



## Summary: State of Alabama Shelter in Place Ordinance

### What does the ordinance do?

It imposes several restrictions to help limit the spread of COVID-19—the most significant one is a “public health curfew” requiring people to stay in their homes, with exceptions for certain categories of people and certain types of activities (more info below).

**When does the curfew go into effect?** Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

**How long is it in effect?** Until midnight on April 30 – with the possibility of extension

### Who does it apply to?

Everyone within the state of Alabama.

### What am I required to do while the curfew is in effect?

**Stay in your house or apartment.** Do not go to public places or travel (by foot, car, bicycle, or public transportation) within the city of Birmingham—unless you fall into one of the exceptions listed below.

### Who is not required to stay home during the curfew?

- Fire and rescue, police, sanitation, and public health workers, and other public safety and emergency management personnel
- Utilities (power, gas, phone, internet, etc.) workers
- Hospital and emergency medical service providers
- Food delivery workers and other delivery providers
- Employees, owners, and people supplying and restocking businesses providing **essential services**—including home improvement, groceries, food takeout/delivery, fuel, medical care, humanitarian aid, and critical infrastructure
- Local, state, and federal government employees (these employees should follow the specific guidance from their agency)
- Homeless people

### Under what circumstances am I allowed to leave my home and travel within the city while the curfew is in effect?

- To **seek medical or veterinary care** or buy medication and medical supplies
- To **buy necessary groceries and supplies** for yourself or others
- To **provide care** for minors, elderly, disabled persons, or other vulnerable persons (another part of the ordinance contains a more broad exception allowing you to leave your home “to care for or support a friend, family member, or pet in another household”)
- To engage in **exercise and outdoor activities** (walking, hiking, running, biking, etc.), as long as they don’t involve physical contact and allow you to practice social distancing



- To travel to your home outside of the city, return to your home inside the city, or pass through the city while traveling from one place to another outside of the city
- *For employees and owners of businesses providing essential services:* to travel to or from the place of business providing essential services (see list above)
- To provide goods, services, or labor for essential infrastructure, including commercial and residential construction, airport and port operation, public transportation, roads and highways, utilities, waste collection, and essential manufacturing and distribution
- To comply with a law enforcement or court order, or other legally mandated purpose

**What am I required to do when I leave my home?**

- Practice social distancing – stay at least 6 feet away from other people
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer
- Cover coughs and sneezes—with your elbow, not your hand
- Do not gather in groups of more than 10 people where you cannot maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other people (this does not apply to people living in the same house or apartment)

**What is the penalty for violating the ordinance?**

You may be arrested and fined up to \$500 and charged with a misdemeanor for each violation.