

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Regulation of the City of Lowell Board of Health

WHEREAS the City of Lowell Board of Health has the power to adopt emergency regulations under the provisions of MGL Chapter 111, § 31;

WHEREAS based upon review of current COVID-19 caseload and testing positivity rates in Lowell and Middlesex County and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) confirms that COVID-19 is transmitted in part via respiratory droplets that can be passed through conversation, coughing, and/or sneezing, and guidance;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Health pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111 §§ 31 and 104, 310 CMR 11.05 and all other authorizing statutes and regulations, hereby orders the following indoor mask regulations in the City of Lowell.

1. Face coverings that cover the nose and face are required for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, aged two years and above in all indoor public spaces, houses of worship, or private spaces open to the public except where an individual is unable to wear a face covering due to a medical condition or disability.
2. Food service establishment customers may only remove face coverings when seated and consuming food and beverages.
3. Indoor performance venue customers may only remove face coverings in the actual act of eating and drinking, if permitted in the venue.
4. Lodging guests and workers are required to wear face coverings when inside hallways and common areas.
5. Residents and employees of multi-family dwelling units are required to wear face coverings inside hallways and other common areas. Notice of this requirement shall be posted at all entry doors to the building and common areas.
6. Fitness Center/Health Club workers, customers, and visitors are required to wear face coverings during fitness activity, including strenuous activity and group activity.
7. At Personal Services establishments, including, but not limited to, barber shops, hair and nail salons, massage, 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.
8. Masks 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.

9. All entry doors of businesses open to the public must post notice advising customers that face coverings must be worn inside the establishment. The City will make signs available to businesses, or an individual business may choose to post its own sign.

10. The Lowell Board of Health and authorized agents pursuant to MGL chapter 111, § 30, are authorized to enforce this regulation and if necessary, may do so with the assistance of the Lowell Police Department and other designees appointed by the City Manager. Violations of this regulation may be punished by a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation in the manner provided for non-criminal disposition of violations of Board Health Regulations by MGL Chapter 40, § 21D and Code of Bylaws of the City of Lowell.

11. This emergency order shall take effect at 12:01am on Thursday, December 16, 2021 and shall remain in effect until February 2, 2022, at which time it will be reviewed by the Board of Health.

Members of the Board of Health
