

May 4, 2020

Governor's Message – Requests to Hyogo citizens and Hyogo-based business operators related to the extension of the State of Emergency

Today, the Government of Japan announced an extension of the State of Emergency until May 31, and Hyogo remains to be one of the prefectures under the special alert. We need to continue taking countermeasures, such as avoiding unnecessary outings, to curb new infections.

I would like to thank Hyogo citizens and Hyogo-based business operators for your efforts in complying with our request thus far, and ask you to continue implementing the measures listed below until May 31 so that we can reduce social interactions by 80%.

1. To Hyogo citizens

(1) Avoid outings

Please **avoid outings and stay at home** unless it is necessary to go out to sustain your everyday life.

(2) Avoid traveling across prefectures

Please **refrain from visiting densely populated areas** such as Tokyo and Osaka **and traveling across prefectures**.

(3) Avoid any of the Three Cs¹ at parks and areas outside

When you go to parks or areas outside to maintain your health, please avoid peak hours and **keep a safe distance away from others**.

(4) Avoid any of the Three Cs at supermarkets and shops

Please **avoid visiting** supermarkets and shops **during peak hours or with many people**, including family members.

¹ Confined spaces with poor ventilation; Crowded places where many people can be nearby; and Close contact with people

2. To Hyogo-based business operators

(1) Business suspension (Shutdown of facilities, etc.)

I urge the facilities subjected to the business suspension request, such as entertainment facilities, amusement facilities, theaters, and movie theaters, to **continue to shut down operations**.

(2) Reduction in commuters

To reduce human-to-human interactions, I urge business operators to continue efforts to reduce **70% of commuters** by introducing telecommuting, video conferences, and other measures.

(3) Prevention of infection at supermarkets and shops

I urge that supermarkets and shops **make sure that people are thoroughly keeping a safe distance apart** through measures such as appropriately restricting admission during peak hours, indicating waiting places at checkout counters, and installing partitions to distance shoppers and employees.

To protect the health and lives of everyone in Hyogo, I would like to ask all of you for your understanding and cooperation towards preventing the spread of COVID-19.