

## Governor's Message: Take Every Measure to Stop COVID-19 Infection Surge during the End of the Fiscal Year

- The State of Emergency for the Tokyo Metropolitan Area will soon be lifted. However, in Hyogo Prefecture, we have observed **a resurgence of infections**; the new case counts for these past three days remained high at 78, 74, and 76, and the number of cases this week is 1.7 times greater than that of the previous week.
- Infections by **new coronavirus variants** have been increasing as well.
- At the end of the fiscal year, we usually have **many events** such as farewell/welcome parties and teacher appreciation parties. I would like to ask for your cooperation in the following to prevent the spread of infections.

### Request to Hyogo citizens (Do not bring the virus into homes, facilities, etc.)

- **Avoid unnecessary and non-urgent visits to areas outside the prefecture and areas where a surge in infections has been observed. Avoid visiting facilities with higher risks of infections, such as eating and drinking establishments and karaoke parlors that do not follow the guidelines.**
- Please **refrain from participating in graduation trips, teacher appreciation parties, farewell/welcome parties, and cherry-blossom viewing parties.**
- When dining out, please do so **in groups of four or less (excluding family members living together)** and avoid dining for long hours. Please **use fans, face masks, or other items to cover the mouth to prevent the spread of droplets** during conversations.  
After dining out or using facilities with higher risks of infections, please take extra caution when coming into contact with other people for a certain period; **be careful not to spread the virus** even when at home.
- Please avoid the **Three Cs (confined spaces, crowded spaces, and close contact)** by wearing face masks, washing your hands, ventilating rooms regularly, and maintaining a physical distance with other people.
- Please utilize **telecommuting** and **video conferences**.

### Request to Hyogo-based business operators

- **Thoroughly practice infection prevention measures** based on the guidelines. Please also utilize CO<sub>2</sub> sensors or other items to ensure proper **ventilation**.
- Eating and drinking establishments in the areas below are requested to shorten business hours.

Period	March 8– <u>31</u> , 2021
Area	Kobe, Amagasaki, Nishinomiya, Ashiya
Contents	Stop serving alcohol by 8:30 p.m. and close by 9:00 p.m.