

May 28, 2020

A Message from the Governor of Okayama Prefecture

This is a message from IBARAGI Ryuta, governor of Okayama Prefecture.

The State of Emergency has been lifted from all prefectures as of May 25th.

I would like to re-express my gratitude to all residents of Okayama Prefecture for cooperating by refraining from movement outside of the prefecture as well as avoiding the Three C's.

We were able to prevent an explosive spread of infection within the prefecture. On the other hand, the effects of COVID-19 have had a heavy impact on Okayama Prefecture's economy.

From here on, it is necessary for us to maintain a balance between COVID-19 prevention measures as well socioeconomic activity.

In order to make this happen, I ask that the residents of Okayama Prefecture adhere to the following efforts from June 1st to 18th:

1. Refraining from any non-essential travels or returns to Hokkaido, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo and Kanagawa Prefectures. Being as cautious as possible when travelling to Kyoto, Osaka and Hyogo Prefectures until June 11th. Confirming any provided information related to the infection status of your destination when travelling outside of Okayama Prefecture.
2. Absolutely avoiding any locations where more than one of the Three C's can occur. In particular, I ask that you avoid entering establishments where clusters are occurring or establishments where securing your safety does not seem possible.

3. Practicing a “New Lifestyle” by thoroughly washing your hands, wearing a mask and securing a proper distance between yourself and others.
4. In regards to showing up for work, I would like for workplaces to continue implementing initiatives for limiting close contact, such as working from home or staggering working times whenever possible.

I ask that the residents of Okayama Prefecture adhere to the four efforts listed above. On the other hand, it is also important for us to consider infection risk while gradually returning to our normal daily life. I believe that it would be best to start by gradually shopping and eating out within Okayama Prefecture. Sightseeing should also begin from locations within the prefecture at first.

Next, I would like to make three requests to those who will be hosting events:

1. When hosting events, I ask that operators take appropriate and thorough measures for preventing the spread of disease, based on the guidelines given for their respective industries.
2. Refraining from hosting outdoor events of more than 200 guests, indoor events of more than 100 guests and any events taking place on a nationwide scale.
3. Preparing a name list of all event participants in order to be able to keep contact with them.

I ask that all event hosts adhere to the three efforts listed above.

From here on, efforts to maintain socioeconomic activity while co-existing with COVID-19 for a prolonged time are necessary and indispensable.

In order to protect the lives and livelihoods of our residents, Okayama Prefecture will make all possible efforts in maintaining a secure medical system and restoring economic activity.