

ADA American Dental Association®

COVID-19 STATE DENTAL MANDATES & RECOMMENDATIONS - *Updated 3/25 5:00 PM*

STATE	NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES PER CDC 3/25	SUMMARY	DENTAL SOCIETY
ALABAMA	242	State mandate - emergency only until further notice	By Order of the Alabama Department of Public Health, all non-urgent dental procedures between March 19-April 5, 2020 be postponed. The situation will be reassessed at that time and new guidance will be issued.
ALASKA	42	State mandate - emergency only for 1 month	The State of Alaska has mandated dental offices close for elective procedures for one month starting March 20th. Dental offices are encouraged to provide emergency treatment during this time.
ARIZONA	326	State mandate - emergency only	On March 19, 2020, Governor Ducey issued an Executive Order applying to “all non-essential or elective surgeries, including elective dental surgeries, that utilize personal protective equipment or ventilators.”
ARKANSAS	230	State mandate - emergency only until April 17	The Secretary of Health, as of March 23, 2020, mandates that all dental practitioners follow the recommendation of the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners and the American Dental Association that only urgent and emergent dental care take place, and that non-emergent dental care be suspended until April 17, 2020.

CALIFORNIA	2511	Society recommendation - emergency only until further notice	The California Dental Association strongly recommends that dentists practicing in California suspend all in-person dental care with the exception of emergency treatment, until further notice. 3/19/20
COLORADO	921	State mandate - emergency only until April 14 at the earliest	This afternoon, Gov. Polis signed an executive order temporarily suspending elective and non-essential surgeries and procedures to preserve important medical equipment, like personal protective equipment and ventilators, needed to combat COVID-19. The executive order is in effect from March 23 to April 14, with the exception of rural and critical access hospitals. This includes all voluntary or elective surgeries or procedures, whether medical, dental, or veterinary.
CONNECTICUT	618	Society recommendation - April 22	The CSDA Board of Governors strongly urges that Connecticut dentists cancel all elective procedures, and only provide emergency/urgent care as defined by the American Dental Association; be it further Resolved, that in support of Governor Lamont's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" executive order effective 8:00 p.m. March 23, 2020, we are extending this strong recommendation to April 22, 2020, unless modified, extended or terminated by the Governor.

DELAWARE	104	Society recommendation - emergency only until April 6	<p>Governor Carney issued yesterday the fourth and fifth modifications to his State of Emergency declaration, closing all non-essential businesses in Delaware to help control the spread of COVID-19. This order goes into effect tomorrow, Tuesday, March 24, 2020, at 8:00 AM and will remain in effect until May 15 or until the public health threat is eliminated. As defined by this most recent order, dental offices fall under ambulatory health care services, which are considered essential and are, therefore, allowed to remain open. Despite this designation, OSHA still defines dentists at very high risk for exposure, especially during aerosol-generating procedures. Considering this information, the DSDS maintains its most recent recommendation:</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that all Delaware dentists limit their practices to urgent/emergency care only</p>
DC	183	State recommendation - emergency only until April 25	<p>Surgeon General has advised a halt to all hospital elective procedures to ensure resources are available to treat patients with coronavirus (COVID 19), while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommendations for specific health care settings to minimize risk once there is community spread. In addition to halting all hospital elective procedures, the District of Columbia Department of Health (DC Health) is recommending that all elective medical procedures and non urgent dental procedures be postponed to preserve health care capacity as our community mitigation strategies work to flatten the epidemic curve</p>
FLORIDA	1373	State mandate - emergency only until May 8	<p>Through issuance of Executive Order 20-72, Gov. Ron DeSantis has mandated the prohibition of any medically unnecessary, non-urgent or non-emergency procedure or surgery in the state of Florida. All hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, office surgery centers, dental, orthodontic and endodontic offices and other health care practitioners' offices are directed to immediately cease performing elective services until May 8, 2020. Dentists would still be required to see emergency patients.</p>

