

# GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI



## MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TRADE

### REVISED GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS OPERATIONS

**Mbabane, Eswatini** – The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade, as directed by His Excellency the Right Honourable Prime Minister last Friday, hereby presents the following revised guidelines for businesses that have been allowed to operate.

It is very important, however, to note that even though business operations have been relaxed, the measures of a National Emergency and partial lockdown are still in full force. Therefore, Emaswati are strongly advised to adhere to them at all times. It is the responsibility of every Liswati to protect themselves and each other.

In order to minimise congestion, the following businesses shall now revert to normal business operating hours except where businesses fall within COVID-19 hot spots. This shall also give people the opportunity to do their shopping once and stay at home thereafter. Local authorities and security forces shall continue to advise and intensify control measures within Manzini and others hotspots.

Businesses that will revert to normal operating hours, in the rest of the

country's regions, are therefore as follows:

1. Clothing Shops
2. Furniture Shops
3. Stationery Shops
4. Car Wash businesses
5. Automobile Workshops, Spares Shops & Repair shops
6. Electronics, cellphone and repair businesses
7. Car Dealerships
8. Shoe Repairs
9. Laundromats & Dry Cleaners
10. All General Dealers
11. Cosmetics & Beauty Shops
12. Driving Schools
13. Clothing Vendors
14. Craft Vendors
15. Photography Studios
16. Jewellers
17. Hair Dressing Salons and barber shops
18. Agents and consultants
19. Décor Shops

## 20. Vehicle Testing Services

All previously operating businesses shall continue to observe the previous guidelines as announced. The following businesses, as announced by His Excellency, shall operate under the following conditions:

<b>Business</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
Cosmetics and Beauty Shops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No make-up and beauty procedures allowed.</li><li>• Regularly sanitise shops and high touch surfaces with alcohol-based sanitiser.</li><li>• Both clients and customers should wear masks at all times.</li><li>• Screening for all workers and clients when entering premises.</li><li>• Social distancing shall be practiced at all times.</li><li>• There should be sufficient ventilation within premises</li><li>• Sanitise all workers and clients when entering premises with alcohol-based sanitizer or running water and soap.</li><li>• General health and hygiene standards shall be practiced at all times.</li></ul>

<p>Driving Schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructors and learners should wear masks at all times.</li> <li>• Windows should be kept opened at all times.</li> <li>• Vehicles to be sanitised between lessons.</li> <li>• Sanitise instructors and clients with alcohol-based sanitizer.</li> <li>• General health and hygiene standards shall be practiced at all times.</li> </ul>
<p>Craft Vendors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observe social distancing of at least 2.5M between Stalls</li> <li>• Regularly sanitise all surfaces and crafts.</li> <li>• Sanitise all workers and clients when entering premises with alcohol-based sanitizer or running water and soap.</li> <li>• Wear masks at all times.</li> <li>• Observe social distancing.</li> <li>• Craft accomodation facilities remain off limits.</li> <li>• General health and hygiene standards shall be practiced at all times.</li> </ul>

<p>Clothing Vendors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice Social Distancing. A minimum 2.5M should be observed in between stalls.</li> <li>• Limit number of customers at a given time.</li> <li>• Shall regularly spray clothes with alcohol-based sanitiser.</li> <li>• Workers and clients shall be sanitised with alcohol-based sanitizer or running water and soap before touching clothes.</li> <li>• General Health and hygiene standards to be followed.</li> </ul>
<p>General Dealers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide screening for all workers and clients when entering premises.</li> <li>• Wear masks at all times.</li> <li>• Practice Social Distancing.</li> <li>• Practice sanitisation of all workers and customers using alcohol-based sanitiser or running water and soap.</li> <li>• There should be sufficient ventilation within premises</li> <li>• General health and hygiene standards shall be practiced at all times.</li> </ul>

Photography Studios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear masks at all times.</li> <li>• Regularly sanitise studio equipment.</li> <li>• Practice Social Distancing.</li> <li>• Practise sanitisation of workers and clients using alcohol-based sanitizer or running water and soap.</li> <li>• General health and hygiene standards shall be practiced at all times.</li> </ul>
Hair Dressing Salons and Barber Shops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only hair services shall be allowed. No beauty procedures shall be allowed.</li> <li>• There shall only be one client serviced at a given time, on pre-appointment.</li> <li>• Disposable gloves shall be used on each client.</li> <li>• Disinfect all tools and implements according to industry standards.</li> <li>• Limit the use of powders and other irritants.</li> <li>• Clients are required to bring their own clean towels and encouraged to bring own barber machines.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shall regularly sanitise all high touch surfaces</li><li>• Provide screening for all workers and clients when entering premises.</li><li>• Both staff and clients shall wear masks at all times. Staffers shall further wear face shields.</li><li>• Social distancing shall be observed.</li><li>• There should be sufficient ventilation within premises</li><li>• General health and hygiene standards shall be practiced at all times.</li></ul>
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**Conditions for liquor business operations**

The following conditions shall apply to liquor businesses.

- Liquor shall **strictly** and **only** be sold for home use. No sit-ins shall be allowed. **No house parties** and **drinking in groups** shall be allowed. Action shall be taken against anyone found to be in contravention of these guidelines.
- Liquor outlets (including bottle stores, bars, pubs, wines & malt) shall operate on Mondays to Thursdays from 11am to 5pm. No liquor sale shall take place on weekends or beyond the stipulated time.

- Members of the public are limited to a maximum of two cases, or two trays of cans for beer and ciders; not more than two bottles of whiskey or spirits and not more than 5L of wine per purchase, at retail outlets.
- Drinking from the same container is strictly prohibited.
- Liquor businesses shall provide screening for all workers and clients when entering premises.
- All high-touch surfaces shall be regularly sanitised.
- Liquor outlets have the responsibility to ensure that no customers consume alcohol outside their premises and allow proper social distancing in the queues outside their outlets.
- Staff canteens for armed forces are strictly prohibited from selling liquor to the public.
- Manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors should not sell to anyone without a liquor licence. Any wholesaler who will sell to unlicensed businesses will have their liquor licences revoked for the duration of the pandemic.
- The Ministry and all relevant stakeholders shall be intensifying its inspection exercise to ensure compliance and there will be zero tolerance on non-conformity. Liquor businesses that fail to adhere to these Guidelines may be closed down until after the COVID-19 pandemic figures stabilise.
- Members of the public are urged to report any non-conformity to the



National Disaster Management Agency's Toll-Free Number **112** or the Royal Eswatini Police Service on **999**.

### **Businesses still up for consideration**

Government shall continue to engage businesses with the view of determining how they intend to strengthen COVID-19 prevention guidelines in their respective industries. These include the businesses that are still up for consideration, such as Gyms, Beauty Spas, Casinos and Lotto shops, entertainment venues as well as sports facilities, amongst others.

### **Strengthening of business inspections**

The Ministry shall work in collaboration with the Royal Eswatini Police Services, Regional Administrators, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Eswatini Revenue Authority to strengthen our inspection exercise.

We, therefore, urge all businesses to ensure that they comply with the Guidelines as stipulated; failing which Government shall close down these businesses and effect stiff penalties as regulated. The issuance of operating permits, therefore, shall be put on hold for now except where businesses require them for cross-border purposes.

As I conclude, may I once again urge members of the public to report all businesses that fail to adhere to the Guidelines to the NDMA toll-free number: **112**.

Thank you.

**Released by:**

**Senator Manqoba B. Khumalo**

Minister for Commerce, Industry and Trade

**11<sup>th</sup> June 2020**