

Governor Bill Lee COVID-19 Executive Order Summaries

[Executive Order No. 14](#)

- **March 12, 2020**
- **Summary: Implements the Tennessee Emergency Management Plan.**
- Permits health care professionals licensed in other states to provide health care services in Tennessee related to COVID-19;
- Allows pharmacists to dispense an extra 30-day supply of maintenance prescriptions as needed in response to COVID-19;
- Allows health care professionals to provide localized treatment to patients in temporary residences;
- Expands testing sites for COVID-19;
- Allows the construction of temporary health care structures in response to COVID-19;
- Implements price-gouging protections on medical and emergency supplies;
- Suspends restrictions on vehicles transporting emergency supplies to areas affected by COVID-19;
- Permits the waiver of certain regulations on child care centers as needed to respond to the effect of COVID-19;
- Authorizes TennCare policy changes to ensure that covered individuals receive medically necessary services without disruption; and
- Directs coordination with health insurance plans to improve access to screening, testing, and treatment for COVID-19.

[Executive Order No. 15](#)

- **March 19, 2020**
- **Summary: Relieves regulatory burdens to quickly boost Tennessee's health care capacity, continue important consumer protections, and provide enhanced customer service to Tennesseans.**
- *Health Care Capacity*
 - Further deregulates hospital beds to free up capacity.
 - Further deregulates scope of practice, allowing more health care professionals to treat patients.
 - Expands the number of providers who are eligible to provide telehealth services by loosening regulations around technology and geographic area and urges insurers to provide coverage for COVID-19.
- *Customer Service Provisions*

- Suspends rules to address expirations and renewals of driver licenses that will occur during the state of emergency.
- *Consumer Protection*
 - Cracks down on the price gouging of consumer foods and supplies.

[Executive Order 16](#)

- **March 20, 2020**
- **Summary:** Allows for official public meetings to be held remotely due to concerns over COVID-19.

[Executive Order 17](#)

- **March 22, 2020**
- **Summary: Calls for businesses across the state to utilize alternative business models to protect vulnerable populations while doing everything possible to keep Tennesseans in a financially stable position.**
- Prohibits social gatherings of 10 or more people;
- Directs restaurants, bars, and similar food and drink establishments to exclusively offer drive-thru, take-out or delivery options to support families, businesses and the food supply chain;
- Allows for the sale of alcohol by take-out or delivery (with the purchase of food) in closed containers to those who are age 21 and up;
- Directs gyms and fitness/exercise centers or substantially similar facilities to temporarily close and suspend in-person services;
- Restricts visitation to nursing homes, retirement homes, and long-term care or assisted-living facilities to essential care only; and
- Encourages businesses to enact policies that take extra steps to assist vulnerable populations by considering measures such as shopping hours exclusive from the general public.

[Executive Order 18](#)

- **March 23, 2020**
- **Summary: Helps Tennessee procure additional personal protective equipment.**
- Prohibits hospitals and surgical outpatient facilities from performing elective surgeries and instructs dentists to halt non-emergency dental services.

- Practitioners are asked to donate their personal protective equipment at their nearest National Guard Armory until April 13.

[Executive Order 19](#)

- **March 24, 2020**
- **Summary: Extends deadlines to renew drivers and other licenses.**
- Suspends issuing REAL ID through May 18, 2020 as the federal government waived the deadline for REAL ID.
- Waives emissions testing requirements through May 18, 2020.

[Executive Order 20](#)

- **March 26, 2020**
- **Summary: Loosens restrictions around retired medical professionals to help get qualified individuals back in the workforce.**
- Temporarily suspends continuing education requirements so professionals can continue working through the pandemic.
- Calls for the availability of phone assessments for individuals with mental illness or emotional disturbances.
- Expands telemedicine efforts so that all licensed providers may utilize telemedicine during COVID-19 as long as they are practicing within their normal scope of practice.