



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

1727 PALI HIGHWAY ■ HONOLULU, HI 96813 ■ PH: (808) 522-9200 ■ FAX: (808) 522-9209

COVID-19 Memo #14

Directives, Recommendations and Guidelines from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters (March 3, 2021)

Vaccinations

COVID-19 Vaccinations are being administered across the State of Hawaii. **The DOH has indicated that religious organization employees (clergy and lay staff) are category 1c and vaccines should be available in the month of March. More details will be sent at a later date concerning vaccines.** However, the various counties have different timelines and thus please check your local county updates for vaccines.

For the City and County of Honolulu (Oahu)

Hawaii Kyodan temples and facilities within the City and County of Honolulu. As of February 25, 2021, the City and County of Honolulu (Oahu) has entered Tier 3 with less restrictions. Full version of the Mayor's Emergency Order No. 2021-02 can be found here:

<http://www.honolulu.gov/mayor/proclamations-orders-and-rules.html>

Restrictions, regulations, recommendations for:

Gatherings. Indoor and outdoor social gatherings of more than ten (10) individuals are prohibited. For purposes of this Order, a “social gathering” is a gathering or event that brings together persons from multiple households or living units at the same time for a discrete, shared or group experience in a single room, space, or place such as a private home, park, auditorium, stadium, arena, conference room, lunch room, meeting hall, or other indoor or outdoor space.

Funeral, mortuary, cremation, burial, cemetery, and related services, provided that each death-related event (funeral, etc.) is: (a) limited to twenty-five (25) individuals maximum (with members from different households/living units maintaining physical distance of at least six (6) feet between each other at all times); (b) face coverings are worn; and (c) there is compliance with all other applicable Social Distancing Requirements;

In-person spiritual services. In-person spiritual services may be conducted provided applicable Social Distancing Requirements are adhered to including, but not limited to, the wearing of face coverings and maintaining proper physical distancing.

Drive-in services (e.g., drive-in movies, holiday-related drive-in/drive-thru events, spiritual/religious services, etc.). May be conducted provided all of the following:

- a. All persons attending the service must drive up in an enclosed vehicle. Attendees of the service must remain in their vehicles at all times, except to use the restroom while complying with Social Distancing Requirements (including wearing a face covering and maintaining six (6) feet of physical distance between others). Where restroom facilities are provided, the organizers must ensure the

availability of handwashing stations or sanitizer, and the routine maintenance and cleaning of the facilities consistent with CDC guidance.

- b. Vehicle windows, sunroofs and convertible tops must remain closed during the entire service, unless the vehicle is parked more than six (6) feet away from any other vehicle.
- c. Each vehicle may only be occupied by either (i) members of the same household or living unit; or (ii) limited to five (5) individuals for mixed household/living unit attendees.
- d. Generally, no food, beverages, equipment, or materials of any kind may be distributed or collected during the service. However, organizers may use unattended drop-boxes, or distribute individually packaged (or pre-ordered) food, beverages, equipment, or materials consistent with CDC guidelines and the Order. Please refer to C&C of Honolulu website for more details.

For Hawaii County, Maui County and Kauai County including City & County of Honolulu

Please periodically check the following websites for updates.

Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

State of Hawaii: <https://recoverynavigator.hawaii.gov/reopening-status/>

State Department of Health Vaccine Information: <https://hawaiicovid19.com/vaccine-info/>

State Department of Education: <https://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/Pages/Home.aspx>

County of Hawaii: <https://coronavirus-response-county-of-hawaii-hawaiicountygis.hub.arcgis.com/>

City and County of Honolulu: <https://www.oneoahu.org/>

County of Kauai: <https://www.kauai.gov/covid-19>

County of Maui: <https://mauinuistrong.net/>

HQ Recommendations:

1. Air travel is not recommended for Hawaii Kyodan business unless it is an emergency or urgent business.
2. Local temple leaders, please use your discretion taking into consideration your ability to provide safety measures including sanitation and disinfection and the overall sentiment of your membership and temple staff and/or volunteers as to whether you reopen or not to provide in-person services. If you are providing online spiritual services, it is highly recommended that you continue to do so. If you are reopening another consideration is a hybrid service of in-person and online. Please refrain from mass singing.

Finally, 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 the still fluid situation with COVID-19 by using modern technology and age-tested methods of safe communication and good communication. Thank you for tirelessly endeavoring to keep our temples and community operating and safe!

In gassho,

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