Health

- Businesses must comply with all State and City health requirements
- Guidance from DOHMH about Outdoor and Takeout Delivery
- New York State Dept of Health Interim Guidance for Outdoor Space
- Public must follow the “Core Four”:
  1. Wear a mask
  2. Stay home if feeling unwell
  3. Keep 6’ distance between people
  4. Wash hands

Additional Resources

- Small Business Services Hotline: 888-SBS-4NYC
The City has launched a small business hotline to answer the most pressing questions of small business owners as they prepare to re-open. Small Business Advocates and Compliance Advisors will monitor the hotline and have been equipped with the latest guidelines and regulations to share with business owners. To reach the hotline, dial 888-SBS-4NYC or 888-727-4692.

Open Restaurants Frequently Asked Questions

NYC Restaurant Reopening Guide
NY State Liquor Authority Guidance on Outdoor Expansion of Licensed Premises in Response to COVID-19 Outbreak
Reopening Supplies Marketplace, including Physical Enhancements and Portable Furniture

These links can be found on nyc.gov/openrestaurants

General

- Must be a ground floor, brick and mortar restaurant or bar with a DOHMH food service establishment permit
- May only utilize sidewalk and roadway areas directly in front of the business
- NYC Open Restaurant application does not cover usage that falls within private property (i.e. backyard, patio, etc.)
- Must be ADA compliant
- Applicant required to provide all tables, chairs, barriers, and ramps. Nothing may be affixed to the roadway or sidewalk
- Tables and chairs shall be removed or secured in place when not in use

Hours of Operation

- Monday–Saturday: 8 AM to 11 PM
- Sunday: 10 AM to 11 PM
- Businesses that have hours beyond these hours may remain open and can still do grab and go, but cannot seat patrons outside of these times

Program Dates (Unless otherwise notified by City)

- Sidewalk through October 31, 2020
- Roadway through September 8, 2020

Application

- Website: nyc.gov/openrestaurants
- Business must self-certify that they comply with all requirements stated in application
- If business intends to serve alcohol, NYC Open Restaurants application is one-stop-shop for NY State Liquor Authority (SLA) on-premises license extension if establishment provides required SLA information. Business will be approved or denied instantly after submitting
- City will provide a certificate/print out authorizing approval

New York City created the Open Restaurants Program to support the restaurant industry as it recovers, but the safety of diners, restaurant employees, and other street users is paramount. Additionally, these dining options must be accessible to all New Yorkers as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Restaurant owners must comply with all of the program requirements or face revocation of permission to participate in the program.
Sidewalk Seating

- Seating and tables must be up against the wall of the business or as close as possible
- Must leave an 8’ clear path for pedestrians
- Must be at least 3’ from the adjacent business
- Cannot block utility hardware or siamese water connection
- Cannot block bus stop waiting area
- For clear path purposes, parking meters, traffic signs and tree pits with flush gratings (without tree guards) are exempt. All other above-grade structures are considered obstructions

Roadway Seating

Restaurants must:

- Create a protective barrier, such as planters or objects of similar size and weight, on all three sides of the seating perimeter that are in the roadway, to separate seating from the travel lane. Such barriers must be at least 18” in width and 30–36” in height (excluding plantings) on all three sides that are in the roadway, to preserve visibility for motorists and provide protection for patrons (see Siting Criteria diagram)
- Place such barriers directly adjacent to each other (no gaps) and no more than 8’ from the curb (see Siting Criteria diagram)
- Ensure visibility of patrons and barriers at night by clearly marking all barriers with yellow high intensity retro-reflective tape or reflectors (see Siting Criteria diagram)
- Provide a ramp for ADA compliance, which can be made of non-permanent materials
- Not place seating or barriers within 15’ of a fire hydrant. Doing so jeopardizes fire safety for your fellow New Yorkers
- Not place seating or barriers within 8’ of a crosswalk, to provide for safe vehicle turns and avoid crowding
- Not provide any lighting that is blinding to passing traffic

NYC Open Restaurants: Siting Criteria

- Not place seating within a No Stopping Anytime or No Standing Anytime zone, bike lane, bus lane/stop, taxi stand, or Car Share space. Exception: For part-time No Stopping or No Standing zones, seating may be placed when those rules are not in effect. Barriers and seating must be removed from the roadway when No Stopping or No Standing is in effect.
- Only utilize umbrellas with a weighted base and such umbrellas may not extend past the barrier or obstruct access to or ventilation of utility covers
- Not run power cords or other items across the sidewalk to the roadway seating
- Remove tables and chairs or secure them in place when not in operation
- Comply with NYC Fire Department Open Flame and other applicable Fire Codes

Restaurant Owners May

- Leave barriers in place within a metered zone, alternate side parking, or No Parking Anytime zone, provided that that tables and chairs are removed or secured when not in operation
- Where seating is authorized along a curb, install a platform behind the required barrier to flush height with curb to facilitate ADA compliance, prevent the curb from becoming a tripping hazard, and allow drainage to underpass seating
  - Such platforms shall not block rain water drainage getting to the curb or flowing along the curb
  - Such platforms shall not obstruct access to or ventilation of utility covers