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## Press Releases

# The Government of the State of Israel has approved emergency regulations that provide additional relief in order to gradually restore the Israeli economy to cautious routine in the shadow of the COVID-19 outbreak

**Subject:** [Coronavirus](#)

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**Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Finance The Government of the State of Israel has approved emergency regulations that provide additional relief in order to gradually restore the Israeli economy to cautious routine in the shadow of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus. The regulations will take effect at midnight between Saturday, April 25, 2020 and Sunday, April 26, 2020.**

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## Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Finance

The Government of the State of Israel has approved emergency regulations that provide additional relief in order to gradually restore the Israeli economy to cautious routine in the shadow of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus. The regulations will take effect at midnight between Saturday, April 25, 2020 and Sunday, April 26, 2020.

The new regulations will be valid until Sunday, May 03, 2020, after which further regulations will be assessed in accordance with the continued decline of infection rates.

### Emergency Regulations (Activity Restrictions) (Amendment)

The regulations allow the sale of food from restaurants in a "take-away" style, with no sit-downs, as well as the opening of hairdressers, beauty salons, and other cosmetic services such as laser hair removal and the opening of stores in the public space with the exception of malls. It was also agreed that caregivers who work individually or with patients living in the same household, without contact, while maintaining 2 meters distance, wearing masks, and disinfecting between patients.

These activities will be subject to the conditions set out in the public health regulations.

It was also decided in the meeting that a further amendment would be made and that there will be a requirement to wear masks covering the nose and mouth in public, starting at age 7, except for those who are involved in sports activities or has a medical approval to not wear a mask. It will also be stipulated in a separate, later amendment that a fine will be given on the first time for those who breach the regulation of wearing a mask.

In addition, it was decided that significant enforcement by local authorities will be carried out to monitor businesses under the new regulations, in order to prevent an increase in spread or a new wave of coronavirus infections.

### The Regulations

#### 1. Take-Away and Delivery from Restaurants

Restaurants may be opened in accordance with the following regulations:

- No seating in restaurants
- There must be a barrier to prevent spraying of germs between staff and customers
- The employer will group together separate shifts with the same employees together each shift
- Distance of 2 meters must still be kept between people in the restaurant
- Adherence to strict hygiene rules including consistent disinfection of surfaces
- Restaurant staff are required to wear gloves and masks
- The staff must regulate entrance of customers, and allow no more than 2 customers per register, and if the store is larger than 100 metres, no more than 4 customers per register
- A sign must be placed with instructions to keep distance between costumers and the number of customers allowed in the restaurant

#### 2. Opening of Stores in Public Spaces is Permitted / Malls Remain Closed

Stores may be opened in accordance with the following regulations:

- The employer must submit a signed declaration that they will comply with the regulations to the local authority before the store begins operating
- The employer must ensure, to the best of their ability, measurement of temperature and possible symptoms of customers before they enter the store
- The employer will group together separate shifts with the same employees together each shift
- The employer will appoint an employee in charge of supervising adherence to coronavirus regulations
- There must be a barrier to prevent spraying of germs at the business counter
- There must be strict adherence to hygiene rules including consistent disinfection of surfaces
- Distance of 2 meters must still be kept between people in the restaurant
- The store must mark spaces at a distance of 2 meters for customers to stand in the queue
- A sign must be placed with instructions to keep distance between customers
- The staff must regulate entrance of customers, and allow no more than 2 customers per register, and if the store is larger than 100 metres, no more than 4 customers per register
- The staff will establish and operate a mechanism for restricting entry into the store

#### 3. Opening of Hairdressers, Beauty Salons, and Cosmetic Services

Cosmetic services may be opened in accordance with the following regulations:

