

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LINK TO MEDIA RELEASE

### **Gov. Cooper Issues Executive Order Relaxes State's Outdoor Mask Mandate and Eases Mass Gathering Limits**

HILLSBOROUGH, N.C. April 29, 2021 — Governor Roy Cooper and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. gave an update on the state's current data, trends and vaccination progress. As the state's metrics and key indicators remain stable, Governor Cooper also signed an Executive Order outlining safety measures for the month of May. Executive Order No. 209 will take effect Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 5pm and is set to expire June 1. As more North Carolinians get vaccinated and adhere to safety protocols over the course of the next month, the state anticipates lifting more restrictions [June 1<sup>st</sup>](#).

"While our numbers are mostly stable, we have more work to do to beat back this pandemic," said Governor Cooper. "Let's work hard in May and get as many people vaccinated as we can before summer gets here."

Under the new Executive Order, masks will still be required indoors but are no longer mandated outdoors. Masks are still strongly recommended outdoors by NC DHHS in crowded areas and higher risk settings where social distancing is difficult.

Executive Order No. 209 will also increase mass gathering capacity limits. The number of people who may gather indoors will increase from 50 to 100 and the number of people who may gather outdoors will increase from 100 to 200. Occupancy limits currently in place will remain the same.

### **State continues to strive to get two-thirds of adults at least partially vaccinated**

"In Orange County, we have enough vaccine for everyone. Everyone age 16 and up is eligible for a free COVID-19 vaccine," said Orange County Health Director Quintana Stewart. "We have walk-in and pop-up clinics every week that are convenient for our community members. No ID or insurance are required."

Orange County Health Department offers self-scheduling of COVID vaccine appointments.

Visit <https://myspot.nc.gov>.

- Search for zip code 27278
- Choose a time and date that work for your schedule.

- You can also call (919) 913-8088 for assistance in obtaining an appointment. The phone line is operated daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Spanish and other languages available.

The Orange County Health Department offers walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinics every week:

- Monday 2 pm - 7pm
- Wednesday 8 am - 1 pm
- Thursday 2 pm - 7 pm *\*On April 29th there will be no walk-in clinic. The following Thursday will resume the normal weekly schedule.*
- Friday 8 am - 1 pm

LOCATION: [Whitted Human Services Center at 300 West Tryon St., Hillsborough, NC 27278](#)

The Orange County Health Department is hosting the following walk-in COVID-19 vaccine clinics.

- Rogers Road Community Center on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at 101 Edgar St., Chapel Hill.
- Lakeview Mobile Home Park on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at 1000 Weaver Dairy Rd. in Chapel Hill.

For the most up-to-date COVID-19 vaccine clinic schedule visit the [OCHD COVID-19 Vaccine page](#).

### **Related Links**

- Executive Order 209: <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO209-Easing-Statewide-Restrictions.pdf>
- Frequently Asked Questions: <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO-No.-209-FAQ.pdf>
- OCHD COVID-19 Vaccine page: <https://www.orangecountync.gov/2617/Vaccine>

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