

Houston Rabbinical Association

A Statement about Re-opening our Synagogues and Temples

The rabbis of the Houston Rabbinical Association continue to meet weekly through virtual meetings to share the latest COVID-19 updates from medical and governmental sources and to discuss the safest and most prudent ways to continue to serve the religious needs of the Jewish community.

At our most recent April 30th virtual meeting, conversation focused on the issue of re-opening our institutions so that Jewish life could resume many of its most basic religious functions involving Shabbat, holiday, and daily services. Given the diversity of our congregations' sizes, locations, and individual needs, the Houston Rabbinical Association supports the decision of each congregation to re-open in a manner that conforms to the Checklist of Minimum Standard Health Protocols from the State of Texas as a guideline to ensure the health and safety of its members. The timing and extent of each congregation's re-opening will vary and members of the Jewish community should consult their respective synagogue or temple for specific details.

The Houston Rabbinical Association remains committed to the fight to contain and minimize the spread of COVID-19 and encourages all members of the Houston Jewish community to remain dedicated to the practices of personal hygiene and social distancing. We understand the stress and challenge this disruption has caused to Jewish life and we are available to assist you during these difficult times.

Houston's Jewish community has proven in the past to be highly resilient in the face of crisis and we are confident that with sound leadership guided by the values of Jewish tradition and the advice of the medical and scientific community that together we will emerge stronger to face the challenges of the future.