

## Offices

Office opening is best guided by the CDC Guidelines for Businesses and Employers:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>

As well as each state's guidelines for the workplace:

Connecticut: <https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Coronavirus-Business-Recovery/Safe-Workplace-Rules-for-Essential-Employers>

Massachusetts: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-mandatory-safety-standards-for-workplaces>

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/safety-standards-and-checklist-office-spaces>

Rhode Island: <https://commerceri.com/covid-19-business-checklist/>

<http://www.dlt.state.ri.us/pdfs/COVID-19%20Workplace%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

And always in consultation with your local Board of Health.

## Church Ministries

In our Phasing Forward guidance, you will find guidance particular to in-person worship. While church ministries vary greatly and need to be considered on a case by case basis, much of that guidance also pertains to any gatherings of church members for adult education, prayer groups or committees and outreach projects. Some may fall into specialized categories such as Childcare, Camps or Food Service requiring additional guidance. Churches should consult directly with CDC Guidelines as well as State and Local Boards of Health to evaluate reinitiating a ministry activity during Covid-19.

## Outside Groups

Each church has unique considerations when weighing whether to share space with outside groups during the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to your church following the CDC Guidelines, Phasing requirements of your State and the requirements of your State and Local Board of Health, we offer these additional considerations when deciding to share your space with outside groups:

- What is your insurance coverage for shared facility use during the pandemic?
- Is the group approved for gathering during your church location's current phase of re-entry? Churches would need to consult directly with CDC and State and Local Boards of Health to evaluate their ability to host groups onsite during Covid-19.
- Does the group fall into a specialized category such as Childcare, Camps or Food Service which have additional guidance and operating requirements? Feeding programs and food pantry ministries may find these resources helpful:

- Churches modify food ministries during Covid-19  
<https://www.sneucc.org/newsdetail/churches-modify-food-ministries-during-covid-19-lockdowns-13620145>
- Guidance for feeding ministries in light on Covid-19  
<https://indydio.org/guidance-for-feeding-ministries-in-light-of-covid-19/>
- Does the group carry their own insurance?
- Does the group have a separate space from your worship or office space?
- Can the group independently manage their own Covid-19 plan?
- How will group use impact your sanitization requirements?
- Will the layout of your facility provide appropriate access to building such as entrance/exits during the time of use?
- Does the facility have adequate handwashing facilities for the group and space being considered?