



City of Boston
Acting Mayor Kim Janey
Licensing Board

Commissioners:
Kathleen M. Joyce, Chairman
Keeana S. Saxon
Liam P. Curran
Executive Secretary:
Lesley Delaney Hawkins

**THE LICENSING BOARD FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON'S ADVISORY
REGARDING THE CONTINUED PHASED REOPENING**

Issued: April 30, 2021

On April 27, 2021, Governor Charles Baker issued [additional guidance](#) (the "Commonwealth's Guidance") regarding the continued reopening of various industries and events in Massachusetts. Mayor Kim Janey subsequently announced that the **City of Boston would be implementing the Commonwealth's Guidance with a three (3) week delay for the majority of the phased changes**. The Licensing Board for the City of Boston (the "Board") issues this advisory (the "Advisory") to provide additional guidance regarding the continued reopening.

1. **Each Licensee must carefully review and abide by the Commonwealth's Guidance as this Advisory is meant to supplement the same and is not exhaustive.**
2. The Board and the City of Boston reserve the right to revise this Advisory at any time based on incoming public health metrics.
3. **Beginning April 30th**, public gatherings in Boston will increase to one hundred (100) individuals indoors and one hundred and fifty (150) individuals outdoors excluding staff. Such events, including but not limited to private events in restaurants and event spaces, must adhere to the [event guidelines](#).
4. **Beginning May 10th**, indoor and outdoor stadiums, arenas, and ballparks may increase capacity from twelve percent (12%) to twenty five percent (25%) with adherence to social distancing and mask requirements.
5. **Beginning June 1st, three (3) weeks later than the Commonwealth**, the following will be permitted with adherence to **social distancing and mask requirements**:
 - a. Singing indoors at performance venues, restaurants, event venues, and theaters (**specific social distancing requirements between performers and patrons will be forthcoming**);
 - b. Road races and other large, outdoor, organized amateur or professional group athletic events; and
 - c. Youth and amateur sports tournaments for moderate and high-risk sports.
6. **Beginning June 19th, three (3) weeks later than the Commonwealth**, the following will be permitted with adherence to **social distancing and mask requirements**:
 - a. Alcohol may be served without food;
 - b. Party size will increase from six (6) patrons to ten (10) patrons;
 - c. Bars, beer gardens, breweries, wineries and distilleries previously not providing seated food services may open for the seated service of alcoholic beverages;
 - d. Patrons may **not** remain for longer than ninety (90) minutes;
 - e. Dance floors will **not** be permitted except for at weddings and specifically approved events;
 - f. Street festivals, parades, and agricultural festivals may occur at fifty percent (50%) of the previously approved capacity and pursuant to the submission of a written operational plan and receipt of the approval of the same from the Board and the Boston Public Health Commission; and

- g. Public and private event capacity limits will increase to two hundred (200) individuals indoors and two hundred and fifty (250) individuals outdoors, excluding staff.
7. **Beginning August 22nd, three (3) weeks later than the Commonwealth**, Boston will fully reopen and the following will be permitted:
- a. Industry restrictions will be lifted and one hundred percent (100%) capacity will be permitted without social distancing; and
 - b. Phase 4, Step 2 industries may reopen including dance clubs and nightclubs.
8. **It is essential to note the applicability of this Advisory and all reopening is subject to incoming health metrics and may be revised at any time.**

The Advisory is issued in response to the ongoing public health crisis related to the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) and will be strictly enforced by the Board and the Boston Police Department. Failure to adhere to any of the foregoing will result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, the suspension of any license issued by the Board.

Claims of ignorance of the law, the Guidance, or the Advisory are not a defense.

Please refer to [boston.gov/coronavirus](https://www.boston.gov/coronavirus) for more information on COVID-19. Any questions should be directed to the Board's Executive Secretary, Lesley Delaney Hawkins, Esq., who can be reached at (617) 635-4170 or licensingboard@boston.gov.

For the Board,

Lesley Delaney Hawkins

Lesley Delaney Hawkins, Esq.
Executive Secretary