- The employer must submit a signed declaration that they will comply with the regulations to the local authority before the store begins operating
- The employer must ensure, to the best of their ability, measurement of temperature and possible symptoms of customers before they enter the store
- The employer will group together separate shifts with the same employees together each shift
- There must be strict adherence to hygiene rules including consistent disinfection of surfaces including the chair and towels used between customers
- When working with a customer, the employee must wear gloves that they must change between patients
- Employees must wear face shields that cover the full face as well as masks that cover the mouth and nose
- Distance of 2 meters must still be kept between people as well as signage on the matter.
- The store must mark spaces at a distance of 2 meters for customers to stand in the queue
- The staff must regulate entrance of customers, and allow no more than 2 customers per employee, and no more than 4 customers in the store
  - In a store larger than 75 meters squared, there may not be more than 6 customers at a time
  - In a store larger than 100 meters squared, there may not be more than 6 customers at a time
- A sign must be placed in a prominent location regarding the number of customers allowed in the business
- The staff will establish and operate a mechanism for restricting entry into the store

#### 4. Enforcement of the Guidelines will be Increased

In order to ensure compliance with the regulations and maintenance of public health, enforcement will be increased so that the list of qualified individuals to enforce the regulations include inspectors authorized by the Director of the Parks Authority.

Inspectors in the local authorities will be empowered to enforce the rules set out in the regulations, including in-store enforcement on shop owners not to allow entrance to a person who is not wearing a mask.

A business that is found to not be following the regulations are subject to a ILS 2,000 fine.

The Ministry of Health urges the public to continue to comply with the guidelines and regulations. Public cooperation will allow the continuation of routine during this time in the shadow of the coronavirus.

The Government approved the expanded aid program for self-employed peoples and small businesses totaling ILS 8 billion, including:

#### 1. Grant for Participation in Fixed Expenses for Small Businesses in the Amount of ILS 5.2 Billion

A dedicated grant for small businesses (up to ILS 20 million annual sales) whose turnover was significantly affected between March and April as a result of the economic impact of the spread of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus will be given assistance to cover fixed expenses. The grant will be given also to non-profit organisations which are designated as eligible public institutions. The grant will be given by the Tax Authority beginning in May.

#### 2. Grant for Self-Employed People in the Amount of ILS 2.8 Billion

Following the grant given in April, a further grant will be given to self-employed peoples whose sales turnover will drop by at least 25% between March and June. Eligibility has also been extended to salaried and self-employed people with a taxable income of up to ILS 1 million per year. The grant will amount to 70% of the average monthly taxable income and up to 10,500 ILS. Grant applications may be submitted through the Tax Authority starting the first week of May.

#### Preparing the Public Sector for Emergency Work during the COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus Crisis – Amendment

Due to the extension of the restrictions on the economy and with the aim of increasing the scope of services provided to the public while maintaining health of employees, the Government has instructed the public sector to prepare for applying the "Purple Standard". The relevant actors in the Government and public sector offices will examine the facilities in light of the purple standard requirements and the health guidelines so that more employees can be brought to work.

#### The Government Approved the Below Detailed Aid Program to Support the Economy During the COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus Crisis

As stipulated by Basic Law, the Minister of Finance this evening presented the Government with a plan detailing the financial aid expenditure for 2020. The expenditure during the coronavirus crisis in 2020 is expected to exceed ILS 50 billion. The total plan amounts to ILS 80 billion.

The Economic Assistance Program includes 4 strata: Immediate Response for the Health and Civil Sectors, Social Security Network, Business Continuity Assistance and Acceleration. The approved program includes components for all four strata.

The plan includes ILS 10 billion for the Ministry of Health, approximately ILS 3.8 billion for self-employed persons, ILS 2.3 billion for a Passover grant, ILS 2.5 billion to credit solutions, ILS 2.6 million for business property tax discounts, and ILS 0.2 billion for improving the service for citizens through digitization.

After approval of the plan by the Government, the plan will be brought before the Knesset. Any change in the plan exceeding 15% will be subject to the approval of the Knesset Finance Committee.

The Government approved the Ministry of Finance's proposal to continue providing a special grant for those aged 67 and over who lost their jobs due to the coronavirus crisis.

Accordingly, the government adopted an additional grant for the month of May of up to ILS 4,000 for those dismissed from their jobs in previous months.

## More on the subject

[Coronavirus - Ministry of Health Website](#)

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