

May 21st 2021 Confirmed June 3rd 2021 Updated
June 7th 2021 Updated [July 8th 2021 Updated](#)

Okinawa Prefectural Response Policy Pertaining to the State of Emergency Measures based on the Special Measures Act

Details of Implementation

Based on the **re-extension** of the State of Emergency Measures **Period** by the national government and in working towards curbing the further spread of Covid-19, in order to thoroughly reduce person to person contact, based on articles 45 and 24 of the Act on Special Measures Against Novel Influenza, etc., (hereinafter referred to as “The Act”) , requests will be made to prefectural residents and businesses, and the necessary cooperation will be encouraged.

Area

The entirety of Okinawa prefecture

Duration

May 23rd (Sunday) ~ [August 22nd \(Sunday\) 2021](#)

※ On July 8th the national government made the decision to extend the State of Emergency Measures. Following that, on the same day, Okinawa prefecture updated its Response Policy.

※ With the aim to improve the infection situation and medical care provision system to lift emergency measures as soon as possible.

【Requests to Prefectural Residents and Those Staying within the Prefecture】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1 : Requests as State of Emergency Measures

Request for Refrain in Going Out <Thoroughly Reduce Outings and Chances for Contact>

◆ **Refrain from all non-essential and non-emergency ※ outings and travel including throughout the day. Specifically, avoid going out after 8 p.m.**

(The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1)

※ Except for tasks necessary to maintain your livelihood and health, such as: hospital visits, shopping for food, medicines, daily necessities, going to work, outdoor exercising/going for a walk, please refrain from any outings.

◆ **Even for something that necessitates your going out, avoid crowded places and times**

Avoid congestion by devising a plan, such as designating one member of the family to do the shopping (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1)

◆ **Refrain from travel to and from /movement between prefectures** (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1)

Utilize online meetings to avoid work related travel. In the event that you must travel between prefectures, make sure to take a PCR test in advance, avoid group dining at your destination, take a PCR test as soon as you return to Okinawa, and for the week following your return avoid group dining with anyone other than the family with which you live.

◆ **Refrain from all travel to and from the outer islands.** (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1)

※ Except for hospital visits, shopping for food, medicines, daily necessities, going to work, as well as for vaccination, avoid traveling to or from outer islands. In the case that you must travel to an outer island for an unavoidable reason, you should take a PCR or antigen test in advance to confirm that you are negative.

◆ **Refrain from holding events where food and drink will be served, such as welcome parties, moai (social support group meetings), beach parties, etc. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)**

We have confirmed many cases of infection related to eating and drinking. We have also confirmed cases of infection at outdoor barbecues, so please refrain from all events with group dining during this period.

※ For those staying within the prefecture, based on The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 your cooperation is requested in the same way as prefectural residents.

Details of
the
Requests

【Requests to Prefectural Residents and Those Staying within the Prefecture】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1 : Requests as State of Emergency Measures

Details of the Requests

Requests when Eating and Drinking

◆ **Avoid using restaurants that are not taking thorough infection prevention measures, as well as restaurants that are not following requests for closure or shortened business hours** (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1)

Now, during the duration of this period regardless of the time, we are requesting restaurants to not serve alcohol. Because of this we ask that you do not ask for alcohol from restaurants, and do not bring alcohol with you into restaurants.

◆ **Avoid activities with a high risk of infection such as drinking in groups on the street or in parks** (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 1)

◆ **Group dining should be done only with the family with which you live, and for as short of an amount of time as possible. Strictly avoid restaurants that are not properly taking infection prevention measures** (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)

(Examples of infection prevention measures not being taken: staff not wearing masks, no hand sanitization equipment, bad ventilation, narrow spacing between seats, not setting up acrylic panels, no temperature checks and requests for mask wearing when entering)

◆ **Proactively cooperate with infection prevention measures required by restaurants.** (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)

Please cooperate with the infection prevention measures requested by businesses such as temperature checks, mask wearing, and proper spacing between seats.

Okinawa Prefecture Medical State of Emergency Declaration (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)

● **Refrain from any non-essential and non-emergency trips to the emergency room**

When feeling sick, you should see your family doctor or go to a clinic during the day. When you have a fever contact the Prefectural Call Center.
< Okinawa Prefecture Covid-19 Call Center : 098-866-2129 >

● **Observe your health by taking your temperature every day, and if you have any symptoms, stop commuting to work, school, or going out.**

※ For those staying within the prefecture, based on The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 your cooperation is requested in the same way as prefectural residents.

【To Travelers (Those Considering a Travel to Okinawa)】

Duration

May 23rd (Sunday) ~ August 22nd (Sunday) 2021

Details of the Cooperation Requests

Refrain from Travel

◆ During the duration of the State of Emergency Measures and **the spread of the Delta Variant**, refrain from all travel from outside the prefecture (including traveling back to your hometown)

If you must travel for an unavoidable reason, please make sure to have tested negative by PCR or antigen test before entering the prefecture (about 3 days in advance). **During the summer vacation period, for those who want them, the national government is planning to offer free PCR and other tests for the passengers who take flights from Haneda Airport, etc. to Okinawa Prefecture.** Now, for those who are unable to take a PCR test **or antigen test (※2)** in advance, we have established a system where one can take a PCR test upon their arrival at Naha Airport, Miyako Airport, Shimojishima Airport, New Ishigaki Airport, and **Kumejima Airport (※1)**. Further, after your arrival in Okinawa, please refrain from contact through group dining (etc.) with prefectural residents.

※ During your time in the prefecture, as someone staying within the prefecture, based on The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9, your cooperation is requested in the same way as prefectural residents.

Refrain from all non-essential and non-emergency outings and travel, including throughout the day. Specifically, avoid going out after 8 p.m.

※1 **Kumejima Airport is scheduled to start the test on July 16th.**

※2 **Naha Airport is scheduled to start antigen testing in mid-July.**

【Requests to Restaurants】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 2 : Requests as State of Emergency Measures

Duration	May 23rd (Sunday) ~ <u>August 22nd (Sunday)</u> 2021
Target Facilities	〔Restaurants〕 Restaurants (excluding takeout and delivery) 〔Entertainment facilities / wedding halls〕 Bars, karaoke boxes, wedding halls (etc.) that possess a restaurant business license under the Food Sanitation Act and karaoke parlors that do not possess a restaurant business license
Details of the Requests/ Cooperation Requests	<p> 【Restaurants that serve alcohol (including restaurants that allow customers to bring their own alcohol) or provide karaoke equipment (except in the case the provision of alcohol and karaoke equipment is halted) and karaoke parlors not licensed to operate restaurants】 ◆ Closure request (halt the provision of alcohol and karaoke equipment) (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 2) 【For restaurants other than those listed above (excluding takeout and delivery) 】 ◆ Request for shortening of business hours from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. (halt of the provision of alcohol and karaoke equipment) (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 2) </p> <p> ◆ Implement the following infection prevention measures (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 2) - Recommend staff to get tested - Organize/ guide entering patrons - Prohibit the entry of those with a fever or other symptoms - Installation of hand sanitizing equipment - Disinfect work spaces - Spread awareness about the infection prevention measures such as wearing masks, etc.. - Prohibit the entry of patrons who do not comply with wearing masks without valid reason. (Including ejection from the premises) - Ventilate facilities - Installation of acrylic panels (or at least 1 meter space between seats) , (etc.) ◆ Strictly comply with industry specific guidelines (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) ◆ Cooperation with the prefectural government's inspection program to promote infection prevention measures (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) ◆ Wedding halls should comply with the same requests are made to restaurants. (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 2) In addition, events should be held as much as possible in small groups (50 people or 50%, whichever is smaller) and within 1.5 hours. (Encouraged) </p> <p> ※Restaurants (hotel lounges, etc.) only for specific customers such as hotel guests (etc.), are subject to the request <u>from June 7th</u>. (The Act, Article 45, Paragraph 2). ※Businesses that respond to cooperation request after <u>July 12th</u> will also be subject to the payment of the cooperation subsidy (paid for cooperation during the entire period of after <u>July 12th to August 22nd</u>) (The Act, Article 45, Paragraph 2). </p>

【 Requested / Encouraged when Holding Events】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

Duration

May 23rd (Sunday) ~ August 22nd (Sunday) 2021

※ The notification period shall be from July 8th to 11th and shall apply from July 12th. Tickets that have started to be sold by the end of the notification period do not need to be cancelled if the maximum number of tickets is for 1,000 people or less or if the indoor maximum capacity ratio of the venue is 50% or less.

