

# Phase Approach



The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) is utilizing a phased approach to transition between phases based upon changing conditions regarding the risk of COVID-19 transmission in the Community. Changes will be determined by the Tribal Health Department based on bi-weekly data reports and reviewed by the COVID-19 Taskforce and Leadership. Updated benchmarks are identified in the Tribal Health Department's COVID-19 Guidance for GRIC Departments, Entities, and Organizations. For data on Community Cases, review GRIC's Emergency Operations Center site at <https://www.gric-eoc.org/> for case rates and guidance document.

## Current Status as of September 8, 2022:

The Gila River Indian Community is now in  
**Phase III**

- The adoption and implementation of this guidance should be in collaboration with the organizations leadership and in compliance with its regulatory agency. GRIC Entities and Organizations should review their plan and relay their current workforce plans and needs to their employees.
- The Community has transitioned into Phase III. Under the updated Phase III criteria, the outlined mitigation efforts should be followed:
  - Gatherings and events open with health and safety measures in place under the following conditions: Indoor and Outdoor gatherings have no in-person limit provided physical distancing is maintained. This includes faith based organizations. Requests to exceed the gathering limitation is not required in Phase III contingent the community members/entities/organizations/departments follow all other COVID-19 prevention measures when hosting an event.
  - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Not Required. Employees are required to test immediately with their healthcare provider if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms and follow workplace polices to return to work.
  - No Travel restrictions. Employees must follow their work place policies and protocols for travel. It is also important to follow travel policies and regulations according to the destination of your travel and [CDC's guidance on precautions](#) to take prior to and after travel.
  - No closures. Employee workforce remains on site until further notice. The Tribal Health Department may determine required closures for an entity/organization/department due to an outbreak or other health related concern due to COVID-19.
  - GRIC Schools continue to follow their approved COVID-19 School Re-opening plans.
  - Other mitigation efforts should be followed and can be found here under Phase Approach - Phase III [https://www.gric-eoc.org/uploads/tribal\\_health\\_department\\_covid-19\\_guidance\\_final](https://www.gric-eoc.org/uploads/tribal_health_department_covid-19_guidance_final)
  - Organizations/Entities/Departments must follow Comprehensive Executive Order No. 16.
- Employees should contact their Supervisor/Manager/Director if you have any questions regarding your Department's, Entity's or Organization's plan.

## Planning Ahead

- The Tribal Health Department, COVID-19 Taskforce and Leadership will continue to monitor the risk of COVID-19 transmissibility and make necessary adjustments if required.

