



Government of Antigua and Barbuda

State of Emergency

Curfew continues from 13th May – 9:00 p.m. to Friday June 12, 2020 – 5:00 a.m.

Official Guidelines

- The government of Antigua and Barbuda has declared a State of Emergency in an effort to curb the spread of the Coronavirus – COVID 19
- A curfew has been enacted from Wednesday 13th May – 9:00 p.m. to Friday June 12, 2020 – 5:00 a.m.
- Persons should continue to practice social distancing of six feet between each other
- Persons are confined to their places of residence during the curfew period (which includes the porch, gallery and yard space of his or her home) and avoid contact with others who do not form part of his or her immediate household.

Essential Services permitted to operate during State of Emergency

- Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda including the fire Brigade
- Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force
- Office of National Drug and Money Laundering Control Policy (ONDCP)
- Customs and Excise Department
- Immigration Department
- Mount Saint John Medical Centre
- Emergency Medical Services and E-911 Services
- Media workers and other employees of a broadcasting service to the extent that they are traveling for work;
- Her Majesty's Prison
- Air Traffic Control Services
- Metrological Services
- Antigua Public Utilities Authority (Electricity and Water and Telecommunications); other Water Service and Telecommunication Service Providers

- Assigned Volunteers
- Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority
- Brokers and Shipping agents
- Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority
- Businesses licensed to provide private security services
- National Office of Disaster Services
- Commercial Banks and Credit Unions to the extent required to facilitate ongoing automatic banking services
- All Members of Parliament
- The Treasury Department, as determined by the Accountant General
- The Inland Revenue Department, as determined by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue
- National Solid Waste Management Authority
- Healthcare workers and employees of allied health care services
- LIAT 1974 Ltd.
- Fuel Manufactures/Distributors (WIOC, RUBIS)
- Critical Construction workers approved by the Cabinet to include BHM, Meridian Construction Company, CCECC and WIOC
- Businesses involved in logistics
- Hotels/Villas & Ancillary Staff operating on a limited scale (no gaming rooms, spas, gyms, tennis courts and other recreational services are allowed; in room dining only)

Select businesses will be allowed to operate between the recommended hours with strict adherence to the established social distancing regime. These businesses shall operate between the hours of 5 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Fish and Meat Markets, Abattoirs

Vending of agricultural produce

Registered livestock and vegetable farmers are permitted to be at their farms between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Licensed fishermen are permitted to operate during the curfew period between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Restaurants for drive-thru and curbside deliveries only – no dine-in services

Critical Cleaning Services, Sanitation workers

All retail businesses

Gas Stations

Wholesale, retail, grocery stores, bakeries, supermarkets and community shops

Delivery Services

Banking Institutions licensed under the Banking Act 2015

Credit Unions

All Money Services Businesses conducting money transfers pursuant to a Class A licence issued by the Financial Services Regulatory Commission.

Hairdressing salons and barbershops are permitted to operate in accordance with the strict guidelines established by the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the Board and copies of the said guidelines are to be prominently displayed inside the work area and on the entry door of the hairdresser salon and barber shop.

Licensed Insurance businesses and Insurance Agents

Hardware Stores, Contractors and Construction businesses and their workmen

Landscape businesses and businesses engaged in maintenance of the physical environment

Marine Services

Auto mechanics

Auto Parts sales

Churches and Faith-Based Organisations may conduct community outreach programmes, such as, soup kitchens and the distribution of food and care packages to members of the community between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Public transportation services are permitted to operate during the curfew period from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. provided the operator of the public transport and the passengers wear a face mask and the passengers are seated in a staggering formation with one person in every row that would normally accommodate 2 persons and no more than 2 persons in the back seat.

