

Hello and welcome to the 2020 Glendale Legislative Link Program.

Below is a summary of the latest Executive Order signed today by Governor Doug Ducey. This information was taken from a press released issued by the Governor's Office.

## Governor Ducey Issues New Guidance On Elective Surgeries

*Elective Surgeries To Resume May 1 For Health Care Facilities That Meet Preparedness Standards*

**PHOENIX** — With hospitals reporting increased availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) and bed capacity, Governor Ducey today issued an Executive Order removing restrictions on conducting elective surgeries for hospitals, health care facilities and providers that meet certain preparedness criteria.

Under the new order, hospitals, dental offices and other health facilities can resume conducting elective surgeries on May 1 if they can show they have implemented measures intended to keep health care workers and patients safe. These include:

- Demonstrating greater than a 14 day supply of PPE;
- Ensuring adequate staffing and beds;
- Testing patients prior to surgery and all at-risk health care workers;
- Ensuring appropriate discharge plans for patients being transferred to nursing care facilities, including diagnostic testing for COVID-19;
- Implementing a universal symptom screening process for staff, patients, and visitors;
- Establishing an enhanced cleaning process for waiting areas;
- And prioritizing the restart of elective surgeries based on urgency.

Facilities that meet the specified standards will need to receive approval from the Department of Health Services before resuming elective surgeries. The order shall be considered for repeal or revision every two weeks.

On March 19, Governor Ducey [announced new actions](#) to help preserve hospital equipment and protective gear, including suspending elective surgeries. A week later, the Governor [issued an Executive Order](#) requiring hospitals to increase the amount of hospital bed capacity in the state, take steps to optimize staffing levels and maximize critical resources. Expanded reporting requirements have helped the Department of Health Services track capacity and availability of resources.

View the Executive Order [HERE](#).

Click here to view the entire press release: <https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/04/governor-ducey-issues-new-guidance-elective-surgeries>

Best regards,

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