



State of Idaho
DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Executive Office of the Governor

BRAD LITTLE
Governor
SUSAN E. BUXTON
Administrator

Idaho Personnel Commission
Mike Brassey, Chair
Mark Holubar
Sarah E. Griffin
Amy Manning
Nancy Merrill

November 13, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agency Heads and HR Contacts
State of Idaho Agencies

FROM: Susan E. Buxton, Administrator
Division of Human Resources

SUBJECT: Return to Stage Two

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan E. Buxton".

On Friday, November 13, 2020, Governor Brad Little and Health and Welfare Director Dave Jeppesen announced the State of Idaho would be returning to Stage Two of the Idaho Rebounds plan, effective November 14, 2020 at 12:00 a.m.

In summary, this updated Stay Healthy Order, provides for the following:

- Businesses and governmental agencies may continue operations at physical locations.
- Gatherings of 10 people or more (with exceptions noted in the Order) are prohibited.
- Patrons of bars, nightclubs and restaurants are to remain seated.
- Face coverings are required in long-term care facilities.
- Individuals must adhere to physical distancing and sanitation requirements.

In the Order, Governor Little and Director Jeppesen cited the most recent report from the White House Coronavirus Task Force as a factor in this decision, which states "Idaho is in the red zone for cases.... with the 12th highest rate in the nation." Governor Little and Director Jeppesen noted local health districts have traced infections to gatherings of people, including school-related events, social gatherings, and recreational events.

State of Idaho agencies have done a remarkable job of putting safe workplace procedures and protocols into practice to ensure the health and safety of our employees and visitors to our worksites. As a result, we have not had any major outbreaks amongst our employee population. We are appreciative of the work of agency leadership in keeping our employees safe.

Due to social gatherings outside of the workplace, virus activity has continued to spread; therefore, with the upcoming holiday and flu season, DHR is encouraging agencies to review their Return to Work Plans and consider if allowing additional staff to telecommute would enhance safety within the workplace.

In making this consideration, please remember that government employees are considered essential and that government operations at physical location must continue to operate.

This update from the Governor's Office will be discussed during our Agency HR Leadership and Agency Leadership meetings.

Please review and distribute to staff appropriately.