The Following services may continue to operate during the operations of these regulations:

- Clinics
- Pharmacies
- Provision of healthcare services and residential care services

- Residential or elderly care facilities and establishments
- Private Doctors/Dentists/Veterinarian offices
- Law Offices(for purpose of bail applications, Magistrate Court matters and commercial transactions including matters pertaining to interests in land)
- Religious rites performed by church leaders and Chaplains of Faith-Based Organisations on the recommendation of the Ecclesiastical Commission.
- Trade Unions
- Undertakers/Funeral Parlours
- Accountants Offices

Employees of the public service who are not employed in the provision of essential services are permitted to work during the curfew period based on the instructions of the Permanent Secretary of the Department or Division

Employees of Statutory Bodies will operate under the instructions of the Director or Chairman of the Board of the Statutory Body

All Permanent Secretaries within the civil service, and the Directors and Chairmen of Board of the Statutory Bodies shall encourage and support employees in working from home to the extent that this is possible.

All courts will function under the guidance of the Chief Justice/Chief Magistrate

The Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping shall operate as authorized by the Director of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping.

Beaches will open under the following conditions:

- No person is permitted to picnic, consume alcohol, food or play music on any beach for the duration of the operations of these regulations
- The beaches will be open between the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day for a therapeutic purpose
- Sailing is permitted for the purpose of fishing with a maximum of five persons on board the sailing vessel and must maintain social distancing at all times

Important instructions:

- **Every business permitted under the State of Emergency regulations to operate during the curfew period shall observe the social distancing protocols as follows:-**
 - Ensure that all customers and staff maintain physical distancing of no less than six (6) feet in or around their business;
 - determine the number of persons that may be permitted in the establishment at any one time by permitting one person for every fifty square feet of store space;
 - place distance markers at six feet interval showing where persons are permitted to stand at a check out point;
 - place distance markers at six feet interval to show where persons are permitted to stand while waiting outside of the establishment;
 - In addition to social distancing, owners of businesses permitted operate during the curfew period shall ensure that there is a sanitizing station available at the entry to the business and sanitary procedures are observed by all customers.

No person is permitted to be in any motor vehicle, supermarket, market, or in any street or in any public place without wearing a face mask

Where there is more than one occupant in a vehicle, the occupants must wear a face mask unless they are of the same household.

A facemask must:

- **Completely cover both the nose and the mouth of the wearer;**
- **Leave the ears, eyes and forehead visible; and**
- **Not be worn together with dark glasses and head covering.**

All Religious and Educational places of instruction or worship shall remain closed. They may however operate via electronic or virtual means.

Weddings, funerals, baptisms or other religious ceremonies may be conducted, with no more than 25 persons in attendance, all of whom must practice social distancing and wear a face mask.

- **No person shall –**

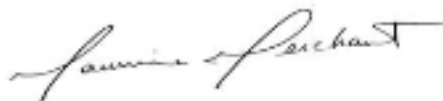
- (a) host or attend at any private party which includes any person from outside of his or her immediate household occupant;
- (b) attend or participate in any organised sporting event or any sports stadium; (Tennis and Swimming may commence from Monday 18th May under guidelines established by the Ministry of Sports)
- (c) hold any banquet, ball or reception;
- (d) attend meetings of a fraternal society, social or private club, civic organisation or association

No person under the age of eighteen (18) years is permitted to be on any street or in any vehicle, whether a private or public transport, during the curfew period, except in the company of a parent or legal guardian.

A person may, during the period 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. each day, walk, jog, run, cycle or perform any other physical activity which may lawfully be carried on, provided such a person complies with the following:

- a. Shall do so in an open field or on the side of a public road
- b. May do so in the company of persons of his household or of one other person only, if the person is not of his/her household
- c. Shall wear a face mask or other face covering in accordance with the established regulations for wearing of a face mask;
- d. Shall observe social distancing protocol; and
- e. Shall not use the occasion as an occasion of social gathering

A person who fails to comply with these special measures commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars or to imprisonment for six (6) months or to both such fine and imprisonment.



MAURICE F. MERCHANT

Director-General of Communications | Government of Antigua and Barbuda

Office of the Prime Minister | Queen Elizabeth Highway | St. John's | Antigua and Barbuda

E: maurice.merchant@ab.gov.ag | maurice.merchant@gmail.com