GEORGIA	1119	Society recommendation - emergency only until March 31	The GDA board of Trustees is advising all GDA member dentists to follow the recommendations provided by the Georgia Department of Public Health and the ADA, with one exception. We advise following the recommendation of the CDC and the President's White House Coronavirus Task Force Member, Dr. Deborah L. Brix, to postpone any elective surgery through the end of March (Fifteen days).
HAWAII	70	Society recommendation - emergency only for 3 weeks	The Hawaii Dental Association (HDA), along with the American Dental Association (ADA), is actively monitoring the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, with guidance from the CDC and our Hawaii Department of Health. As the country and the world employ strategies to "flatten the curve," and to conserve PPE, <i>the HDA supports ADA's recently released recommendation to postpone elective procedures.</i>
IDAHO	71	Society recommendation - emergency only until April 6	The ISDA Board of Trustees is issuing new and more definitive guidance to Idaho dentists following Governor Brad Little's March 18 update on COVID 19. Governor Little is requesting that all Idahoans follow the recommendations of the President and the CDC guidelines. Accordingly the ISDA urges all dental offices follow the ADA recommendations to postpone elective procedures beginning now until April 6, concentrating on emergency dental care.
ILLINOIS	1535	State mandate - emergency only until further notice	Until further notice, the Illinois State Dental Society recommends that dentists cease all in-person dental treatment except for dental emergencies. The Illinois State Dental Society also recommends that the public only seek dental care in case of dental emergencies.

INDIANA	365	Society recommendation - emergency only for three weeks	The IDA and ADA recommend that dentists postpone elective procedures for the next three weeks
IOWA	124	Society recommendation - emergency only for three weeks	The IDA recommends following the ADA guidelines that all dentists close their offices for three weeks to patients seeking elective and non-urgent care. During that time dentists should provide only emergency dental care and medically necessary care. This will allow us to care for our most critical patients, while also alleviating the burden that emergency dental care would put on hospitals.
KANSAS	98	Society recommendation - emergency only for 3 weeks	In order for dentistry to do its part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the ADA recommends dentists nationwide postpone elective procedures for the next three weeks. Concentrating on emergency dental care will allow us to care for our emergency patients and alleviate the burden that dental emergencies would place on hospital emergency departments.
KENTUCKY	163	State recommendation - emergency only	The KDA supports the position expressed by KBOD. KBOD has also expressed that this policy is not directive. It is a "request" and not intended to be an enforcement issue. But it is important to know that this action is important to "flatten the curve" in order to avoid the very real possibility of overtaxing our healthcare system and compromising our ability to care for those infected by the virus. In making this request, KBOD is relying upon your professional judgment and interpretation of what constitutes "elective dental care which will not negatively affect the patient."

LOUISIANA	1388	State mandate - emergency only for 30 days	LDH Directive on 30-Day Office Closures for all but Emergent Cases: In case you did not receive the directive of the LA Department of Health (LDH) through the LSB: Louisiana dentists received the attached notice. It is vital you review this directive ASAP, if you have not already done so.
MAINE	118	State mandate - emergency only until further notice	As you know the MDA and the ADA have called upon dentists nationwide to postpone elective dental procedures for three weeks in order for dentistry to do its part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
MARYLAND	349	State mandate - emergency only until further notice	In light of the rapidly growing developments regarding official responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19), The Maryland State Dental Association recommends all dental practices follow the mandate/orders of the Maryland Department of Health and postpone all non-emergency or non-urgent procedures through the duration of the "catastrophic health emergency." This recommendation reflects our continuing concern for the safety, health and well being of your patients, your staff and yourself. The fluid activities at the state and federal levels suggest the possibility that more stringent and mandated restrictions are possible. The MSDA recommends promptly making provisions for further disruptions to your practice in the near future.
MASSACHUSETTS	1159	Society recommendation - emergency only 3 weeks	The MDS strongly recommends that dentists practicing in the Commonwealth close their offices from March 17 to April 6 to patients seeking elective and non-urgent care. As always, it is expected that dentists will continue to be available as needed for emergency management.
MICHIGAN	1791	State mandate - emergency only	Today, March 20, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer released Executive Order 2020-17. This order bans all nonessential or elective dental procedures. This means every dentist in Michigan must not perform any nonessential or elective procedures.

MINNESOTA	287	Society recommendation - emergency only for 2 weeks	The Minnesota Dental Association in conjunction with the Minnesota Board of Dentistry strongly recommends that dentists practicing in Minnesota voluntarily suspend nonessential or non-urgent dental care for the next 14 days. As always, it is expected that dentists will continue to be available as needed for emergency care and services.
MISSISSIPPI	377	State mandate - emergency only through April 1	At 12:10 p.m. today, 3/19/2020, the Mississippi Department of Health has mandated that "Dentists must delay non-emergency or routine dental procedures." The MSBDE will require this mandate be observed immediately and through April 1, 2020.
MISSOURI	255	Society recommendation - emergency only for 3 weeks	The MDA Board of Trustees has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and supports the guidance by the American Dental Association. (ADA Calls Upon Dentists to Postpone Elective Procedures, March 16, 2020) In the interest of protecting public health, we urge members to comply with the recommendations outlined by the ADA.
MONTANA	48	Society recommendation - refer to ADA & CDC Guidelines	As health care professionals, it is up to dentists to make well-informed decisions about their patients and practices. The MDA is committed to providing the latest information to the profession in a useful and timely manner. We encourage MDA members to review the recommendations from the ADA and Center for Disease Control for guidance on how to proceed under these challenging circumstances.
NEBRASKA	52	Society recommendation - emergency only April 6	Unanimous vote on March 16th to recommend that dental offices in Nebraska postpone any non-emergent care starting 3/17/2020 and ending 4/1/2020. Dentists need to list an emergency phone number for patients to contact in an emergent situation. The Board will revisit this recommendation on March 26th

NEVADA	278	Society recommendation - emergency for 2 weeks	It is recommended that all dental offices in the State of Nevada postpone elective dental procedures for the next 14 days. Effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020 with a tentative return date of Wednesday, April 1, 2020. At that time, further recommendations may be issued to further protect the public and your staff.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	108	Society recommendation - emergency only for 3 weeks	In order for dentistry to do its part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the ADA and NHDS recommends dentists nationwide postpone elective procedures for the next three weeks. Concentrating on emergency dental care will allow us to care for our emergency patients and alleviate the burden that dental emergencies would place on hospital emergency departments.
NEW JERSEY	3675	State mandate - emergency only	As part of the state's effort to preserve the capacity of the health care system to respond to COVID-19, Governor Phil Murphy today signed Executive Order No. 109, directing the suspension of all elective surgeries and invasive procedures performed on adults that are scheduled to take place after 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27. The Governor's Executive Order applies to all medical and dental operations that can be delayed without undue risk to the current or future health of the patient, as determined by the patient's physician or dentist.
NEW MEXICO	100	State mandate - emergency only until April 10	Governor Lujan-Grisham issued an executive order on March 23 restricting businesses in the state to "essential" services beginning at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, March 24, and will apply at least through April 10. This was accompanied by a DOH order which provided more details. Dental facilities while providing care for emergencies are consider essential by the order. Although that is not further defined by the Governor's order the Board of Dental Health Care will utilize the American Dental Association guidance for both dentists and patients on what constitutes an emergency. State government has a variety of means to enforce the act including revocation of licenses. citations from law
NEW YORK	26358	State mandate - emergency only	Governor Cuomo's most recent executive order, announced March 20, changes the recommendation that dental offices only respond to emergency services to a NYS mandate. As of this Monday, March 23 you will be in violation if you are treating anything but emergencies in your office and can be subject to a fine. 3/21/20

NORTH CAROLINA	504	Society recommendation - emergency only for 2 weeks	The NC State Board of Dental Examiners strongly recommends that dentists put in place the best possible infection control and sterilization protocols for both operatories and common waiting areas. In addition, dentists should consider postponing elective or non-urgent care for two weeks beginning 17 March 2020."
NORTH DAKOTA	37	State recommendation - emergency only until April 4	The North Dakota Board of Dental Examiners encourages dental practitioners within the state, to discontinue providing routine, non-essential, and elective procedures effective March 19, 2020, at the end of the business day, through April 4, 2020. This recommendation coincides with guidance issued by both the Center for Disease Control and the American Dental Association. Among other guidance, the American Dental Association has clarified routine, non-essential, and elective procedures. Dentists should continue to monitor and comply with any future federal directives as well as any requirements mandated by the State of North Dakota and its Department of Health related to the COVID-19 outbreak.
OHIO	564	State mandate - emergency only	On March 18, the state issued an order stating at "Effective 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, 2020, all non-essential or elective surgeries and procedures that utilize PPE should not be conducted." It is the ODA's position that all dentists should follow the recommendations during this public health emergency.
OKLAHOMA	106	State mandate - emergency until April 7	The ODA Board of Trustees took a unanimous vote to recommend that dental offices in Oklahoma postpone any non-emergent care for three weeks. This is a very difficult decision, but it comes at a critical time and it is the responsibility to take leadership in this situation and have protocols in place to reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19 amongst the community.

OREGON	209	State mandate - emergency only until June 15	Governor Kate Brown has issued an Executive Order No. 20-10 that requires Oregon dentists (along with other providers) to cease non-urgent care for their patients until June 15th. Further, the order requires that Oregon dentists notify the state of any surplus personal protective equipment (PPE) and donate those items to the state.
PENNSYLVANIA	851	State mandate - emergency only with proper PPE only	On March 22, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) released new guidance stating that dental facilities and offices must close immediately, even for emergencies, if they do not have all of the following protective equipment and protocol in place (see link). DOH did not consult with PDA prior to releasing its guidance. We are now working with the deans of Pennsylvania's dental schools and have already communicated our concerns to DOH and asked for clarification on a number of issues that now arise because of this new guidance. PDA remains hopeful that we will be able to work with DOH to provide you with more information as soon as possible.
PUERTO RICO	39	Society recommendation - up to the dentist	The Colegio, thanks to our public relations officer and Dr. Elba Diaz, wrote up a real good statement that was sent to every Dentist. Even though we didn't tell them to close, enough evidence was presented to them to make a personal decision on what to do. The recommendation is that the offices can open after the 30th of March.
RHODE ISLAND	124	Society recommendation - emergency only 3 weeks	As you all know, the situation relative to COVID-19 in Rhode Island and throughout the country has been rapidly evolving. Since our last communication, the ADA and RI Department of Health have recommended postponing elective procedures. A copy of the ADA letter is below. The RIDA is in support of the ADA's recommendation to postpone elective procedures. We will continue to monitor this rapidly changing situation. It is up to you, the dentist, to make decisions about your patients and practice. We will do our best to continue to provide relevant information from the CDC and RI Department of Health to assist you with the decision making process during this very stressful time.

SOUTH CAROLINA	342	Society recommendation - emergency only for 2 weeks	The SCDA Board of Governors met earlier today and after much deliberation have made the decision to recommend to dentists across the state to suspend all but urgent and emergency care in all dental offices for 14 days.
SOUTH DAKOTA	30	State recommendation - emergency only	There is no documented community spread in SD. We have not recommended office closure, but many offices have begun to follow the ADA's recommendation to postpone elective procedures.
TENNESSEE	667	State mandate - emergency only until April 13	Gov. Bill Lee signed Executive Order No. 18 to limit non-emergency healthcare procedures until April 13, 2020. 3/23/20
TEXAS	715	State mandate - emergency only until April 21	The Texas Dental Association (TDA) is aware that dentists have questions about Governor Gregg Abbott's new executive order from March 22, 2020 at 3:00 PM. TDA confirmed with Governor Abbott that the executive order applies to dentists. As it pertains to dentistry, Governor Abbott's order requires dentists to delay until midnight April 21, 2020,... "all surgeries and procedures that are not immediately medically necessary to preserve a patient's life or avoid adverse medical consequences."
UTAH	298	Society recommendation - emergency only for 3 weeks	To ensure the safety of our patients, communities and dental team members, UDA recommends following the measures outlined by the ADA announcement on March 16th and the CDC recommendations (see links below) postponing elective treatment and concentrating on only urgent (or emergent) dental care. We will continue to seek guidance from the CDC, American Dental Association and Utah Department of Health in treating patients in need. Each dentist should make educated decisions on the appropriateness of treatment for each and every patient based on the nature of the oral care needs, medical history, and disease burden in the community.

VERMONT	95	State mandate - emergency only until April 15	An Executive Order was signed by Governor Scott on Friday mandating that dental offices cease providing elective care at this time. An Executive Order given by the Governor is law, and consequently providing elective care is now a violation of Vermont law. Clarification, by way of a communication from the Health Department states that dentists should, however, continue to manage emergencies at this time.
VIRGIN ISLANDS	17		Not available
VIRGINIA	391	Society recommendation - emergency only until April 6	The Virginia Dental Association (VDA) Board of Directors unanimously voted today to support the American Dental Association (ADA) recommendation to postpone elective procedures until April 6, 2020.
WASHINGTON	2469	State mandate - emergency only 3 months	The Washington State Department of Health released new COVID-19 guidance for dental offices. The guidance, which WSDA strongly recommends that all dental offices follow, asks all Washington dental offices to postpone all elective and non-essential dental procedures to minimize potential for healthcare transmission of COVID-19, and to mitigate limitations on availability of PPE for healthcare personnel caring for those with COVID-19.

WEST VIRGINIA	39	State mandate - no guidance	
WISCONSIN	457	State mandate - emergency only April 24	Gov. Evers has announced that he will issue a statewide "Safer-At-Home" order effective March 24. The order requires all non-essential businesses to close. Healthcare professionals – including dentists and dental team members – are considered essential, and dentists are still expected to provide emergency care during the public health crisis. 3/23/20
WYOMING	30	Society recommendation - emergency only 3 weeks	WyDA is in alignment with ADA's recommendation. 3/17/20