※ After the notification period listed above, all new ticket sales that exceed the maximum number of people or the maximum capacity ratio of the venue shall be halted.

Details of the Requests

◆ **All events that require nationwide travel or large-scale events (over 1,000 people) are requested to be postponed or canceled. (excluding those with no spectators or online streaming) (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9).**

◆ **Request to hold events at the maximum capacity ratio of the venue 50% or less for the events with the maximum number of 1,000 people or less. However, if possible, we request consideration of holding the event with no spectators, online streaming, reduction in scale, or in a dispersed manner. If infection prevention measures are not thoroughly implemented, postponement or cancellation of the event will be requested. (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9).**

※ **Excluding exams, hiring activities, where online streaming would be difficult or events that are necessary for business and would be hard to postpone.**

※ **For national professional sports and international competitions, only if thorough infection control measures are implemented, the event may be allowed to be held accordingly to the national event response policy's event scale guidelines.**

Points of Caution when Holding Events

◆ **Halt of the provision of alcohol (including customers bringing in their own alcohol) (Encouraged)**

◆ **Operate until 9 p.m. (excluding when holding events with no spectators) (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)**

◆ **Strictly comply with industry specific guidelines when holding events (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)**

◆ **Before and after events, take thorough steps to avoid the "3 Cs" and eating and drinking (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)**

◆ **Thoroughly implement tracking measures, such as the utilization of the national governments Contact-Confirming Application (COCOA) and the LINE application based close contact notification system recommended by the Prefecture (RICCA), and creation of a list of participants. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)**

◆ **Call for refrain from post event celebrations (etc.) (Encouraged)**

【Requested / Encouraged of Businesses/Business Community】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

Duration

May 23rd (Sunday) ~ August 22nd (Sunday) 2021

Details of the Requests

- Reduce the number of/amount of participants at meetings, briefings, sales activities by 70 percent (number of meetings / number of participants)
 - ◆ Aim to reduce in-person employee attendance by 70% by using work from home (telework) and encouraging employees to take time off (Encouraged)
 - ◆ When working in-person, promote initiatives to reduce person to person contact such as staggered working hours, and commuting by bicycle, etc. (Encouraged)
 - ◆ In light of the requests for thorough refrain in any non-essential and non-emergency outings after 8 p.m., limit work after 8 p.m. unless necessary for the continuation of business (Encouraged)
 - ◆ Take infection prevention measures in accordance with industry specific guidelines at the workplace and stores, etc. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
 - Make sure that employees thoroughly keep track of their health (temperature checks when coming to work, etc.) and allow employees who are not feeling well to take off from work
 - Recheck areas at high risk of infection, such as break areas and dining areas
 - Take thorough infection prevention measures in shared spaces such as employee dormitories
 - Ventilation of offices should be recommended
 - ◆ Request that your company's employees refrain from using restaurants that do not comply with requests for closure/shortened business hours (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
 - ◆ Postpone, hold online, decreased in scale, or break into smaller groups; meetings, gatherings, explanatory meetings, training, academic conferences, etc. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
 - ◆ Request that your company's employees refrain from social gatherings, Moai (social support group meetings), and beach parties, etc. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
 - ◆ Turn off outdoor lighting (except for the items necessary for crime prevention measures) at night after 8 p.m. (Encouraged)

Please actively disclose the status of implementation

【Requests/Encouraged of Transportation Operators】

Details of the Requests/Cooperation Requests

- ◆ Perform temperature checks at major terminals. (Encouraged)
- ◆ We request that public transportation operators, such as airlines, ships, buses, and taxis, strictly comply with the industry specific guidelines for measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)

