

THE CITY OF
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



**CITY OF SPRINGFIELD BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULATION ON FACE COVERINGS
May 6, 2020**

WHEREAS, effective May 6, 2020, the Governor of Massachusetts has ordered individuals to wear face coverings in public settings when you cannot physically separate by 6 feet (see attached copy of Governor's Order #31); and

WHEREAS, the requirement to wear face coverings is informed by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention as well as clinical expertise in droplet transmission of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, individuals should stay at home as much as possible, practice social distancing of at least 6 feet, and use other public health measures, such as frequent handwashing, sanitizing protocols and staying home when sick;

WHEREAS, wearing face coverings in public settings helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 and is part of our path to reopening the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Springfield; and

WHEREAS, the City of Springfield previously strongly recommended wearing face coverings, however, it is now mandatory; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Order is enforceable by the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, local Boards of Health and their authorized agents pursuant to MGL. c. 111, sec. 30, and may do so with the assistance of the State police or municipal police; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, as the Commissioner of the City of Springfield Department of Health of Human Services, exercising the powers of the Springfield Board of Health pursuant to Chapter 544 of the acts of 1980, and Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 111, sec. 30, issue the following regulation regarding the use of mandatory face coverings in the City of Springfield:

1. Who is covered?

This regulation covers all persons except those under the age of 2 years, or those individuals who have a health condition that prevents wearing a mask, or where a mask interferes with their breathing.

2. When and where are face coverings required?

In general you should wear face coverings in any place which is open to the public, whether indoors or outdoors, when you are unable to or do not maintain a distance of approximately 6 feet from every other person. This includes:

- Waiting in line to go inside a store
- Shopping in a store
- Picking up food at a restaurant
- Waiting for or riding on public transportation
- Riding in a taxi or other ride service vehicles
- Seeking healthcare
- Going to essential businesses whose facilities are allowed to stay open
- When working and performing essential jobs that interact with the public

3. When are face coverings NOT required?

At home

Swimming, walking, hiking, bicycling, or running by yourself or with household members, unless you are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance from others. However, you should have a face covering ready and wear it if you come within six feet of others.

4. Materials.

Face coverings can be made of cloth. Homemade coverings, bandanas, and scarves that fully cover the mouth and nose. There are many outlets selling face coverings. Face coverings can be made at home at little or no cost.

Medical grade masks such as N95 masks should be saved for Healthcare workers and first responders.

5. BUSINESSES MUST:

Require their employees, contractors, owners and volunteers to wear a face covering at the workplace and when performing work off-site

Inform customers about the need to wear a face covering, including posting signs and advising those waiting in line or in the store. It is recommended that at a minimum signs be posted in English and Spanish.

Shall refuse service to anyone not wearing a face covering who is not exempt from the Order or this Regulation.

6. ENFORCEMENT

Everyone should help protect others by following the orders and guidance of State and local governments and public health officials.

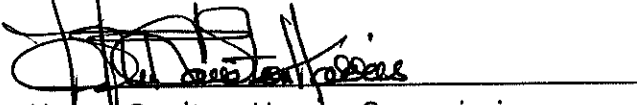
Law enforcement and public health officials cannot be expected to make sure individuals wear face coverings in places open to the public, whether indoors or outdoors. But if you don't wear one you can be cited.

Violations of the Governor's Order, or Dept. of Public Health guidance, may result in a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation, per person. I have designated the Springfield Police Department sworn officers as the agents of the Board of Health for purposes of assisting with the enforcement of the Order and this Regulation, pursuant to MGL c. 111, sec. 30.

7. DURATION

This Regulation shall be in effect from May 6, 2020, for the duration of the Governor's Order #31 requiring face coverings in public places, or until rescinded by me, whichever happens last.

Issued this 6th day of May:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen Caulton Harris", is written over a solid horizontal line.

Helen Caulton Harris, Commissioner
Dept. of Health and Human Services
Representing the Board of Health of the City of Springfield



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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ORDER REQUIRING FACE COVERINGS IN PUBLIC PLACES WHERE SOCIAL DISTANCING IS NOT POSSIBLE

COVID-19 Order No. 31

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19");

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was characterized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization;

WHEREAS, the Federal Centers for Disease Control have determined that COVID-19 is spread mainly by person to person contact and that the best means of slowing the spread of the virus is through practicing social distancing and by minimizing personal contact with environments where the virus may be spread;

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health continues to urge all residents of the Commonwealth to limit activities outside of the home and to practice social distancing at all times to limit the spread of this highly contagious and potentially deadly virus;

WHEREAS, public health experts have determined that it is possible for an infected individual to transmit COVID-19 even when the individual does not exhibit symptoms of the virus;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Department of Public Health have advised individuals to wear cloth face coverings when they are out of the home and may be in close proximity to others in order to prevent transmission of this highly contagious virus;

WHEREAS, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 continues to rise in the Commonwealth. As of April 30, 2020, the Department of Public Health had reported 62,205 cases of COVID-19, including 3,562 deaths, with all counties across the Commonwealth affected;

WHEREAS, the eventual reopening of businesses and public places in the Commonwealth will require residents to continue to take precautions, including the wearing of masks or cloth face coverings; and

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise any and all authority over persons and property necessary or expedient for meeting a state of emergency, including but not limited to authority over assemblages and pedestrian travel in order to protect the health and safety of persons; transportation or travel; regulation of the sale of articles of food and household articles; and the policing, protection, and preservation of public and private property;

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby Order the following:

Effective Wednesday, May 6, 2020, any person over age two who is in a place open to the public in the Commonwealth, whether indoor or outdoor, and is unable to or does not maintain a distance of approximately six feet from every other person shall cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering, except where a person is unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition or the person is otherwise exempted by Department of Public Health guidance. A person who declines to wear a mask or cloth face covering because of a medical condition shall not be required to produce documentation verifying the condition. This requirement applies to all workers and customers of businesses and other organizations open to the public that are permitted to operate as COVID-19 Essential Businesses as defined in Appendix A of COVID-19 Order 13, as extended by COVID-19 Orders 21 and 30.

All persons are required to wear masks or cloth face coverings at all times when inside grocery stores, pharmacies, and other retail stores. All persons are also required to wear masks or cloth face coverings when providing or using the services of any taxi, car, livery, ride-sharing, or similar service or any means of mass public transit, or while within an enclosed or semi-enclosed transit stop or waiting area.

All persons are strongly discouraged from using medical-grade masks to meet the requirements of this Order, as medical-grade masks should be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders.

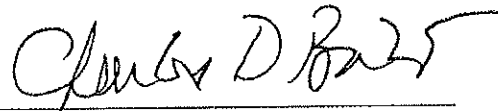
The Commissioner of Public Health is directed to issue guidance, subject to my approval, to implement the terms of this Order, which shall include guidance for the use of face coverings by children between the ages of two and five years old.

If a customer refuses to wear a mask or cloth face covering for non-medical reasons, a business may decline entry to the individual.

The Department of Public Health, local boards of health and authorized agents pursuant to G. L. c. 111, § 30 are authorized to enforce this Order and if necessary may do so with the assistance of State or municipal police. Violation of the terms of this Order or Department of Public Health Guidance may result in a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation, in the manner provided for non-criminal disposition of violations of municipal by-law, ordinance, rule, or regulation pursuant to G. L. c. 40, § 21D.

This Order is effective Wednesday, May 6, 2020, and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 9:30AM this 1st day of
May, two thousand and twenty



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts