



City of Boston
Mayor Martin J. Walsh
Licensing Board

Commissioners:
Kathleen M. Joyce, Chairman
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Executive Secretary:
Lesley Delaney Hawkins

**THE LICENSING BOARD FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON'S ADVISORY REGARDING
BEER GARDENS, BREWERIES, WINERIES, AND DISTILLERIES**

Issued: June 12, 2020

On June 1, 2020, Governor Charles Baker issued updated guidance regarding the timing of the reopening of beer gardens, breweries, wineries, and distilleries in Phase 2 of the state's reopening plan. The Licensing Board for the City of Boston (the "Board") issues this advisory (the "Advisory") to provide additional clarity to these businesses.

1. Beer gardens are those licensees exercising multiple Section 14 Special One Day Licenses on outdoor spaces and breweries, wineries, and distilleries are those licensees exercising a Section 19 Pouring License (together, the "Licensee or Licensees").
2. The Licensee may open in Phase 2 subject to the requirement that it provides seated food service pursuant to a retail food service permit issued by the City of Boston (the "Permit"). The Permit may be a common victualler license issued by the Board or a retail food permit, food truck, or food service permit issued by the Inspectional Services Department.
3. The Permit does not have to be issued to the Licensee but a copy must be provided to the Board for its records along with a statement that food will be available at the Licensed Premise for on-premise consumption at all times.
4. Patrons must remain seated and adhere to all social distancing guidelines issued by the Commonwealth including the requirement of a minimum of six (6) feet of separation between tables and a maximum of six (6) individuals to a party.
5. There is no requirement that the Licensee must provide waitstaff. Patrons may walk up to the designated area at which food and beverages are sold to order and retrieve food items. Social distancing guidelines must be adhered to at all times including walking to or from the designated area and no loitering is permitted.
6. Licensees that do not provide seated food service pursuant to a Permit cannot open until Phase 4.
7. Licensees must abide by any and all rules, regulations, advisories, orders, guidance, or laws promulgated or adopted by City, state, or federal government as the same may be amended from time to time including but not limited to the regarding the General Rules of the Board, the state's guidance reopening and the Center for Disease Control's standards regarding social distancing.

8. Licensees must abide by all terms of both the [Massachusetts Restaurants COVID-19 Checklist](#) and the [Massachusetts Restaurants Safety Standards](#) issued by the Commonwealth. These documents provide mandatory standards critical to a safe reopening including social distancing, staffing, operations, cleaning, disinfecting, hygiene protocols, and other safety standards.
9. Licensees must complete the [self certification process](#) mandated by the state prior to commencing outdoor table service. The required COVID-19 poster must be signed and conspicuously posted in an area visible to both patrons and employees.

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, ISD, 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 or permit issued by ISD.

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

Please refer to 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 Lesley.hawkins@boston.gov.

For the Board,

Lesley Delaney Hawkins

Lesley Delaney Hawkins, Esq.
Executive Secretary & General Counsel