【Implementation of Initiatives in Cooperation with Municipalities】

Details of the Requests

- ◆ Raising awareness about infection prevention measures among local residents through use of public information vehicles and disaster warning systems, etc. and calling for cooperation from residents' associations, etc.
- ◆ Cooperation with restaurant inspections (calls for infection prevention measures, calls for thorough cooperation with requests to shorten business hours/closures)
- ◆ Initiatives as facility or park (etc.) managers (including cautioning against drinking in groups on the street and in parks)
- ◆ Notification of how to receive treatment when one has a fever (refrain from any non-essential and non-emergency trips to the emergency room, contact the Okinawa Prefecture Covid-19 Call Center: 098-866-2129)
- ◆ Daycare Centers (etc.)
While continuing to provide childcare services, in regions where infections are spreading, excluding guardians who are essential workers, such as medical staff, etc. who would have difficulty in taking time off from work, we request for; requests for cooperation in taking care of children at home, or consideration of the possibility of temporarily closing daycare facilities.

【Requests to Schools (etc.)】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

Duration

May 23rd (Sunday) ~ **August 22nd (Sunday) 2021**

Details of the

Requests

◆ **Based on the status of infections locally, cconsider the implementation of staggered school attendance, etc.**

Further, with regard to middle and elementary schools, the municipal boards of education will be asked to make the decision based off of the spread of infections in their locality and while referencing the response being taken by prefectural schools.

◆ Thoroughly implement infection prevention measures in school educational activities and student dormitories based on the Sanitation Management Manual, etc.

◆ Postpone or reduce the scale of school events (field days, sports festivals, field trips, overnight educational trips, etc.)

◆ Instruct young students to, thoroughly avoid any non-essential and non-emergency outings other than going to and from school, and to not come to school when they have a fever or cold symptoms.

◆ In the event of school closures, learning will be ensured through the use of online resources, etc.

◆ **Activities associated with hiring and advancement to higher education should be execute when thorough infection prevention measures are implemented.**

◆ In principle, club activities shall be suspended.

However, limited to cases where students will be participating in tournaments relate to the Kyushu/National Tournaments, limiting the amount of time and number of people, there may be cases where it will be allowed. Indoor games involving contact will be handled more strictly.

◆ The "School PCR Support Team" will provide the necessary support for prompt PCR testing.

◆ In principle, online classes should be offered at universities and technical colleges, etc. In case of difficulties, classes should be divided into smaller groups and large classrooms should be used to avoid overcrowding.

◆ **Universities should instruct students to refrain from the following activities with a high risk of infection.**

- Going to restaurants where temporary closure or shortened business hours have been requested
- Large group activities, barbecues, drinking at friends' homes, etc.

【Requests/Cooperation Requests to Facilities other than Restaurants ①Facilities for Which Shortened Business Hours are Requested】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

Duration	May 23rd (Sunday) ~ August 22nd (Sunday) 2021
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Duration	Target Facilities (Enforcement of the Special Measures Act, Article 11)	Breakdown	Details of Request/Cooperation Request
Details of the Requests/ Cooperation Requests	Theatres (etc..) (No.4)	Theatres, planetariums, movie theaters, and performance halls	<p style="color: red;">■ Shorten business hours from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. when events are held. (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9).</p> <p style="color: red;">■ The maximum number of people should be 1,000 or less and the maximum capacity ratio of the venue should be 50% or less (The Act, Article 24, Paragraph 9).</p> <p>■ Thoroughly organize and guide entering patrons (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)</p> <p>■ Widely publicize the status of organization and guidance through websites, etc. (Encouraged)</p> <p>■ Halt the provision of alcohol and karaoke equipment (including customers bringing their own alcohol) (Encouraged)</p> <p>■ Movie screenings are requested to be shortened until 9 p.m. (Total floor area over 1,000 m² , The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)</p> <p>■ For times other than when holding events business hours should be shortened to 8 p.m. (Total floor area over 1,000 m² , The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)</p> <p>■ When holding a wedding it should comply with the same requests made to restaurants. (The Act, Article 45 Paragraph 2) In addition, they should be held as much as possible in small groups (50 people or 50%, whichever is smaller) and within 1.5 hours. (Encouraged)</p>
	Assembly halls or public halls (No. 5)	Assembly halls, public halls	
	Exhibition halls (No. 6)	Exhibition halls, rental conference rooms, cultural centers, multipurpose halls	
	Hotels and ryokan (limited to areas used for meetings) (No. 8)	Hotels and ryokan (limited to areas used for meetings)	

※ Regarding the applicability of cooperation subsidy payment to large scale facilities (buildings with floor space exceeding 1000m²) who follow the requests from the prefecture, please check the Prefectural Homepage (Cooperation Subsidies for Large Scale Facilities) (there are facilities for which this is not applicable).

