

Baker-Polito Administration Announces Targeted Measures To Curb Rising COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations

On November 2, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a series of targeted measures to disrupt the increasing trend of new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. All orders and advisories will be effective Friday, November 6th at 12:01 AM, and are summarized below. You may visit [mass.gov/news](https://www.mass.gov/news) for full details.



Stay At Home Advisory: Residents are instructed to stay home between 10 PM and 5 AM. The Advisory allows for activities such as going to work, running critical errands to get groceries and address health needs, and taking a walk.



Early Closure of Businesses and Activities: Certain businesses must close each night at 9:30 PM. The 9:30 PM closure requirement is aligned with the Stay At Home Advisory. Effective November 6, the following businesses and activities must close to the public each day between the hours of 9:30 PM and 5:00 AM.

- Restaurants (in-person dining must cease at 9:30 PM, although takeout and delivery may continue for food and non-alcoholic beverages, but not alcohol)
- Liquor stores and other retail establishments that sell alcohol must cease alcohol sales at 9:30 PM (but may continue to sell other products)
- Adult-use marijuana sales must cease at 9:30 PM (not including medical marijuana)
- Indoor & outdoor events
- Theaters/movie theaters (including drive-in movie theaters), and performance venues (indoor and outdoor)
- Youth and adult amateur sports activities
- Golf facilities
- Recreational boating and boating businesses
- Outdoor recreational experiences
- Casinos and horse tracks/simulcast facilities
- Driving and flight schools
- Zoos, botanical gardens, wildlife reserves, nature centers
- Close contact personal services (such as hair and nail salons)
- Gyms, Fitness Centers and Health Clubs
- Indoor and outdoor pools
- Museums/cultural & historical facilities/guided tours



Face Covering Order: All persons are required to wear face-coverings in all public places, even where they are able to maintain 6 feet of distance from others. There is an exception for residents who cannot wear a face-covering due to a medical or disabling condition, but employers may require employees to provide proof of such a condition. Schools may also require that students participating in in-person learning provide proof of such a medical or disabling condition.



Gatherings Order: Indoor gatherings at private residences are now limited to 10 people and outdoor gatherings at private residences are limited to 25 people. The limit on gatherings held in public spaces and at event venues (e.g. wedding venues) remains the same. All gatherings (regardless of size or location) must end and disperse by 9:30 PM. Organizers of gatherings must report known positive COVID-19 cases to the local health department in that community and requires organizers to cooperate with contact tracing. Fines for violating the gathering order will be \$500 for each person above the limit at a particular gathering.