

Orange Tier – Updates to Childcare, TK-12 Schools, OST Programs, Youth Sports, Higher Ed

As you may know, the State announced that San Francisco will move into the Orange Tier on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. An overall summary of all Orange Tier Reopening in San Francisco can be found at <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/C19-07-Summary-of-Changes.pdf>

Below is a summary of all the orange tier reopening as it applies to education and childcare broken out by sector. This is long – please read as applicable to your site.

Childcare

- Limits on cohort size have been removed. Childcare sites can revert back to licensing ratios.
- Staff may work with more than one cohort.
- Children may participate in up to 2 extracurricular cohorts in addition to childcare.
- Children should remain at least 3 feet apart when participating in independent activities.
- Sports, singing, and related activities are now allowed.
- Outdoor field trips are allowed as long as shared vehicles and public transportation are not used.
- Travel advisory and recommendations for quarantine after travel updated.

Link to the updated childcare directive:

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-14-Childcare.pdf>

Link to the updated childcare guidance (all updates are in blue):

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/covid-guidance/2020-14-Guidance-Childcare.pdf>

Schools (TK-12 grades)

- Routine screening testing for staff is no longer required.
- Student seats should be at least 3 feet apart, and do not need to face the same direction.
- Plexiglass barriers or other partitions no longer routinely recommended, regardless of the distance between student seats.
- Clarification on student movement and activity in the classroom.
- Clarification on sharing supplies.
- Students may participate in up to 2 extracurricular cohorts.
- Singing and wind instruments are allowed with face masks and instrument covers (see OST guidance, will be incorporated into schools guidance shortly).
- Outdoor field trips are allowed if no shared vehicles or public transportation are used.

Link to the updated schools directive:

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-33-Schools.pdf>

Link to the updated schools guidance (all updates are in blue):

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/covid-guidance/2020-33-Guidance-TK12-Schools.pdf>

Out of School Time (OST) Programs

- Physical distancing in classroom settings decreased to 3 feet.
- Staff may work with more than one cohort.
- Most children and youth can be in two OST cohorts outside of school or childcare.
- Most OST cohorts can have up to 27 people, including children, youth and staff.
- Cohorts that involve indoor sports, dance or exercise can have up to 16 people, including staff.
- Sports and dance activities in OST programs must follow SFDPH and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidelines. See <https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2021-01-Sports-Youth-and-Adult.pdf>
- Singing and wind instruments are allowed with face masks and instrument covers.
- Outdoor field trips are allowed if no shared vehicles or public transportation are used.
- Travel advisory and quarantine recommendations updated.

Link to the updated OST directive:

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-21-Out-of-School-Time-Programs.pdf>

Link to the updated OST guidance (all updates are in blue):

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/covid-guidance/Guidance-Out-of-School-Programs.pdf>

Institutions of Higher Education Programs

- Expanded indoor in person instruction, including allowing lectures, raising capacity limits, removing duration limits
- Use of private indoor facilities does not require one hour interval between uses, but is still recommended
- Prevention Plan Checklist and Prevention Plan updated to reflect changes
- Removed requirement to have students face same direction
- Libraries allowed to open if they follow indoor retail guidance and directive
- Updated guidance on collegiate athletics
- Updated guidance on group singing/chorus, musical instruments

Link to the updated Higher Education directive:

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2020-22-Higher-Education-Programs.pdf>

Link to the updated Higher Education guidance (all updates are in blue):

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/covid-guidance/2020-22-Guidance-Higher-Education-Programs.pdf>

Some additional guidance that may be of interest:

- Tip Sheet for Safer Social Interactions, including after COVID-19 Vaccinations

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/ig/COVID-19-Tips-Safer-Social-Interactions.pdf>

- Tips and FAQs for Gatherings

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/covid-guidance/Gatherings-Tips.pdf>

All Youth Sports

Link to the updated Youth Sports directive:

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/files/Directive-2021-01-Sports-Youth-and-Adult.pdf>

