



August 20, 2021

Good Afternoon,

Mayor Janey has announced that the City of Boston will reinstitute an indoor mask mandate in all indoor public settings effective at 8am on August 27, 2021. This directive has been issued via [an order from the Boston Public Health Commission](#) and will require all persons over two years of age to wear a face covering indoors.

The face covering mandate applies to all indoor activities “on the premises of a business, club, place of assembly or other place that is open to members of the public.” For a full list of spaces, businesses and areas included in this order please review the [City’s website](#) and also the [FAQs page](#).

We want to clarify an important point that our hotel community will be keen on understanding. In the past, these orders have defined public spaces in hotels as lobbies and communal areas. **This order goes further.** It clearly states that “hotel ballrooms” are on the list and following our inquiries the City of Boston has made clear that they include all hotel areas – meeting, conference, ballroom and banquet spaces – as part of this new mask mandate.

Restaurants, bars, and other food distribution services must require patrons to don masks unless they are actively eating or drinking. Performance venues, social clubs, city buildings, event spaces and retail stores are all included in the directive.

This order does not apply to events that occur within private residences “when no compensation is paid.” It also does not apply to private buildings or work spaces that cannot be accessed by the public. Please share any questions you may have.

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