



TULE RIVER INDIAN HEALTH CENTER, INC. (TRIHCI)

PO BOX 768 • PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 93258

PHONE: (559) 784-2316 • FAX: (559) 781-6514

Public Health Announcement

Tule River Community,

As of 4:00PM today, the Tule River Tribal Council has collectively decided to remove the checkpoint from the main reservation entrance.

We are planning to address public health concerns such as wearing masks, trespassing, and disorderly conduct with Public Health Orders. These Orders would reflect the Communicable Disease Ordinance approved by the tribe. We do believe COVID-19 is serious enough to still remain cautious, so we would like to provide that the following restrictions are still in place, with some being reduced.

- Sweat ceremonies are not allowed until further notice due to the nature of transmission.
- Government sponsored travel should remain restrictive, only to support government to government meetings. Telecommunications should be preferred.
- Residents are recommended to Shelter-in-Place as this is the safest practice for reducing the risk.
- Residents are recommended to continue basic hand hygiene protocol for example: using hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol or basic soap and water after touching high traffic surfaces
- Residents are recommended to stay home should they feel ill and contact their primary care providers by phone prior to leaving their home.
- Residents are recommended to utilize social distancing (6ft) whenever the situation is feasible
- Caution should be used in fresh waterways, social distancing should be applied.
- The following facial covering guidelines should be followed:

Face coverings must cover both the mouth and nose unless the individual is exempt as stated below.

Persons on any tribal property must wear face coverings when in situations listed below:

1. Inside of, or in line to enter, any shared indoor space unless exempted by the Tribal Health Officer for specific public settings.
2. Obtaining services from the healthcare sector in settings including, but not limited to, a hospital, pharmacy, medical clinic, laboratory, physician or dental office, veterinary clinic, or blood bank; unless otherwise directed by an employee or health care professional

3. Waiting for or riding on public transportation or paratransit or while in a taxi, private car service, or ride-sharing vehicle.
4. Driving or operating any public transportation or paratransit vehicle, taxi, or private car service or ride-sharing vehicle when passengers are present. When no passengers are present, face coverings are strongly recommended.
5. While outdoors in public spaces when maintaining a physical distance of 6 feet from persons who are not members of the same household or residence is not feasible.

The following individuals are exempt from wearing a face covering:

1. Persons age two years or under. These very young children must not wear a face covering because of the risk of suffocation.
2. Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.
3. Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
4. Persons for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.
5. Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service.
6. Persons who are seated at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service, while they are eating or drinking, provided that they are able to maintain a distance of at least six feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or residence.
7. Persons who are smoking where smoking is allowed, must be either seated or relocated to a smoking designated area, provided that they are able to maintain a distance of at least six feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or residence.

8. Persons who are engaged in outdoor work or recreation such as swimming, walking, hiking, bicycling, or running, when alone or with household members, and when they can maintain a distance of at least six feet from others.

For those interested in testing for COVID-19, OptumServe's site located at the Porterville Memorial Building, 1900 W. Olive Ave., Porterville, CA 93257 is available. Testing is by appointment only, you can register at <https://LHI.care/covidtesting/> or by dialing 1-888-634-1123.

You can find this announcement with others related to Public Health online at <https://www.trihci.org/covid-19>



Adam Christman
Public Information Officer
Tule River Public Health Authority

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