- Allowed if part of an organized and supervised youth sports program (including school, childcare, OST or other community based sponsored program or privately organized club or league) for all outdoor sports and most indoor sports. **Indoor water polo, ice hockey or wrestling is not permitted at this time.**
- Competitions are allowed under state guidelines (only in the county or with teams from adjacent counties – i.e., Marin, San Mateo and Alameda – in the same or less restrictive tier; no travel to other states), and only between two teams at a time except for outdoor low-contact sports like track and field, which can involve multiple teams. Only one competition per team per day is allowed. Travel out of California for competitions is prohibited.
- Youth participants, adult coaches and staff must wear face coverings at all times, including during practices, breaks and competitions, with a limited exception. Only while playing in a competition for an outdoor low/moderate contact sport, youth participants may remove face coverings if each participant can easily maintain at least six-foot distancing from other participants, coaches and staff. Youth participants in competitions involving outdoor high-contact sports must wear face coverings including while playing, except for swimming, diving, and synchronized swimming, as long as participants maintain at least six feet of distance. Face coverings must fit properly covering the nose and mouth, and bandanas, scarves and loosely woven masks are not made recommended.
- Youth participating in sports requiring specialize equipment may use indoor locker rooms to change their clothing as long as: locker rooms are limited to 25% of the facility's maximum capacity; face coverings are worn at all times other than while showering; showers may open in accordance with the rules for such facilities inside gyms and fitness centers; participants minimize their time inside; only one team uses the locker room at a time. Implementation of at least one DPH ventilation measure for locker room use is required.
- Participants, coaches and others may shout, yell, out cheer or chant in accordance with the general safety rules for such activities.
- Youth may not participate in a la carte or drop-in fitness classes at gyms or other fitness facilities.
- Adults may coach more than one sports team cohort at a time as long as they wear face coverings and adhere to social distancing.

Outdoor Sports

Type	Total Cohort Size*	How many total non-school cohorts can you belong to?	Screening Testing Req	Masks Req	Competition
Low-Contact	25, excluding coaches	2	No	Unless competition + >6ft	Yes, multi-team tournaments/meets allowed No spectators
Mod/High contact, except Water Polo	25, excluding coaches	2	No	Yes, except water sports	Yes, only two teams No spectators
Water Polo	25, excluding coaches	2	Yes**	N/A	Yes, only two teams No spectators

* Schools may exceed 25 participants if and to the extent necessary to compete in the sport, under a health and safety plan approved by DPH.

**Youth participants in outdoor water polo are required to wear face coverings if the water polo team (and any opposing team) satisfy the daily antigen testing or at least 3 times a week PCR testing requirements for collegiate sports.

Indoor Sports

- Elementary school children may not participate in indoor moderate-contact or high-contact sports at this time.
- Youth participants in indoor recreation activities must generally try to maintain at least six feet of distance from members of other households to the greatest extent feasible (subject to contact that is part of the necessary play in moderate-contact and high-contact sports).
- Implementation of at least one DPH ventilation measure is strongly encouraged for indoor recreational facilities while youth sports teams are using them.
- Capacity for indoor athletic recreation facilities is limited to 25% occupancy, up to 100 people.

Type	Total Cohort Size*	How many total non-school cohorts can you belong to?	Screening Testing Req	Masks Req	Competition
Low-Contact	16, including coaches	1	No	Yes, except water sports	Yes, only two teams No spectators
Moderate/ High Contact, except below	16, including coaches	1	Yes**	Yes, except water sports	Yes, only two teams No spectators
Water polo, Ice Hockey, Wrestling	Prohibited per SFDPH	-	-	-	-

* Indoor youth sports programs operated by schools may exceed 16 participants if and to the extent necessary to compete in the sport, under a health and safety plan approved by DPH.

**All participants, coaches, and other personnel must be tested for COVID-19 (a) before beginning to participate in the program, and (b) daily antigen testing or at least 3 times a week PCR testing requirements.