



**Tule River Indian  
Reservation**

**Department of Public Health  
Order of the Health Authority**

**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY  
OF THE TULE RIVER TRIBE OF CALIFORNIA DIRECTING  
ALL INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITHIN THE TULE RIVER  
RESERVATION TO SHELTER AT THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE  
EXCEPT THAT THEY MAY LEAVE TO PROVIDE OR RECEIVE  
CERTAIN ESSENTIAL SERVICES OR ENGAGE IN CERTAIN  
ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES AND WORK FOR ESSENTIAL BUSINESS  
AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES; EXEMPTING INDIVIDUALS  
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS FROM THE SHELTER IN PLACE  
ORDER BUT URGING THEM TO FIND SHELTER AND  
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PROVIDE IT; DIRECTING ALL  
BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO CEASE  
NONESSENTIAL OPERATIONS AT PHYSICAL LOCATIONS IN THE  
TULE RIVER RESERVATION; PROHIBITING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL  
GATHERINGS OF ANY NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS; AND  
ORDERING CESSATION OF ALL NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL**

**(SHELTER IN PLACE)**

DATE OF ORDER: May 14, 2020

**Please read this Order carefully. Violations of this Order or any other related tribal law shall each result in a \$500 fine and/or exclusion or banishment from the Reservation, in addition to any other penalties provided for in tribal law.**

#### **SUMMARY**

**The virus that causes Coronavirus 2019 Disease (“COVID-19”) is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle the flood of new patients and safeguard public health and safety. Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect all members of the Tule River Tribe community and the Tule River Indian Reservation, especially those tribal**



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

members most vulnerable to the virus and also health care providers, this Order requires all individuals anywhere within the Tule River Indian Reservation to shelter in place—that is, stay at home—except for certain essential activities and work to provide essential business and government services, or to perform essential public infrastructure construction, including housing. This Order begins at 12:01 a.m. on May 18, 2020 and will continue through June 15, 2020, subject to the limited exceptions and under the terms and conditions more particularly set forth below.

This Order applies within the Tule River Indian Reservation. It supersedes the guidelines identified by the Tule River Public Health Authority in the March 17, 2020 memorandum to the Tule River Tribal Council (“COVID-19 Stage 1 Revision”), an previous Public Health Authority Health Order, and is intended to be consistent with the directive issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 15, 2020. Gatherings of individuals outside the home are generally prohibited, with certain exceptions as set forth in Section 9 of this Order for Essential Activities, Essential Travel to provide services for Essential Government Functions or Essential Infrastructure, or to operate Essential Businesses or provide Minimum Basic Operations. In particular, restaurants and cafes—regardless of their seating capacity—are ordered closed except for takeout and delivery service. Additionally, all gyms and recreation facilities are ordered closed. Homeless individuals are subject to the shelter in place order and are strongly urged to find shelter.

To the extent that individuals are allowed to interact in person outside their residence, the Public Health Authority orders individuals to abide by the Social Distancing Requirements set forth in Section 9: maintain at least six (6) feet social distancing from other individuals, wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or use hand sanitizer, cover coughs or sneezes, and do not shake hands. People, other than health care workers and other essential providers, who have medical conditions that put them at higher risk of serious complications should they get COVID-19, regardless of age, should avoid leaving their homes to the extent possible. Employers within the Tule River Reservation that do not operate Essential Businesses or provide Essential Government Functions or maintain Essential Infrastructure or Minimum Basic Operations, are required to take all steps necessary for employees to work remotely from home to the extent possible. The requirements set forth in this Order build on the California Department of Public Health and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines issued March 11, 2020, extended as necessary to address the health emergency affecting the Tule River Reservation. No individual who is sick may go to the workplace or leave their residence except as necessary to obtain services at any Healthcare Operations in accordance with guidance from public health officials or health care providers. The Public Health Authority may revise this Order as the situation evolves, and facilities must stay updated by checking with [www.trihci.org/covid-19](http://www.trihci.org/covid-19)



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF TRIBAL RESOLUTION NO. FY2020-110, THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY OF THE TULE RIVER RESERVATION (“PUBLIC  
HEALTH AUTHORITY”) ORDERS:**

- 1. The intent of this Order is to ensure that the maximum number of people shelter in their places of residence to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling essential services to continue, to slow the spread of COVID-19 to the maximum extent possible. When people need to leave their places of residence, as permitted under this Order, they should at all times as reasonably possible comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 9 below. All provisions of this Order should be interpreted to effectuate this intent. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and creates an immediate menace to public health.**
- 2. All individuals currently living within the Tule River Reservation are ordered to shelter at their place of residence. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, Essential Travel, to perform Essential Governmental Functions or maintain Minimum Basic Operations, to operate or maintain Essential Infrastructure, or to operate Essential Businesses, all as defined in Section 9. Individuals experiencing homelessness are not exempt from this Section and are strongly urged to obtain shelter, and governmental and other entities are strongly urged to make such shelter for the homeless available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practicable (and to use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operation).**
- 3. All businesses operating within the Tule River Reservation (“Covered Businesses” as defined in Section 9), except Essential Businesses as defined below in Section 9, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within the Tule River Reservation except Minimum Basic Operations, as defined in Section 9. For clarity, businesses may also continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences (i.e., working from home). All Essential Businesses are strongly encouraged to remain open. To the greatest extent feasible, Essential Businesses shall comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 9 below, including by maintaining six-foot social**



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

distancing for both employees and members of the public, including, but not limited to, situations when any customers are standing in line.

