

FAQs About COVID-19 Curfew

Here are some answers about how the 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew affects you

Hillsborough County's Emergency Policy Group [enacted a countywide curfew on April 13, 2020](#), to further protect residents against the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus, determining that a curfew is a reasonable and prudent action to take in order to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents.

The curfew took effect that night.

Here are some questions and answers to help you understand what the curfew means to you:

What are the days and hours of the curfew?

Daily, from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m., until it is rescinded by the Emergency Policy Group (EPG).

What am I required to do during this time?

Remain in your home unless you are obtaining an essential service (see below), traveling to or from work at an essential business, or engaged in another essential activity.

What are the affected locations?

All of Hillsborough County, including Tampa, Temple Terrace, and Plant City.

Are there any exceptions that allow me to leave my home?

The curfew allows exceptions for engaging in essential activities and obtaining essential services; such as

- going to the hospital,
- going to the pharmacy,
- walking your dog,
- going to or from work as long as you are employed by an essential business,
- caring for or otherwise assisting a loved one or friend; or
- engaging in a form of exercise or recreation such as running or fishing (while observing social distancing guidelines).

What are some examples of things I can't do?

Gather with your friends for a party or another social occasion as that is not considered essential and, thus, is prohibited.

What happens to people who are caught violating the curfew?

It is the intent of the order to seek voluntary compliance and for law enforcement to educate and warn residents about the dangers of non-compliance. As a last resort, violations may be prosecuted as a second-degree misdemeanor.

Must I follow social distancing guidelines when engaging in essential activities like walking my dog or exercising during curfew hours?

Yes, practicing safe [social distancing](#) at all times is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slowing its spread.

Get Connected. Stay Alert.

For more information on COVID-19, and any other potential emergency in the region, visit [HCFLGov.net/StaySafe](https://www.hcflgov.net/StaySafe) and sign up for the HCFL Alert system. Additionally, you can follow Hillsborough County on social media at Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor for updates. For general County information, call (813) 272-5900, the County's main information line.

