

TULARE COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Karen M. Elliott, MBA • Director • Public Health Branch Director Karen Haught, MD, MPH • County Health Officer

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State Lifts Regional Stay-at-Home Order in San Joaquin Valley, Effective January 25

Pandemic is Far from Over, Residents Urged to Wear Masks, Avoid Social Gatherings, and Get Vaccinated When Eligible

The Regional Stay-at-Home Order has been lifted for Tulare County and the San Joaquin Valley, State officials and the California Department of Public Health announced today. The action comes as the four-week hospital ICU capacity projections for the San Joaquin Valley region climbs above 15%, the threshold that allows regions to exit the order.

With the Regional Stay-at-Home Order being lifted, all counties statewide will return to the rules and framework of the *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* and color-coded tiers that indicate which activities and businesses are open based on local case rates and test positivity. The majority of counties in the state, including Tulare County, are in the strictest, or purple, tier. For the latest information and updates on restrictions of the *Blueprint for a Safer Economy*, visit: <u>https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/</u>. Tier updates will be provided by CDPH weekly on Tuesdays.

Nearly all the counties exiting the Regional Stay-at-Home Order today, including Tulare County, are in the Purple or Widespread (most restrictive) tier. Services and activities such as outdoor dining and personal services may resume immediately with required modifications, subject to any additional restrictions required by local jurisdictions. More information is available at: <u>https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/</u>, including a county map to find the status of activities open in Tulare County.

While there are positive signs that the virus is spreading at a slower rate across the state, the COVID-19 pandemic is far from over. It remains critical that Tulare County residents continue to wear masks when leaving home, maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet, wash their hands frequently, avoid gatherings and mixing with other households, follow all state and local health department guidance, and get the COVID vaccine when eligible. It is extremely important that residents who are vaccinated for COVID continue to maintain safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 including masking and social distancing, until vaccinations are is widely available.

The COVID Vaccine supply remains **LIMITED**, and Tulare County does not have enough vaccine supply to vaccinate all who are currently eligible. Residents are advised to complete the *COVID Vaccine Interest Form* if seeking an appointment to get vaccinated. Officials will then make direct communications to residents who complete the interest form to let them know how to obtain an appointment for the vaccine when they become eligible. **Residents can sign up using the Tulare County COVID-19 Vaccine Interest Form online at:** <u>https://arcg.is/0KKez4</u>.

Because COVID-19 case rates remain high across most of California, the state's Hospital Surge Order remains in place to prevent hospitals from becoming overwhelmed. The Limited Stay-at-Home Order, which limits non-essential activities between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., expires with the Regional Stay-at-Home Order ending.

More information on the Regional Stay-at-Home Order and other statewide COVID-19 restrictions is available at <u>www.COVID-19.ca.gov</u>.

For more information about COVID-19, visit <u>www.tchhsa.org/ncov</u> and <u>www.covid19.tularecounty.ca.gov</u>

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