referral - Call 211  
<http://211alamedacounty.org/2-1-1-alameda-county-resource-finder/>

Councilmember Dan Kalb's Office - 510-238-7001

OPD for Emergencies - 911 (or 510-777-3211) \ for non-emergencies - 510-777-3333.

Oakland Recycling/Waste Collection Hotline - (510) 238-7283  
(recycling@oaklandca.gov)



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## DAN KALB

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<https://www.oaklandca.gov/officials/councilmember-dan-kalb> • [www.dankalb.net](http://www.dankalb.net)