



The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) continues to monitor the risk of COVID-19 transmission in the Community. Per Executive Order No. 16, there are no gathering limitations, provided physical distancing is maintained. This is applicable to faith based organizations as well. Requests to exceed the gathering limitations are not required in Phase III, contingent community members, entities, organizations, departments follow all other COVID-19 prevention measures when gathering or hosting an event.

Guidance on Gatherings: A gathering can be a small or a large number of people in attendance in an indoor or outdoor setting. Examples of gatherings, small or large, includes but are not limited to, individuals gathering with people that do not live within their homes, a community event, concert, festival, conference, parade, wedding, or sporting event.

- The more people an individual interacts with at a gathering and the longer that interaction lasts, the higher the individual's potential risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 and then spreading COVID-19 to others.
- The higher the level of community transmission in the area where the gathering is held, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spreading at the gathering.
- Gathering indoors poses a greater risk than gathering outdoors due to ventilation. Gathering outdoors is a safer option.
- All other COVID-19 measures should be followed at the event e.g. physical distancing, hand washing, using hand sanitizer when hand washing is not available, staying home when you or anyone in your home is sick and getting tested immediately if you have any COVID-19 symptoms.
- If you have been exposed to COVID-19, please immediately follow the precautions outlined in the [Tribal Health Department's COVID-19 guidance](#).
- As O'otham and Pee-Posh people, gathering is at the core of our Himdag (culture), and we understand the need to embrace gathering as an essential part of life. As a Community we are now aware, gatherings present a risk for increasing spread of COVID-19.
- Therefore, it is the responsibility of all community members, employees, and visitors of the Gila River Indian Community to follow the COVID-19 prevention measures, to ensure the safety of all members, employees, and congregations of our faith-based communities.

For the safety of all, the purpose of this correspondence is to make you aware of the changes to the gathering limitations and for community members, entities, organizations, departments to continue to follow all other COVID-19 prevention measures to protect our Community.

We thank you in advance for adhering to the guidelines to protect our Community. If you have questions, please contact the Tribal Health Department at (520) 562-5100.

Respectfully,

**On behalf of Governor Lewis's COVID-19 Task Force
Unified Command, Incident Management Team**