4. All public and private gatherings exceeding ten (10) people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except for the limited purposes as expressly permitted in Section 9. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit.
5. All travel, including, but not limited to, travel on foot, bicycle, scooter, motorcycle, automobile, or public transit, except Essential Travel and Essential Activities as defined below in Section 9, is prohibited. People must use public transit only for purposes of performing Essential Activities or to travel to and from work to operate Essential Businesses or maintain Essential Governmental Functions. People riding on public transit must comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in Section 9 below, to the greatest extent feasible. This Order allows travel into or out of the Tule River Reservation to perform Essential Activities, operate Essential Businesses, or maintain Essential Governmental Functions.
6. This Order is issued based on evidence of increasing occurrence of COVID-19 within Tulare County, scientific evidence and best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically, and evidence that the age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population of the Tule River Reservation places it at risk for serious health complications, including death, from COVID-19. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in the general public, which is now a pandemic according to the World Health Organization, there is a public health emergency throughout the United States of America. Making the problem worse, some individuals who contract the COVID-19 virus have no symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means they may not be aware they carry the virus. Because even people without symptoms can transmit the disease, and because evidence shows the disease is easily spread, gatherings can result in transmission of the virus. The scientific evidence shows that at this stage of the emergency, it is essential to slow virus transmission as much as possible to protect the most vulnerable and to prevent the health care system from being overwhelmed. One proven way to slow the transmission is to limit interactions among people to the greatest extent practicable. By reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this Order helps preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in the Tule River Reservation.



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

7. This Order also is issued in light of the existence of **1,268 cases of COVID-19 in the Tulare County area, as of 08:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, including a significant and increasing number of suspected cases of community transmission and likely further significant increases in transmission. Widespread testing for COVID-19 is not yet available but is expected to increase in the coming days. This Order is necessary to slow the rate of spread and the Public Health Authority will re-evaluate it as further data becomes available.**
  
8. **This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the March 13, 2020 Proclamation of a State of Emergency issued by Tule River Tribal Council (Tribal Council Resolution No. FY 2020-100), and Tribal Council Resolution Numbers FY 2020-99 and FY 2020-110.**
  
9. **Definitions For and Activities Permitted Outside of a Person's Residence.**
  - a. **For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence only to perform Essential Activities. But people at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and people who are sick are urged to stay in their residence to the extent possible except as necessary to seek medical care. The term "Essential Activities" is defined to permit the following:**
    - i. **To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (including, but not limited to, pets), such as, by way of example only and without limitation, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies they need to work from home.**
  
    - ii. **To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supply, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences.**



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

- iii. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in paragraph (h) of this Section, such as, by way of example and without limitation, walking, hiking, or running.
  - iv. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business, as defined in paragraph (f) of this Section, or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order, including Minimum Basic Operations, as defined in paragraph (f) of this Section.
  - v. To care for a family member or pet in another household.
  - vi. To attend a funeral approved by the Tule River Tribal Council and conducted in accordance with the Social Distancing Requirements as defined in paragraph (h) of this Section; *provided that* individuals seeking to attend the funeral service or ceremony shall comply with any health assessment measures required by the Public Health Authority.
- b. For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence to work for or obtain services at any “Healthcare Operations”, which are defined to include hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, home healthcare services providers, mental health providers, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. “Healthcare Operations” also include veterinary care and all healthcare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be construed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare, broadly defined. “Healthcare Operations” do not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities.
- c. For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence to provide any services or perform any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of “Essential Infrastructure,” including, but not limited to, public works construction, construction of housing (in particular affordable housing or housing for individuals experiencing homelessness), the Tule River Tribal Housing Authority, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), provided that they carry out those services or that work in



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

**compliance with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in this Section, to the extent possible.**

For **purposes of** this Order, all **first** responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court **personnel**, and law enforcement personnel are categorically exempt from this Order. Further, **nothing** in this Order **shall** prohibit **any** individual from **performing or** accessing Essential Governmental Functions. The term “Essential Government **Functions**” means all services needed **to** ensure **the** continuing operation **of the** government agencies and provide **for the** health, **safety and** welfare **of the public**. **All Essential Governmental Functions shall be performed in compliance with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in this Section, to the extent possible**

- d. **For the purposes of this Order, the term “Covered Businesses” includes any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entities, regardless of the nature of the service, the function they perform, or its corporate or entity structure.**
- e. **For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence to work for or to support Essential Businesses. For the purposes of this Order, the term “Essential Businesses” means:**
  - i. **Healthcare Operations and Essential Infrastructure;**
  - ii. **Grocery stores, certified farmers’ markets, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, food banks, convenience stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supply, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning and personal care products). This includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences;**
  - iii. **Food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;**
  - iv. **Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals;**
  - v. **Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services;**
  - vi. **Gas stations and auto-supply, auto-repair, and related facilities;**



