



# The Lagos State Infectious Diseases Regulation 2020



April 2020

## Overview

In a bid to contain the spread of the Coronavirus and manage the impact of the pandemic on lives and the economy, Lagos State Government issued the Infectious Diseases (Emergency Prevention) Regulations 2020 (“Regulations”) on 27 March 2020. The Regulations were passed pursuant to the Lagos State Health Law 2015 and Section 8 of the Quarantine Act, 2004.

The Regulations give the Governor of Lagos State the power to:

- Direct the screening/assessment of a potentially infectious person (a potentially infectious person is a person who has been infected by COVID-19 or has been exposed to an infected area within 14 days prior to his arrival into the state) and/or the isolation of such person. Where an individual refuses to comply with these directives, he/she will bear the costs of removal and or isolation.
- Restrict movement within, into or out of the State. Presently Lagos State is on lockdown for a period of 14 days as at 11pm, 30 March 2020 and all residents within the State are to comply with the Stay at Home” order.
- Exempt key workers such as providers of transportation or movement of essential services personnel and essential supplies which includes food, water, pharmaceutical products, medical supplies and medicines.
- Restrict or prohibit all public and social gatherings; order the temporary closure of public places, save for places used for providing essential services such as food, water, pharmaceutical and medical supplies.
- Restrict the conduct of trade, business and commercial activities within the State;
- Specify the manner in which the body of a person infected with COVID-19 is to be transported, stored and buried.
- Take all necessary actions to prevent, control, or contain the transmission of COVID-19 within the state.

The import of the Regulations on your staff is as follows:

- Limiting the extent of their mobility.
- Limiting their access to essential services only e.g. food, medical care etc.
- Having responsibility to share only accurate or verified information with respect to COVID-19
- Subjecting them to all directives by the State Government in ensuring the prevention, protection, control or containment of the spread of COVID-19

These restrictions also affect the way in which you conduct your business as follows:

- If you are a retailer of food, beverages, pharmaceuticals and other essential goods and services, it is currently an offence to inflate your prices within the state. The Governor of Lagos State has the power to order the seizure and forfeiture of your goods
- By this regulation, businesses own the responsibility of ensuring their employees comply with the directives of the State Government. This could be done by regular and timely communication of these directives and other updates regarding COVID-19 and setting up a taskforce or committee for enforcement.
- The uncertainty presented by the pandemic puts to test the adaptability and business continuity plans of Nigerian businesses to ensure they remain operational during these challenging times.

We present a copy of the Regulations for your review [here](#).



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