



16 Kislev 5781
December 2, 2020

Subject: UPDATED OC Minyanim Guidelines

Dear OC Community and Friends,

We are updating our Guidelines to further reflect the ongoing serious situation across Washington and our community as we conform with statewide [restrictions](#) effective Nov. 16, 2020, and a [travel advisory](#) issued Nov. 13. The windows will continue to be open during indoor services, and we recently installed MERV-13 filters to clean the air as much as possible. We take these precautions to daven together as safely as possible.

Minyanim at Ohr Chadash will adhere to the following standards:

- **A sign-up sheet for pre-arranged seating** will be distributed weekly, and members are expected to note their **attendance by Thursday at 6pm. Please see this [link](#).** Guests and those members signing up guests should note guest email addresses. We also have a limited number of outdoor seats adjacent to the windows on the north side of our shul that also require signing up.
- Attendees must be completely free of any COVID-19 symptoms, including: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever (a temperature above 100.4°F), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell. A complete symptom list can be found at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html.
- Attendees are requested to take their temperature before attending minyan. A mercury thermometer is recommended for taking temperatures on Shabbat.
- Anyone with a household member who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or with symptoms of COVID-19 may not attend indoors or outdoors.
- If one has been infected with COVID-19 or has been exposed to an individual infected or suspected to have been infected with COVID-19, you must be symptom-free for at least 2 weeks to attend indoors or outdoors.
- Singing out loud is only permitted by the Chazan per statewide restrictions.
- Per the Governor's [travel advisory](#), those arriving in or returning to Washington from other states or countries via any means of transportation should self-quarantine for 14 days after arrival and thus not attend services (nor should members of the household hosting the travelers).
 - For those who do attend services prior to the end of 14 days following arrival in Washington despite these suggestions (and those hosting them), please sit outdoors adjacent to the shul and do not enter the building.

- We ask all individuals to not attend indoor services (you may sit outside) if, in the past two weeks, you have:
 - Attended large social gatherings, such as a wedding, funeral or a party;
 - Attended a mass gathering such as a sporting event, concert or parade;
 - Been in crowds such as restaurants, bars, airports, bus and train stations or movie theaters;
 - Traveled on a cruise ship;
- **Children** are welcome to attend indoors with their parents if they are masked and able to sit comfortably. All children regardless of age must be masked indoors; unmasked newborns and infants are welcome outdoors in a stroller or held by their parents. There will be no youth Shabbat groups. Parents will be asked to take children home if children are unable to stay in their seats and wear a mask.
- Those over the age of 65 or in a high-risk group (i.e., diabetic, high blood pressure, heart or lung disease, immunocompromise state, etc.) should consult with their physician before attending.
- Attendees must wash hands with soap and water before coming to the minyan.
- Attendees must arrive and leave promptly. There will be no socializing before, during, or after minyan. Attendance is for the sole purpose of Tefilah B'tzibur.
- Attendees must wear a face mask at all times and bring their own mask.
- Seating will be at least six feet apart except those sitting next to members of their own household. Moving chairs is not permitted.
- Attendees must avoid touching surfaces unnecessarily.
- Attendees should bring their own Siddur, Chumash and Tallit.
- Restroom access will be limited to one person at a time, and social distancing and mask wearing must be maintained at all times. You must wash your hands with soap and water before returning to services.
- Abundant hand sanitizer and paper towels will be available for use after touching any door handles, knobs or other items.
- A minyan supervisor will keep track of those who attend in order to enable contact tracing, should it become necessary.

Please note: These standards allow one to attend OC's indoor minyan, but they do not obligate one to attend. You acknowledge that you are attending OC's indoor minyan at your own risk. If you attend OC's minyan but do not follow these standards, you will be asked to leave.

We pray that we are able to hold minyanim with all our members soon.

Ohr Chadash Reopening Committee

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