

Ålesund, Sula and Giske are announcing joint heightened measures against the Coronavirus

New regulations are from 26 April 2021, 24.00 hrs, and will be valid until 9 th May 2021, 24.00 hrs.

The Regulation below lists rules that are to be followed, and recommendations by which health authorities and governing bodies expect us to abide.

Preliminary regulations on measures to prevent coronavirus (Covid-19) in Ålesund municipality in Møre og Romsdal

Legal Basis: Decided by the Crisis Leadership of the Municipality of Ålesund and pursuant to Law 05 August 1995 nr. 55 in preventing infection diseases (Smittevernloven) [§ 4-1](#) in conjunction with Emergency Powers given by the Municipal Council of Ålesund to the Crisis Leadership per Case File [57/19](#).

§ 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Regulation is to prevent or contain the spread of SARS CoV-2 during a period of increased numbers of infection and an increased incidence of viral mutations in the local area.

§ 2. Applicability

This Regulation applies to all persons in the Municipality of Ålesund.

§ 3. Application in relation to other existing legislation

The Regulation in this legal decision is additional to those existing regulations which are applicable by law, national regulations and other local regulations with regards to infection prevention. In cases of conflicting legislation between this Regulation and national legislation, this Regulation takes legal precedence with regards to conflicting rules in existing laws and national regulations.

§ 4. Closing of businesses

- A. The following business and locales shall remain closed:
 - 1. Training centers; however exception is given to the following,
 - 2. Physical rehabilitation and recovery training that is offered individually or to small groups together with an organiser.
- B. Swimming halls, water parks, spa centers, hotel swimming pools and similar locations; however exception is given to the following:
 - 1. Individual training and treatment by appointment.

2. School-organized swimming, arranged swimming lessons and arranged swimming training for persons under 20 years of age, as well as swimming for professional athletes.
 3. Physical rehabilitation and recovery training that is offered individually or to small groups together with an organiser.
 4. Other individual treatment by appointment where a pool constitutes part of the treatment.
- C. Amusement parks, bingo halls, game halls, child amusement centers, bowling halls and such similar locations.
- D. Museums.
- E. Movie theatres, concert locales and related cultural and entertainment locations.
- F. Other public locations and business where cultural, entertainment and leisure activities take place with people inside.

Public locations and business with organised culture, sport and leisure activities may remain open for children and youth under 20 years of age, as well as outdoor activities for adults, and organised indoor and outdoor training for high-level athletes.

§ 5. Prohibition against the organizing of events

Arranging events is not permitted, as per [§ 13](#), in the [Definition of an Event according to the National Regulation on Covid-19 \(Covid-19 forskrifta\)](#), with exception given to worship and belief-related meetings and ceremonies in worship and belief-related locales, including weddings, funerals, burials, baptisms and confirmation ceremonies. Per the National Regulation on Covid-19 [§ 13a, the number of people who can be present at an event according the National Regulation Covid-19](#), can in the case of events other than funerals or burials not exceed 20 persons with all persons present having fixed and assigned seats.

In the case of funerals and burials a maximum of 50 persons present is allowed.

For digitally-held events a maximum number of five people is allowed, in addition to performers and necessary production staff members.

§ 6. Mandated home offices

Employers are to arrange for home office work for their employees as much as practically possible. Employers must be able to document instructing their employees on how working from home offices is arranged by their place of employment.

§ 7. Suspension on the serving of alcohol

Service establishments with licences to serve alcohol as per [the National Law on Alcohol \(alkoholloven\), chapters 4 and 5](#) are not to exercise the use of their licences.

§ 8. Learning and educational institutions

Universities, colleges and vocational schools are to hold their locations closed to school and higher education students, with teaching being arranged digitally instead. The same regulation applies to locations that are used for learning or teaching to people over 20 years of age in elementary schools, to adults in high schools, and to adults taking courses as per the [Introduction Law \(introduksjonsloven\)](#) or the [Integration Law \(integrationsloven\)](#), to course activity organized by a study association (studieforbund) and to Kompetanse pluss. However libraries and study halls can remain open.

