



CITY OF GLOUCESTER

Health Department



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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Gloucester Board of Health COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Regulation

Notice is hereby given that on **January 6, 2022** the Gloucester Board of Health adopted the following emergency regulation under the provisions of MGL Chapter 111, §§ 31, 104 and 122:

Based upon review of current COVID-19 caseloads, testing positivity rates, average daily incidence rates, regional hospital capacity and the rise of variants with increased infectiousness, the Gloucester Board of Health has found that there exists in the community a disease and cause of sickness that is dangerous to public health and that action is necessary to minimize the further spread of that disease.

The Gloucester Board of Health has voted to adopt as a public health mandate, the following indoor face-covering regulation in the City of Gloucester.

1. **Effective at 12:01am on January 10 2022**, face coverings that cover the nose and face are required for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, aged ten years and above in all indoor public spaces, including but not limited to retail establishments, performance venues, social clubs, event spaces, places of religious worship, municipal buildings, and private spaces open to the public.
2. For restaurants and bars with a Food Service Establishment permit from the Health Department **and** on-site food service, patrons and kitchen staff are not required to wear a face covering, **but** all public-facing staff, such as wait staff and front-of-house staff, are required to have a face covering while indoors.
3. Businesses with a Retail Food Service Establishment permit from the Health Department, such as convenience stores, or mixed-use establishments where a retail food establishment permit was issued, must comply with this regulation.
4. Notwithstanding any provision in this Order, face coverings are not required on children under 10 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance, or anyone who due to disability is unable to wear a face covering.
5. Indoor performance venue customers may only remove face coverings in the actual act of eating and drinking, if permitted in the venue.



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6. Lodging guests and workers are required to wear face coverings when inside hallways and common areas.
7. Residents, visitors and employees of multi-family dwelling with 10 or more units are required to wear face coverings inside hallways and other common areas. Building management shall post notice of this requirement at all entry doors to the building and common areas.
8. Only fitness Center/Health Club workers are required to wear face coverings while indoors.
9. At Personal Services establishments, including, but not limited to, barber shops, hair and nail salons, and massage/body work establishments, all customers and workers are required to wear face coverings, except for skin or beard care that occurs on the face, where the customer may temporarily remove the face covering but must immediately put the face covering back on for the remainder of the visit.
10. Face Coverings remain mandatory for all individuals on public and private transportation systems (including rideshares, livery, taxi, ferries, and buses), in healthcare facilities and in other settings hosting vulnerable populations, such as congregate care settings, as directed by the Governor and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
- 11. Nothing in this regulation shall affect any local, state and federal orders already in effect in Massachusetts relating to COVID safety.**
12. Entry doors of businesses open to the public must display notice advising customers and staff of these face covering requirements, as applicable. Establishment staff must supervise and enforce these requirements. If a customer refuses to wear a face covering for non-medical reasons, a business may decline entry to the individual.
13. The Gloucester Board of Health and its agents pursuant to MGL chapter 111, § 30, are authorized to enforce this regulation. They are encouraged to educate offenders and to exercise their judgment on a case-by-case basis. Verbal or written warnings may be issued prior to determining an offense has occurred. Failure to comply may result in an enforcement hearing before the Board of Health and appropriate measures taken to ensure compliance.
14. This Regulation shall be remain in effect until rescinded by the Board of Health, and reviewed by them on a month-by-month basis to determine necessity.

/s/ Joseph Rosa
Board of Health Chair