



zfera

Measures taken in Honduras
during COVID-19 times.

Honduras

Labor

- Mandatory suspension of work in the public and private sectors during the time of exception (except for health personnel, senior officials, relief, national security and defense, the Directorate for Consumer Protection, customs, migration, ports and airports or other service personnel indispensable audience).
- Implementation of a mandatory occupational health plan, where workers must report suspicious symptoms in order to be temporarily absent and are required to immediately undergo the laboratory examination. If the result turns positive, the employer must report it to the Secretary of State at the Health Office.
- Public and private sector employers are authorized to suspend the vacations of health sector workers required to attend the emergency.
- The suspension of employment agreements must be submitted to the Secretary of Labor and Social Security, whether they are collective or individual.

Immigration

- The closure of all air, land and sea borders in the national territory is ordered. The entry of Hondurans, permanent and temporary residents, as well as accredited diplomatic corps in the country is excepted.
- Foreigners who are in the national territory and want to return to their countries can do so by land or air, with the prior authorization of the SINAGER safe-conduct.
- Cargo ships may dock in the country, the crew not being authorized to disembark.
- Individuals must request authorization to depart private flights from the Secretary of Tourism or the Secretary of Foreign Relations, 24 hours in advance.

Taxes

- Apply to all non-financial public sector institutions a reduction in their budgets that allows them to release at least 2% of the total general budget of income and expenses of the Republic for the current fiscal year. Excluded from this reduction are health, education, energy, security and defense services, as well as other considerations that the Ministry of Finance deems pertinent.

Honduras

Banking

- BANHPROVI will freeze for three months the financing quotas for SMEs, commerce, the agricultural sector, tourism, among others, without affecting the credit record of the beneficiaries.
- To support micro and small businesses, through “Crédito Solidario” and the Entrepreneurship Service (SENPRENDE), 51 million lempiras will be made available, which will serve 5,000 entrepreneurs immediately.
- Financial institutions regulated by the National Banking and Insurance Commission may grant grace periods to debtors (natural or legal persons) who are affected by the emergency situation, either at the request of the debtor or at the initiative of the bank.
- In the case of consumer and housing credit obligations of natural persons, similar measures may be applied to debtors who justify not having received sufficient resources.
- Financial institutions are prohibited from applying fees to debtors for commissions, default interest, administrative and other fees associated with such relief operations.
- The payment date within the exception period (absolute curfew) will be moved 5 calendar days from the date the exception is suspended.
- All the institutions of the banking system and cooperatives must immediately clear checks deposited on the same established days.
- All the institutions of the banking system and cooperatives must provide all their collaborators with private transportation from home to work and vice versa, as well as ensure cleaning, security, messaging and securities transportation services, being obliged to show their accreditations to the competent authority work.

Events and public activities

- Events of all kinds and numbers of people are prohibited.
 - Suspension of the operation of public transport. Public transport is excepted for health reasons and contracted by companies within these exceptions to mobilize their workers.
 - The suspension of face-to-face religious celebrations is ordered.
 - The operation of businesses including shopping malls is prohibited.
 - The creation of new permanent positions in the public sector is restricted during fiscal year 2020.
 - Freezing prices for all products in the basic basket from March 18 to April 18, and this period may be extended if emergency conditions continue.
 - The providers of drinking water and sanitation services must suspend the service cuts for non-payment, for 3 months or until the sanitary crisis is overcome, as well as immediately reinstate the services to those users who for lack of payment are your service has been suspended.
 - Rate adjustments are temporarily suspended during the emergency period.
- Efforts will be made to provide food for 30 days to the 800,000 families most affected by the crisis.