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## **ILCC: Updated COVID-19 Mitigation Efforts to Take Effect in Region 5** *Non-compliance may result in liquor license suspension*

CHICAGO— Additional COVID-19 mitigation efforts go into effect October 22, 2020 in Region 5 in response to continued positivity rate averages greater than or equal to 8% for three consecutive days. The Illinois Liquor Control Commission is reminding licensed liquor establishments in Region 5 that failure to abide by the new mitigation efforts could result in immediate enforcement action against their license. Region 5 is a twenty-county region including Alexander, Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Marion, Massac, Perry, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Wabash, Wayne, White, and Williamson counties.

**[The new Region 5 mitigations \(available via this link\) being imposed are listed below and go into effect on Thursday, October 22:](#)**

- Bars and restaurants must close at 11pm and may reopen no earlier than 6am the following day.
- Bars and restaurants can serve patrons at tables with outdoor seating only. No indoor service or seating is allowed.
- No ordering, seating, or congregating at bar is allowed and it is recommended that bar stools be removed. No indoor service or seating is allowed.
- No standing or congregating indoors or outdoors while waiting for a table or exiting the premises.
- No dancing or standing indoors.
- Reservations required for each party.
- No seating of multiple parties at one table.
- Meetings, social events and gatherings are limited to the lesser of 25 people or 25% of overall room capacity. (This restriction modifies the previous limitation of the lesser of 50 people or 50% of overall room capacity.)
- No party buses are allowed.
- Gaming and casinos must be closed by 11:00 p.m. and not reopen until 8:00 a.m. per the Illinois Gaming Board requirements. Food and beverage services in gaming establishments have been suspended. See link for additional Gaming Board requirements: <https://www.igb.illinois.gov/>.

Under the Illinois Liquor Control Act (235 ILCS 5/7-5), local liquor commissioners may temporarily cease the liquor license of a business found to be posing an immediate threat to the welfare of their community. Suspensions may last up to seven days. [Click here for more information on a Local Liquor Control Commission's Summary Authority.](#)

The new mitigation efforts will remain in effect until Region 5 is able to reduce its seven-day rolling average positivity rate to or below 6.5% for 14 consecutive days. When the region is able to meet the 6.5% sustained positivity rate target, the region will be allowed to return to regular Phase 4 guidelines without these enhanced mitigations.

Information on the State of Illinois' central website for COVID-19 is [available at coronavirus.illinois.gov](https://coronavirus.illinois.gov). For additional information related to COVID-19 and the ILCC, please visit the ILCC's website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/ilcc>.

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