



Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tela Mange

Public Information Officer

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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TDLR moving employees to remote work in response to COVID-19

AUSTIN – Starting Tuesday and continuing until April 15:

- Most TDLR employees will work remotely.
- Other TDLR employees whose duties currently cannot be done remotely will report in staggered, smaller groups to work at the agency's offices.
- The customer service lobby at 920 Colorado St. will not be accepting visitors at this time and will be closed to the public.
- The most up-to-date TDLR information related to COVID-19 can be found here:
<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/covid19.htm>.

TDLR strongly urges employers of licensees who work in close quarters providing services to customers and clients – such as barbers, cosmetologists, massage therapists, driver education teachers, podiatrists, athletic trainers, audiologists and speech-language pathologists – to check the federal [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [Texas Department of State Health Services](#) and local health authority websites to determine whether it is appropriate to provide services. Whether to remain open and continue to provide services is a business decision.

People who are applying for TDLR licenses and need to take a test through the TDLR third-party testing vendor, PSI Services, will not be able to get practical (hands-on) tests in Amarillo and McAllen. Other testing sites will have a reduced number of testing seats available Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio. If a testing candidate arrives at a testing center and is exhibiting flu-like symptoms, they will be denied admission to the test center and can reschedule at no additional cost through April 30. PSI contact centers are currently experiencing longer than usual wait times. For more information please contact PSI at: <https://www.psonline.com/important-notice-update-concerning-covid-19-coronavirus/>

Late last week, TDLR:

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- canceled all professional and amateur [combative sports events](#) licensed by TDLR and scheduled between now and April 30, including Boxing, Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) and Muay Thai bouts;
- enacted provisions to authorize licensed Barber, Cosmetology, Driver Education and Massage Therapy schools to conduct temporary emergency distance education;
- canceled a number of advisory board meetings that had been scheduled for March and April; and
- canceled several in-person strategic planning sessions scheduled for late March. Present plans include a statewide livestream with no audience in mid-April.

TDLR may take additional measures to protect its staff, licensees, and consumers as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves.

About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public. Currently, the agency regulates 39 business and occupational licensing programs with more than 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

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