**【 Requests/Cooperation Requests to Facilities other than Restaurants
① Facilities for Which Shortened Business Hours are Requested 】**

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 :
Requests for Cooperation

Duration	May 23rd (Sunday) ~ August 22nd (Sunday)
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Details of the Requests/ Cooperation Requests	Target Facilities <small>(Enforcement of the Special Measures Act, Article 11)</small>	Breakdown	Details of Request
	Retail facilities (excluding daily necessities) (No. 7)	Large retail stores, shopping centers, department stores (excluding daily necessities such as food, clothing, pharmaceuticals, sundries, and fuel))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ (Facilities with a floor area exceeding 1,000 m²) are requested to reduce business hours to, from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) ■ ((Facilities with a floor area of less than 1,000 m²) are requested to reduce business hours to, from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Encouraged) ■ Thoroughly organize and guide entering patrons (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) ■ Postpone or cancel events to attract customers such as sales (etc..) ■ Widely publicize the status of organization and guidance through websites, etc. (Encouraged) ■ Halt the provision of alcohol and karaoke equipment (including customers bringing their own alcohol) (Encouraged) ■ When holding an event shorten business hours to 9 p.m. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) ■ At food courts, a space of 1m or more should be opened between seats or acrylic sheets should be set up. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) ■ At gaming facilities such as game centers or sports clubs (etc.), take temperatures before entering, and disinfect regularly. (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
	Exercise and gaming facilities (No. 9)	Gyms, sports clubs, pachinko parlors, game centers, etc. (<u>indoor facilities</u>)	
	Museums, art museums, etc. (No. 10)	Museums, art museums, etc. (excluding libraries)	
	Entertainment facilities (No. 11)	Adult entertainment facilities, escort massage services, private room video stores, live houses, off track horse (car, boat) betting	
	Services (excluding essential services) (No. 12)	Super sento (large public bathhouse), esthetic salons, photo shops, etc. (Excluding daily necessities such as hairdressers, laundry, and real estate agents)	
<p>※Regarding the applicability of cooperation subsidy payment to large scale facilities (buildings with floor space exceeding 1000m²) who follow the requests from the prefecture, please check the Prefectural Homepage (Cooperation Subsidies for Large Scale Facilities) (there are facilities for which this is not applicable).</p>			

【 Requests/Cooperation Requests to Facilities other than Restaurants ③ 】

The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9 : Requests for Cooperation

Duration	May 23rd (Sunday) ~ <u>August 22nd (Sunday) 2021</u>	
Details of the Requests/ Cooperation Requests	Target Facilities (Enforcement of the Special Measures Act, Article 11)	Request/Cooperation Request
	Social welfare facilities such as day care centers and long-term care health facilities (No. 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict activities with a high risk of infection (Encouraged) • Request for cooperation in taking proper infection prevention measures (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
	Funeral halls (No. 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halt the provision of alcohol (including customers bringing their own alcohol) (Encouraged)
	Libraries (No. 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly organize and guide entering patrons (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9)
	Net café/manga café※ sento (public bathhouses), barbershops, pawnshops, costume rental shops, cleaning services, etc. (No. 12) ※ When it is probable that net café /manga café are being used for <u>long term stays</u> at night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughly organize and guide entering patrons (The Act, Article 24 Paragraph 9) • Halt the provision of alcohol (including customers bringing their own alcohol) that may lead to drinking in stores and refrain from the use of karaoke equipment (Encouraged)
Driving schools, cram schools, English conversation schools, music schools, etc. (No. 13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of online tools/classes (Encouraged) 	

Public Facilities

■ **In principle prefectural (indoor) facilities are requested to close. However, if infection prevention measures are implemented at the facilities such as museums, art galleries, and libraries (No. 10), the business hours will be allowed up to 8 p.m. Also, the number of patrons needs to be controlled to meet the maximum capacity ratio of the venue 50% or less. Municipalities are encourage to take the same approach.**