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

- vii. **Banks and related financial institutions;**
- viii. **Hardware stores;**
- ix. **Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses;**
- x. **Businesses providing mailing and shipping services, including post office boxes;**
- xi. **Educational institutions—including public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities—for purposes of facilitating distance learning or performing essential functions, provided that social distancing of six-feet per person is maintained to the greatest extent possible;**
- xii. **Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers;**
- xiii. **Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery or carry out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free food services to students or members of the public may continue to do so under this Order on the condition that the food is provided to students or members of the public on a pick-up and takeaway basis only. Schools and other entities that provide food services under this exemption shall not permit the food to be eaten at the site where it is provided, or at any other gathering site;**
- xiv. **Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home;**
- xv. **Businesses that supply other essential businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate;**
- xvi. **Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences;**
- xvii. **Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children;**
- xviii. **Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children;**





**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

- xix. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities;**
- xx. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare facilities must operate under the following mandatory conditions:**

  - 1. Childcare must be carried out in stable groups of 5 or fewer (“stable” means that the same 5 or fewer children are in the same group each day).**
  - 2. Children shall not change from one group to another.**
  - 3. If more than one group of children is cared for at one facility, each group shall be in a separate room. Groups shall not mix with each other.**
  - 4. Childcare providers shall remain solely with one group of children.**
- f. For the purposes of this Order, “Minimum Basic Operations” include the following, provided that employees comply with Social Distancing Requirements as defined in paragraph (j) of this Section, to the extent possible, while carrying out such operations:**

  - i. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business’s inventory, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions.**
  - ii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences.**
- g. For the purposes of this Order, “Essential Travel” includes travel for any of the following purposes. Individuals engaged in any Essential Travel must comply with all Social Distancing Requirements as defined in this Section.**

  - i. Any travel related to the provision of or access to Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, Essential Infrastructure, Essential Businesses (including but not limited to Healthcare Operations), or Minimum Basic Operations.**



**Tule River Indian  
Reservation**

**Department of Public Health  
Order of the Health Authority**

**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

- ii. Travel to care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons.**
  
- iii. Travel to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, and any other related services.**
  
- iv. Travel to or return to a place of residence from outside the jurisdiction.**
  
- v. Travel required by law enforcement or court order.**
  
- vi. Travel required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside the Tule River Reservation. Individuals are strongly encouraged to verify that their transportation out of the Tule River Reservation remains available and functional prior to commencing such travel.**
  
- vii. Non-residents of the Reservation, who have been approved by the Tule River Tribal Council, may travel to or from a funeral on the specific date and the specific times approved by the Tule River Tribal Council; *provided that* each such non-resident individual must provide their name and address to the Public Health Authority, must register upon entry and exit from the Reservation at the check point established for this purpose, must strictly limit their travel to the approved services, and must otherwise comply with the terms and conditions for the Tule River Tribal Council's approval of the funeral, including any and all health assessment measures required by the Public Health Authority, and any curfew established for funeral attendees and for non-resident attendees to exit the Reservation. Upon entry to the Reservation at the designated checkpoint, each non-resident must also sign a form agreeing to comply with these requirements and any other applicable Tribal law or Public Health Authority orders.**
  
- h. For purposes of this order, residences include hotels, motels, shared rental units, and similar facilities.**



**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

- i. For purposes of this order, “Social Distancing Requirements” includes maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands), regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.
    - i. The Public Health Authority may direct additional Social Distancing Requirements for an approved funeral service, which may include, but not be limited to, requiring each individual attending the services to wear a surgical mask and gloves provided by the Public Health Authority staff, maintain a social distancing of at least six feet as directed by Public Health Authority staff, and to comply with all health assessment measures required by the Public Health Authority.
  - j. Any variation to the definitions listed above will be subject to Tribal law, including but not limited to Tribal Ordinances and Tribal Council resolutions.
- 10. Pursuant to Tribal Resolution No. FY2020-110, the Public Health Authority requests that Chief of Police of the Tule River Tribal Police ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and creates an immediate menace to public health.**
- 11. This Order shall become effective at 12:01 a.m. on May 18, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until 11:59 p.m. on June 15, 2020, unless extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Public Health Authority.**
- 12. The Public Health Authority must promptly provide copies of this Order as follows: (1) by posting on Tule River Indian Health Center Inc., website ([www.trihci.org/covid-19](http://www.trihci.org/covid-19)) (2) by posting at the Tule River Tribal Council Administration Building; and (3) by providing it to any member of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.**



**Tule River Indian  
Reservation**

**Department of Public Health  
Order of the Health Authority**

**ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY No. C19-02**

13. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Christman", is written over a solid black horizontal line.

**Adam P. Christman  
Public Health Authority PIO  
Tule River Indian Tribe of California**

**Dated: May 14, 2020**