Effective Friday, April 24, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott now allows some retail businesses classified as "non-essential" in the original Stay-at-Home order to provide "to-go" services with some restrictions.

Any "non-essential" business that re-open using this "retail-to-go" system should follow these guidelines from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the safety of employees and customers:

- Customers should not be allowed inside the store.
- Customers may buy items from a retail store for pick-up, delivery by mail, or delivery to doorstep.
- All payments should be done over the phone or internet. If not possible, contact should be minimized.
- Purchased items should be delivered to the customer's trunk or backseat to minimize contact.
- Any items delivered to a house should be delivered to the front door. Delivery personnel should not enter a residence.

Employees of non-essential businesses that are re-opening using this "retail-to-go" system should follow these guidelines from the Texas Department of State Health Services:

- All employees should routinely wash hands, disinfect work areas, and maintain social distance.
- All employees should be checked before coming into the business for fever, a new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, and temperature at or above 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit. Employees with any of these symptoms should be sent home immediately.
- Upon entering the business, employees should wash or sanitize hands.

- All employees should wear face coverings.
- All employees should wash or sanitize hands after each interaction with a customer.

No changes were made to how essential business operate. Essential businesses have been able to operate during the Stay-at-Home order. The State of Texas has established a list of essential business classifications. To see the full list, visit [tdem.texas.gov](http://tdem.texas.gov).

**Prohibited Activities**

- Eating or drinking inside restaurants, bars and food courts
- Going to the gym
- Going to a massage or spa
- Going to a tattoo and/or piercing studio
- Going to a hair salon or barbershop
- Going to a nail salon

**Reopening Considerations**

Do I need a new certificate of occupancy permit?

If your business was operating with a certificate of occupancy prior to closure, there are no issues with reopening.

What if my utilities (electrical/gas) were disconnected while closed?

You will need to contact your provider regarding reconnection. A service reconnection will require a City permit and a release to utilities. The $100 permit fee will be waived.

Can I install signage saying I’ve reopened?

Yes! A banner or temporary signage permit will be required. You are allowed 3 permits in a calendar year. Each permit is good for a 6 week period. The $100 permit fee will be waived.

Are there water-related considerations for reopening my location?

Buildings and facilities closed or sparsely occupied for a long time period could be holding stagnant water in their plumbing systems which can be harmful to human health. Flush the water through building pipes to replace it with fresh water from a connected public water system prior to re-opening.