

Governor Baker Updates the State Travel Order, the State Gatherings Order, and Advances all Communities to Phase IV of the Re-Opening Plan

March 22, 2021

Advancement of all Communities to Phase IV, Step 1

As previously announced, Phase IV of the Commonwealth's Reopening Plan takes effect **today, March 22, 2021**. Pursuant to [COVID-19 Order No. 66](#), the following Phase IV, Step 1 enterprises may open their brick-and-mortar premises to workers, customers, and the public:

- Stadiums, arenas, and ballparks, and other large capacity venues (indoor and outdoor) use for spectator sports, entertainment, or similar performances;
- Exhibition and convention halls;
- Overnight camps (Summer 2021); and
- Dance floors at events only.

Facilities that have capacities of 5,000 persons or more, as specified in a certificate of occupancy or some other equivalent authorization, are "large capacity venues" for the purposes of this Order. Large capacity venues may operate at 12 percent of permitted capacity, and must submit a COVID-19 safety plan for review by the Department of Public Health, at least 10 days prior to opening to the public.

The state Department of Labor Standards will adopt sector-specific workplace safety rules for businesses opening in this phase of the Reopening Plan, as well as for event venues with less than 5,000 person capacities.

Enterprises designated as Phase IV, Step 2 must keep their brick-and-mortar premises closed to the public, and may not conduct Phase IV activities until Step 2 of Phase IV. A date for the Phase IV, Step 2 transition has not been determined. A complete list of Phase IV enterprises can be located in [Schedule A to COVID-19 Order No. 66](#).

Replacement of Mandatory Travel Order with DPH Travel Advisory

State officials have also replaced the 14-day quarantine requirement for travelers arriving in Massachusetts. The Department of Public Health has issued in its place an [Advisory for Travelers to Massachusetts](#).

Effective **March 22, 2021**, all visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, are advised to quarantine for 10 days upon their arrival. Travelers are exempt from this advisory if they have a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72 hours prior to their arrival in Massachusetts. Travelers are also

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exempt from this advisory if: (a) they are returning to Massachusetts after an absence of fewer than 24 hours; (b) are a worker who enters Massachusetts to perform critical infrastructure functions; or (c) they are fully vaccinated and do not have any symptoms of COVID-19.

Adjustment to Gathering Limits

Lastly, effective **March 22, 2021**, gatherings at event venues or in public settings are now limited to a maximum of 100 people indoors, and 150 people outdoors. The Governor's [March 22, 2021 Appendix Adjusting Gathering Limits Set in COVID-19 Order No. 63](#) defines "event venue or public setting" as any setting open to the public and any event venue, club, park, or other venue or space, public or private, that is used or available for gatherings through lease, license, permit, contract, or similar arrangement.

Gathering limits for indoor and outdoor gatherings at private residences remain the same: 10 people indoors, and 25 people outdoors.

Please feel free to contact your KP Law attorney with any questions and/or e-mail us at coronavirusinfo@kplaw.com. We will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

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