

Statement Regarding COVID-19 Protocol

16 March 2020

Idea Foundry Community:

As the parameters of permitted gathering become more stringent and recommended service-industry shutdowns expand by Governor mandate, the Idea Foundry must make the difficult decision to suspend our general public-facing activities in the interest of the health of our community.

While the official guidelines are vague regarding small-scale gatherings such as small classes, we must err on the side of caution at this time. **Effective immediately, non-member general public access to our facility will be suspended.** Regularly scheduled classes and Idea Foundry-hosted events will postpone until we are permitted to reopen normal operations. Staff will begin reaching out to anyone scheduled to take a class through the next 30 days to make arrangements. We will reassess the situation on a rolling basis.

Due to the 24/7 nature of our facility and the staggered schedule of members and tenants and the sheer size of the facility, we can still support members and tenants working at our facility with a far lower person per square foot ratio at any given time than the vast majority of public spaces such as retail stores, or conventional workplaces, while still mitigating risk. Both coworking and workshop members have plenty of space to spread out to give themselves distance from fellow members across more than 65,000 SF.

- Key-card holding members in good standing may still use the facility as long as they adhere to posted recommended social distancing techniques, like leaving a minimum of 6-feet between workstations, and refraining from visiting if they or anyone in their household is experiencing flu-like symptoms or fever, or if they have had any known or suspected contact with an infected person. You must remember to bring your key card for entry. The facility will otherwise be locked.
- Part-time workshop members and coworking day-pass holders may still use the space, but by appointment, with a 24/hr notice.
- We will still be monitoring our phone, 614.653.8068, and info@ideafoundry.com and membership@ideafoundry.com inboxes, but we will be suspending in-person customer service desk staffing.
- We will have some limited staff presence in the facility to capture as many deliveries as possible, but please make arrangements with your shipping provider if you are a mailbox-holding member and have off-hour deliveries to the building, such as by Amazon couriers, that tend to visit at unpredictable hours.
- As a reminder to members, our conference rooms are equipped with tele-conferencing kits that can help you virtually attend meetings. If you don't know how to use this equipment, please email callie@ideafoundry.com.



- We will continue with the increased disinfection of high-touch surfaces like restroom doors, elevator buttons, and other communal areas.
- We will suspend hosting any private, public-facing events.

We will continue to communicate with members and the general public with as much notice as possible if anything changes, and we will continue to monitor and comply with state and local recommended precautions regarding Covid-19 mitigation.

We are just as worried about our own small business and the hundreds of small businesses that run out of the Foundry, as well as our broader community as all of you. We will continue to do our best to be a good neighbor during this unprecedented challenge, if there are any resources or information we can help with that we could safely consider, please reach out.

Casey McCarty
CEO
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Additional Resources

Ohio Dept. of Health and the CDC recommend the following to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus:

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds often with soap and water.
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

The [Ohio Department of Health](#) call center is open 7 days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. to answer questions regarding COVID-19 at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

The national CDC maintains a COVID-19 Situation Summary updated here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>

You can watch the most recent press conference from the Governor here, which includes an ASL interpreter:

[Coronavirus in Ohio: 4th case confirmed is first evidence of ‘community spread’](#)

<https://www.nbc4i.com/news/state-news/coronavirus-in-ohio-wednesday-update-gov-devine-odh-holding-news-conference-at-2pm/>