



## HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

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### COVID-19 Memo #11

#### Directives, Recommendations and Guidelines from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters (August 31, 2020)

#### For City and County of Honolulu Only

As the previous Memo, Memo #11 is primarily for HHMH temples and facilities within the City and County of Honolulu. As of August 27, 2020, new stricter restrictions are in effect for the Island of Oahu as the City and County of Honolulu enters a phase which is reminiscent of the earlier “Stay at Home, Work from Home” Order. This order will be in effect until September 9, 2020. There are some modifications such as Houses of Worship being considered as an “Essential Businesses,” but there are requirements in effect. Please refer to the Mayor’s order for details. Some important requirements for Houses of Worship under this Order include, but not limited to:

- 1) Funerals and related services are permitted, but limited to gatherings of 10 or less with face masks and physical distancing requirements being followed,
- 2) Clergy can chant and (although discouraged) singing and wind instruments are allowed, but there are safety measures which need to be in place like the 10 feet physical distancing requirement.  
**HQ recommendation: No mass singing like choir singing at temple including the use of wind instruments,**
- 3) In-person spiritual services like Sunday Services are allowed, but must follow safety and good hygiene practices like the wearing of masks by most if not all persons and physical distancing requirements.  
**HQ Recommendation: In-person Sunday Services not be held for the duration of this Order as most of our participants are of high risk. The continuance of virtual Sunday services is encouraged.**
- 4) In business office break rooms, no social gathering is allowed at all during breaks and lunchtime. Lunch or Break rooms can be used for limited minimal usage only such as warming food with no eating or socializing together in the area, and
- 5) As an Essential Business and for Minimum Basic Operations, Temple offices can remain open, but must follow all the safety and good hygiene requirements.  
**HQ Recommendation: For larger offices, a staggered work schedule is recommended.**

**For All Counties: Hawaii County, Maui County, Kauai County and City & County of Honolulu**

- 1) Please regularly check the Federal CDC Guidelines, State of Hawaii Governor's including Department of Health and Department of Education guidelines, and also your local County and/or Mayor's websites. As the conditions vary from County to County, it is important that you check your local County and/or Mayor's Websites as different Counties have different guidelines, measures and restrictions.
- 2) If you have reopened, do not feel obligated to remain open. If the situation and circumstances are such, please reconsider holding in-person services. All temples and affiliates are strongly encouraged to offer virtual online services, meetings and seminars, etc.
- 3) Please remember that the State of Hawaii has a travel quarantine which requires all individuals, except those who are exempt, who travel to the neighbor islands from Oahu to quarantine for 14 days.  
**HQ Recommendation: Interisland travel is not recommended.**
- 4) Mindful of parameters, in making our temples vibrant and sound, and to connect with one another and help each other, let us think outside of the box as we try to adjust to this new normal and adjust to ever changing situation with COVID-19 by using modern technology and age-tested methods of safe communication.
- 5) Please check this link for possible financial aid.

Hawaii Emergency Management Association (HI-EMA) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)  
<https://hawaii-medical-alliance.myshopify.com/>

Let us do our part to stay safe for not only our own sake, but the sake of others too. Although the largest concern is for healthcare facilities and other large enclosed facilities in the City and County of Honolulu which are reaching their limit to care for and safely house individuals, it could happen in other Counties too. Let us be mindful of the fact that this virus can spread so easily and quickly without symptoms. Thank you to all ministers and temple leaders and all those connected to our temples who are tirelessly endeavoring to keep our temples both open and safe!

In gassho,

Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Bishop &  
Dr. Warren Tamamoto, State President  
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii