

List of Texas Cities/Counties Emergency Orders

Texas **does not** have a statewide shelter-in-place order, and none of the existing state orders define essential businesses. [Here is a link to the Governor's order](#) that most directly impacts veterinary medicine, which, in part, ordered licensed healthcare facilities to postpone surgeries and procedures not immediately medically necessary. The order expressed concern regarding the unnecessary depletion of hospital capacity and personal protective equipment (PPE). It further stated that the prohibition does not apply to procedures performed within the proper standards of care that don't deplete hospital capacity or the PPE supply. The reference most applicable to veterinary medicine references the necessity not to deplete the PPE needed to cope with the COVID- 19 disaster.

Cities and Counties with Emergency or Disaster Orders in Place (LINKS)

[Anderson County](#)

[Aransas County](#)

[Bastrop County](#)

[Bee County](#)

[Bell County](#)

- **Bell County/City of Killeen:** Veterinary care and welfare services to animals are essential businesses that can continue to operate.
 - Judge Blackburn orders a “stay home, stay safe” order, effective March 23 until April 3.
 - Full details of the Bell County order can be found [here](#).

[Bexar County](#)

- **City of San Antonio/Bexar County:** Veterinary clinics are exempted businesses listed under “healthcare services,” includes all healthcare services provided to animals and provides that the exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Mayor Nirenberg and Judge Wolff’s order runs March 23 to April 9.
 - Full details of the City of San Antonio order can be found [here](#).
 - Full details of the Bexar County order can be found [here](#).

[Blanco County](#)

[Bowie County](#)

[Brazoria County](#)

- **Brazoria County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under “essential healthcare operations.” *The order provides that, “Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals.”* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Judge Matt Sebesta issued a shelter-in-place order to be effective March 26 through April 3.
 - Full details of the Brazoria County order can be found [here](#).

[Brewster County](#)

[Brazos County](#)

- **Brazos County:** “Healthcare operations” are considered “essential activities” that include all veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Judge Peters issued a shelter-in-place order to be effective March 24 through April 7. The order exempts essential employees and businesses.
 - Full details of the Brazos County order can be found [here](#).

[Briscoe County](#)

[Brooks County](#)

[Brown County](#)

[Burnet County](#)

[Caldwell County](#)

[Cameron County](#)

- **Cameron County:** Shelter-in-place order does not apply to travel for “healthcare operations,” which includes veterinary care and all healthcare services provided to animals. A healthcare operation is an essential business. If someone in a household tests positive for COVID-19, they must isolate at home.
 - Judge Trevino announced a mandatory shelter-in-place order for Cameron County that runs March 25 through April 8.
 - Full details of the Cameron County order can be found [here](#).

[Cass County](#)

[Castro County](#)

[Chambers County](#)

[Clay County](#)

[Collin County](#)

- **Collin County:** Order did not close any businesses but orders them to increase social distancing.
 - Collin County issued a seven-day stay-at-home order on March 24.
 - Full details of the Collin County order can be found [here](#).

[Comal County](#)

[Coryell County](#)

[Crosby County](#)

[Culberson County](#)

[Dallas County](#)

- **City of Dallas/Dallas County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under “essential healthcare operations.” The order provides that, *“Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals.”* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. The

order further provides that, "Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures." *"(f) All elective medical, surgical and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in Dallas County. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed 'elective' by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response."* According to the City of Dallas FAQs (linked below), exempted services do not include elective veterinary medical, surgical and dental procedures.

- Judge Clay Jenkins issued a "stay home, stay safe" order that runs March 23 to April 3.
- Dallas has begun community-wide testing (must show symptoms).
- Mayor Johnson clarified his order to include all residents within the city limits of Dallas, regardless if their residence falls within the Dallas County lines.
- Full details of the Dallas County order can be found [here](#).
- Full details of the City of Dallas order can be found [here](#).

[Deaf Smith County](#)
[Denton County](#)

- **Denton County/City of Denton:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under "essential healthcare operations." *The order provides that, "Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare."* The order further provides that, "Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures pursuant to Section 2(f) of this Order. *(f) All elective medical, surgical and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Denton. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed 'elective' by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response."*
 - Denton County Judge Andy Eads and City of Denton Mayor Chris Watts jointly issued an amended executive order for Denton County and a second Mayoral declaration of disaster and order for the City of Denton requiring residents to stay at home effective March 25 for seven days unless renewed.
 - Full details of the City of Denton order can be found [here](#).

[Duval County](#)
[Ector County](#)
[El Paso County](#)

- **City of El Paso/El Paso County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under "healthcare operations" and includes all veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.

- Judge Ricardo Samaniego and Mayor Dee Margo issued “stay home, work safe” orders March 24 continuing until otherwise terminated, rescinded, superseded or amended by the County Judge or Commissioners Court.
- Full details of the El Paso County order can be found [here](#).

[Ellis County](#)

[Erath County](#)

[Fort Bend County](#)

[Frio County](#)

[Galveston County](#)

- **Galveston County/League City:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under “essential healthcare operations.” *The order provides that, “Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. The order further provides that, “Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures pursuant to Section 2(f) of this Order.” “(f) All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Denton. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed “elective” by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.*
 - Judge Mark Henry issued a stay-at-home order March 24 through April 3.
 - Full details of the Galveston County order can be found [here](#).

[Gregg County](#)

- **City of Longview/Gregg County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses.
 - The City of Longview and Gregg County have issued mandatory orders for residents to shelter-in-place March 26 through April 9.
 - Full details can be found [here](#) or [here](#) (order text not available).

[Guadalupe County](#)

[Hale County](#)

[Hansford County](#)

[Harrison County](#)

[Hardin County](#)

[Harris County](#)

- **City of Houston/Harris County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under “healthcare services,” includes all healthcare services provided to animals and provides that the exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Harris County Judge Linda Hidalgo issued a “stay home, work safe” order March 24 through April 3.
 - Full details of the Harris County order can be found [here](#).

[Hays County](#)

- **Hays County:** The order lists veterinary care provided to animals is an essential business listed under “essential healthcare services.” *“Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals.”* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. The order further provides that, “Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures.”
 - Judge Ruben Becerra announced that Hays County will be issuing a shelter-at-home order and an 11 p.m. curfew in Hays County.
 - Full details of the Hays County order can be found [here](#).

[Henderson County](#)
[Hidalgo County](#)

- **Hidalgo County:** Order prohibits social gathering or events of 10 or more people and enacts a curfew between the hours of 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. (does not apply to travel to essential businesses, retail, medical and critical infrastructure). The order states that non-essential businesses are prohibited, gives some examples and does not apply to essential retail establishments or medical facilities as long as precautions are taken (not defined). Critical infrastructure is to remain operational including *“agriculture and food supply.”*
 - County Judge Richard Cortez issued the order March 22 to April 5.
 - Full details of the Hidalgo County order can be found [here](#).

[Hockley County](#)
[Hood County](#)
[Hunt County](#)

- **Hunt County:** Veterinary care provided to animals is an essential business listed under “essential healthcare operations,” which provides that the exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. The order further provides that, *“Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures as established in sub section 1(f) of this order. (f) All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in Hunt county. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed ‘elective’ by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.”*
 - The Hunt County Commissioner’s Court issued a shelter-in-place, or “stay at home” order, that runs March 15 through April 3 unless officials choose to extend the order.
 - Full details of the Hunt County order can be found [here](#).

[Jasper County](#)
[Jeff Davis County](#)
[Jefferson County](#)
[Jim Wells County](#)
[Johnson County](#)
[Kinney County](#)

[Kaufman County](#)
[Kennedy County](#)
[Kleberg County](#)

- **Kleberg County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under “essential healthcare operations.” *The order provides that, “Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals.”* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. Essential businesses shall comply with social distancing.
 - Full details of the Kleberg County order can be found [here](#).

[Llano County](#)
[Lee County](#)
[Leon County](#)
[Liberty County](#)
[Limestone County](#)
[Live Oak County](#)
[Llano County](#)
[Madison County](#)
[Marion County](#)
[Maverick County](#)
[Milam County](#)

- **Milam County:** No social gatherings of 10 or more except for business activities or other essential services, which are not defined.
 - Judge Steven Young issued shelter in place March 23 to May 4.
 - Full details of the Milam County order can be found [here](#).

[McLennan County](#)

- **City of Waco/McLennan County:** This order provides that "Healthcare Operations" include veterinary care and all healthcare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be construed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Judge Scott Felton and Mayor Deaver declared an emergency shelter-in-place order for the City of Waco on March 24.
 - Full details of the City of Waco order can be found [here](#).
 - Full details of the McLennan County order can be found [here](#).

[Montgomery County](#)
[Nacogdoches County](#)
[Navarro County](#)
[Newton County](#)
[Nueces County](#)

- **Nueces County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under “essential healthcare operations.” *The order provides that, “Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals.* This exemption shall be viewed

broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. The order further provides that, "Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures pursuant to Section 2(f) of this Order." *"(f) All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Denton. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.*

- Judge Barbara Canales issued a shelter-in-place order to be effective March 26 through April 8.
- Full details of the Nueces County order can be found [here](#).

[Orange County](#)

[Panola County](#)

[Pecos County](#)

[Potter County](#)

[Polk County](#)

[Presidio County](#)

[Randall County](#)

[Refugio County](#)

[Robertson County](#)

- **Robertson County:** The order lists veterinary care provided to animals as a "healthcare operation" to include *"veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals."* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Judge Charles Ellison issued a shelter-in-place order to be effective March 25 through April 8.
 - Full details of the Robertson County order can be found [here](#).

[Rockwall County](#)

- **Rockwell County:** Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under "essential healthcare operations." *The order provides that, "Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals.* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare." The order further provides that, "Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures pursuant to Section 2(f) of this Order. *(f) All elective medical, surgical and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Denton. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.*
- County Judge David Sweet has issued a shelter-in-place order for all Rockwall County residents March 24 through April 15.

- Full details can be found [here](#).

[San Jacinto County](#)

[Scurry County](#)

[Smith County](#)

[Starr County](#)

[Stephens County](#)

[Swisher County](#)

[Tarrant County](#)

- **City of Fort Worth/Tarrant County:** Veterinary care provided to animals is an essential business listed under “essential healthcare services.” The order further provides that, “Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures.” *“(11) All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Fort Worth. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed ‘elective’ by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.”*
 - Mayor Betsy Price and Judge Whitley implemented “stay home, work safe” restrictions March 24 through April 3 (city) and April 7 (county).
 - Full details of the City of Fort Worth order can be found [here](#).
 - Full details of the Tarrant County order can be found [here](#).

[Taylor County](#)

[Terry County](#)

[Travis County](#)

- **City of Austin/Travis County:** Veterinary services are essential businesses listed under “healthcare services,” includes all healthcare services provided to animals and provides that the exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.
 - Mayor Adler issued a “stay home, work safe” order March 24 through April 13.
 - The full City of Austin order can be found [here](#).

[Tyler County](#)

[Val Verde County](#)

[Victoria County](#)

[Webb County](#)

[Wichita County](#)

[Willacy County](#)

[Wood County](#)

[Young County](#)

[Williamson County](#)

- **Williamson County:** The order provides that healthcare operations include veterinary care and all healthcare and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be construed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare, broadly defined.

Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to the current public health and safety concerns.

- Judge Bill Gravell issued a "stay home, stay safe" order that shall be effective March 24 to April 13.
- Full details of the Williamson County order can be found [here](#).

CITIES

City of Dallas: Veterinary clinics are essential businesses listed under "essential healthcare operations." The order provides that, *"Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals."* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. The order further provides that, "Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical and dental procedures." *"(f) All elective medical, surgical and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in Dallas County. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed 'elective' by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response."* According to the City of Dallas FAQs (linked below), exempted services do not include elective veterinary medical, surgical and dental procedures.

- Dallas has begun community-wide testing (must show symptoms).
- Mayor Johnson clarified his order to include all residents within the city limits of Dallas, regardless if their residence falls within the Dallas County lines.
- Full details of the City of Dallas order can be found [here](#).

[Lubbock](#)

- **City of Lubbock:** Veterinary clinics are specifically listed as essential businesses that may continue to operate provided federal and CDC guidelines are followed, including affirmative steps to ensure that social distancing of six feet is maintained.
 - Mayor Pope announced the closure of all non-essential businesses. The order runs March 24 through April 3.
 - Full details of the City of Lubbock order can be found [here](#).

[Waco](#)

[Lampasas](#)

- **City of Lampasas:** The order provides that, *"Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals."* This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare.

- Mayor Misti Talbert issued a shelter-in-place order to be effective through April 3.
- Full details of the City of Lampasas order can be found [here](#).