

This is the administrative version of order No.223-2020 made on 24 March 2020. In the event of a discrepancy, the version to be published in the Gazette officielle du Québec takes precedence.

Ordering of measures to protect the health of the
population during the COVID-19 pandemic

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WHEREAS the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic on 11 March 2020;

WHEREAS under section 118 of the Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2), the Government may declare a public health emergency in all or part of the territory of Québec where a serious threat to the health of the population, whether real or imminent, requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS the pandemic constitutes a serious and real threat to the health of the population which requires the immediate application of certain measures provided for in section 123 of the Act;

WHEREAS while the public health emergency is in effect, the Government or the Minister of Health and Social Services, if she has been so empowered, may, without delay and without further formality, take any of the measures provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 8 of the first paragraph of that section to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency throughout the territory of Québec;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 222-2020 dated 20 March 2020, the Government renewed the public health emergency until 29 March 2020;

IT IS ORDERED therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Social Services:

THAT, as of 25 March 2020, all activity carried on in work environments be suspended, except

(1) in work environments providing the priority services listed in the Schedule;

(2) as regards the minimum activity needed to ensure the future resumption of the activities of enterprises providing non-priority services, excluding commercial enterprises;

THAT the suspension not prevent teleworking in a private residence or its equivalent;

THAT the suspension not prevent e-commerce or any other form of remote trading;

THAT the Minister of Health and Social Services be authorized to amend the Schedule to add or delete priority services or to make clarifications;

THAT the Minister of Health and Social Services be empowered to take any measure provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 8 of the first paragraph of section 123 of the Public Health Act.

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SCHEDULE

Priority services maintained

1. Priority health services and social services, including

- a. Institutions in the health and social services network, including 811 call centres
- b. Pre-hospital emergency services, including the Corporation d'Urgences santé, first responders, ambulance service operators and healthcare communication centres
- c. Private health consulting room of office, including dentists and optometrists (for emergency services only)
- d. Pharmacies
- e. Intermediate resources and family-type resources
- f. Private seniors' residences
- g. Individuals, enterprises and organizations providing services to the elderly, to the disabled and to the vulnerable, in particular as part of the direct allocation—service employment paycheque measure
- h. Specialized resources offering accommodation for vulnerable groups (domestic violence, vagrancy, cancer, addicts housed in community or private resources, palliative and end-of-life care, the underprivileged, immigrants, the elderly, the mentally ill, mother and child, prenatal and postnatal groups, young people in difficulty and their families, people with an intellectual or physical deficiency or an autism spectrum disorder, victims of crime)
- i. Héma-Québec
- j. Transplant-Québec
- k. Canadian Red Cross
- l. Institut national de santé publique du Québec
- m. Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec
- n. Commission des normes, de l'équité, de santé et de la sécurité du travail
- o. Wholesalers and manufacturers of medication accredited by the Minister of Health and Social Services
- p. Medical and pharmaceutical laboratories and research centres
- q. Enterprises manufacturing vaccines or by-products to produce vaccines
- r. Suppliers, distributors and co-contractors in the health and social services network

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- s. Independent placement agencies in the field of health services and social services
- t. Private IV clinics
- u. Joint procurement groups

2. Public security services, including

- a. Police departments and police forces, including emergency call dispatch centres (operated by a municipality or the Sûreté du Québec)
- b. Fire services
- c. Correctional services
- d. Special constables
- e. Highway controllers
- f. Wildlife protection officers
- g. Security agencies
- h. Ministère de la Sécurité publique (civil security and coroners)
- i. Forest firefighters and all types of professionals providing support for civil security operations
- j. Communication services
- k. Enterprises involved in environmental emergencies

3. Government services and other priority activities, including

- a. Québec government departments and bodies
- b. Childcare workers and support staff for emergency childcare services
- c. Online higher education
- d. Suppliers of goods and services for underprivileged citizens
- e. Food inspection and food quality
- f. Waste collection and residual materials management
- g. Government air services
- h. Suicide prevention centres
- i. Assistance services for victims of domestic violence
- j. Services deemed essential by municipal organizations (administration, public works, etc.)
- k. Food banks
- l. Veterinarian clinics
- m. Animal shelters
- n. Courts of justice and administrative tribunals, for matters they deem urgent
- o. Legal services (lawyers, notaries, bailiffs, translators and other workers)
- p. Professional orders – public protection component
- q. Priority union activities

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4. Maintenance and operation of strategic infrastructures, including

- a. Energy production, supply, transmission, transportation and distribution (hydroelectricity, fossil fuels, wind energy, biomass energy)
- b. Maintenance of essential public infrastructures in proper working order (bridges, municipal buildings, etc.)
- c. Construction, maintenance and upkeep of essential activities in connection, in particular, with public and private infrastructures that may create a risk for public health and safety (private dams, management of hazardous and radioactive waste, etc.)
- d. Sanitary services and supply chains (for example water treatment plants)
- e. Computer resources (security, maintenance, urgent needs in the current situation)
- f. Data centres

5. Priority manufacturing activities, including

- a. Food production (for example agricultural operations, food processing, drink production, slaughterhouses, market-garden vegetable production)
- b. Production of inputs necessary for priority sectors
- c. Pulp and paper sector
- d. Manufacture of medical instruments
- e. Manufacture of chemicals
- f. Manufacture of sanitary products
- g. Manufacture of micro-electronic components
- h. Industrial facilities (in particular in the aluminum sector) and mining facilities, which must reduce their activities to a minimum
- i. Manufacturing and maintenance in the defence sector

6. Priority commercial enterprises, including

- a) Grocery stores and other food retailers
- b) Pharmacies
- c) Convenience stores
- d) Stores not in a mall (offering grocery, pharmacy or hardware products)
- e) Businesses supplying agricultural operations (machinery, fertilizer, etc.)
- f) Société des alcools du Québec and Société québécoise du cannabis
- g) Furniture and household appliances (online or telephone sales only)
- h) Funeral services business and cemetery
- i) Restaurants (drive-through, take-out and delivery only)
- j) Hotels

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- k) Cleaners, laundries and laundromats
- l) Medical and orthopaedic supply firms
- m) Suppliers of pet food and supplies
- n) Moving firms
- o) Work equipment (safety and protection)

7. Media and telecommunications services, including

- a. Telecommunications (network and equipment)
- b. Cable services
- c. Printing (newspaper printing only)
- d. National media
- e. Local media
- f. Communications agencies (advertising, production, feedback)

8. Banking, financial and other services, including

- a. Financial services (financial institutions, automatic teller machines and other payment methods)
- b. Insurance (telephone services)
- c. Payroll services
- d. Accounting services
- e. Financial market and stock exchange services
- f. Placement agencies

9. Construction sector services, including

- a. Construction firms, for emergency repairs or to ensure safety
- b. Electricians, plumbers and other trades (emergency services only)
- c. Equipment rental firms

10. Building maintenance and upkeep services, including

- a. Cleaning, upkeep and pest management
- b. Building maintenance (elevators, ventilation, alarm systems, etc.)
- c. Household appliance maintenance and repair

11. Priority services in the field of transportation and logistics

- a. Public transit services and passenger services
- b. Ports and airports
- c. Maintenance of locomotives, aircraft and boats and essential air operations (air transportation)
- d. Supply and distribution of foodstuffs, grocery stores and convenience stores
- e. Transportation, storage and distribution of goods
- f. Snow removal and road maintenance

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- g. Service stations and mechanical repair of cars, tow truck and trucking services and specialized equipment for essential industries and roadside assistance
- h. Remunerated passenger transportation and paratransit services
- i. Postal, courier and parcel delivery services

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