Institutions can make exceptions from the requirement as stipulated in the first paragraph, if entrance to the location is necessary for students to conduct trial or skills training which is not possible digitally, and such training is necessary in order to maintain continuity in their studies. This does not apply to study associations (studieforbund) and Kompetanse pluss.

§ 9. Suspension of sports and leisure activities

Organizing indoor sports activities for persons over of the age of 20 is not permitted. The same regulation applies to leisure activities such as organized practice, as well as for practices, rehearsals and tests for choir, band and theatre. However holding indoor training for professional top-level athletes is allowed.

§ 10. Face mask usage requirements

Face masks are to be used in stores, in general areas at shopping centers, at service establishments, in places of worship and belief, on public transportation and inside of station areas, as well as at cultural, sports and leisure activity locations; in cases when it is not possible to keep a distance of at least one meter from others, apart from short-term instances, and apart from instances of close proximity with members of the same household,

Passengers are to use face masks in taxis. Face masks shall be worn before a passenger enters a taxi. Face masks shall not be taken off until the journey is completed, and the passenger has gotten out of the taxi. The requirement to use a face mask also applies to taxi drivers when there are passengers in their taxi.

The responsibility to use a face mask as stipulated in the first paragraph also applies to employees at locations where it is not possible to keep a distance of one meter from customers or other visitors. This does not apply to employees at locations where other infection prevention measures have been put into place for employees, such as the use of visors, separation walls, amongst others; in conjunction with the Norwegian Institute of Public Health's (Folkehelseinstitutt) recommendations.

The requirement to use a face mask does not apply to children under the age of 12, or for those persons who due to medical or other reasons cannot use a face mask.

§ 11. Responsibility

The Municipality of Ålesund bears no economic responsibility or liability due to the imposed measures.

§ 12. Penalty

Intentional or grossly negligent violation of the rules in these regulations is punishable in accordance with the [Infectious Diseases Law \(Smittevernlov\) § 8-1.](#)

§ 13. Period of Validity

This Regulation enters into force on 21 March 2021, 24.00 hrs, and is valid until 11 April 2021, 24.00 hrs.

Recommendations

- You should not have more than two guests in your home. You are recommended to meet others outdoors.
- The number of personal contacts during a week should not exceed 10 people, other than necessary personal contacts in relation to work, other house members, as well as nursery school and school cohorts.
- You should hold a distance of 2 meters from people in risk groups, and in situations where there can be a higher risk of infection, (i.e. during high-intensity physical activity, singing or shouting).
- All unnecessary travel should be avoided. Travel to places of work should occur only when necessary. For most employees the mandate on home offices will apply. Exception is allowed for students and others who live in dormitories or rented rooms when home travel is necessary.
- Municipality residents are recommended to shop at local shopping centers and stores.
- Municipality residents are allowed to travel to vacation residences, but only with people of the same household.
 - Do all your shopping in your own municipality before departure. Do not shop at stores, service establishments or locations with many people when at your vacation residence municipality. Keep sufficient distance to others on ski trails, ski lifts and when going on walks. Check what recommendations and rules apply in your vacation residence municipality. Do not receive or have visitors at your vacation residence. [Check the Norwegian Institute of Public Health's \(FHI\) recommendations for visiting alpine ski areas.](#)
- People at high risk for serious illness or fatality in the case of Coronavirus infection, should follow heightened daily protection measures.
- Testing and tracing of close contacts and household members:
 - People who are in infection quarantine are recommended to take a test on the 7th-10th day of their quarantine.

- Close contacts connected to an outbreak of the mutated Corona Virus will be tested by PCR tests both at the beginning of their quarantine period (immediately after they have been defined as a close contact person) and at the end of their quarantine period (earliest on day 7).
- Close contact household members should remain in quarantine until the results of their close contact's first PCR test is available. This applies to the outbreak of the English virus variant.