### **RESTAURANTS OVERVIEW**

The framework below represents the City of Boston's operational recommendations for **Restaurants**. These operational recommendations incorporate the Commonwealth's <u>Sector Specific Workplace Safety Standards for Operators of Restaurants</u> and supplement them with recommendations based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and industry associations to offer best practices for ensuring social distancing and reducing risk at events as well as preparing and returning to the physical workplace, preparing the workforce, and ensuring continuity of operations.

These operational recommendations apply to both indoor and outdoor restaurant operations permitted during Phase 2 and Phase 3, Step 1 of the Commonwealth's phased reopening plan and are subject to change by the City of Boston at any time based upon changes to the Commonwealth's Workplace Safety Standards, CDC guidance, or other public health information or analysis.

While indoor table service is permitted, restaurants are encouraged to structure operations to operate as much as possible through outdoor table service and to strictly limit indoor table service to assure effective compliance with social distancing requirements and to limit activities within confined spaces. Restaurants must comply with these safety standards for providing dining services in all customer seating areas.

These operational recommendations provide City of Boston businesses with clarity about how to operate in Boston given its unique diversity, density, population, and built environment. Businesses, however, must comply with all current state standards at all times.

All actions undertaken to comply with Commonwealth standards and City of Boston recommendations must also comply with regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board. In addition to these standards, event organizers should continue to abide by any and all applicable local, state, and federal regulations, policies, certifications, and licensure requirements for their facility.

Following these recommendations will ensure greater public health and safety. The City of Boston strongly encourages people in vulnerable populations, especially the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions, to continue to avoid unnecessary public outings and inessential services. Staff health is also a critical factor in whether restaurants can safely open and serve customers.

### **Key Considerations**

- Reopening services will increase the risk of COVID-19 spread; thus, the goal is to know, communicate, and manage transmission risk.
- Programs, services, and industries must be altered—some significantly—for several months or longer until a vaccine or effective treatment is developed.
- All plans must include mechanisms for how programs and services can be quickly scaled back if COVID-19 cases and deaths begin to spike.
- Linguistically and culturally appropriate public messaging and communications are critical.
- The experiences and needs of those disproportionately affected will be overlooked if not explicitly considered in all plans.

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MANDATORY STANDARDS

"Restaurant" means an establishment that provides seated food service that is prepared on-site and under a retail food permit issued by a municipal authority pursuant to 105 CMR 590.000. Potato chips, pretzels, and other pre-packaged or manufactured foods do not constitute food "prepared on-site." Events hosted at restaurants must follow the Indoor and Outdoor Events guidance, including the capacity limitations in that guidance.

Events hosted at restaurants must follow the <u>Indoor and Outdoor Events guidance</u>, including the capacity limitations in that guidance. No activity in Restaurants can occur without meeting the following sector specific COVID-19 workplace safety standards for restaurants. These standards apply to all restaurants in operation until rescinded or amended by the State. The operator of each restaurant shall be responsible for meeting these standards:

• Massachusetts Sector Specific Workplace Safety Standard for Restaurants

#### **OUTDOOR DINING**

#### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MANDATORY STANDARDS

- Outdoor table service means service that is provided outside the restaurant building envelope, such as on a sidewalk, patio, deck, lawn, parking area, or other outdoor space.
  - All existing outdoor space (i.e., patio or roof deck) may be used for outdoor dining as long as seating is reconfigured to meet all social distancing and safety standards (see below).



• Outdoor table service may be provided under awnings or table umbrellas or other cover from the elements as long as at least 50 percent of the perimeter of any covered dining space remains open and unobstructed by any form of siding or barriers at all times.

#### **CITY OF BOSTON OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Any licensed premises in the City of Boston seeking to use outdoor space not currently authorized under its existing licensing agreement must receive approval from the Boston Licensing Board.
  - A licensed premise is defined as a premise licensed by the Licensing Board for the City of Boston holding a valid Common Victualler or Alcoholic Beverage License.
  - Any approval will be made on a temporary, non-precedent-setting basis due to the COVID-19 public health crisis.
  - Any licensee granted a temporary extension must abide by all rules, regulations, laws, advisories, and guidelines issued by the city, state, and federal government, including all social-distancing requirements.
  - All of the foregoing may be amended by the respective agencies at any time.
- In preparation to apply to extend a licensed premise to outdoor space, please refer to the following:
  - <u>Guidance for the extension onto outdoor public property</u> (sample documents and pictures included)
  - Guidance for the extension onto outdoor private property
- All licensed premises will adhere to the following process to seek extension approval:
  - Submit the initial questionnaire regarding a proposed temporary extension of the licensed premise onto outdoor space.
  - Information from the licensee will be collected to determine whether the proposed extension onto private property, public property, or both is feasible.
  - Extensions into the public way, whether sidewalks or streets, require evaluation by multiple
    departments to confirm doing so can be done while ensuring the safety of patrons and
    employees.



- Upon initial review of the questionnaire, the Licensing Board will reach out by email to licensees regarding next steps, which may include completing a second questionnaire.
  - If a second questionnaire is required, a licensee must submit the following:
    - Safety Plan
    - Health, Safety, and Operations Plan
    - Manufacturer's cut sheet and/or photographs of desired barriers
    - Copy of the Certificate of Inspection
    - Proof of legal right to occupy (private spaces)
    - Recent photographs of the proposed extension space

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

These additional safety guidelines and resources are available to support restaurants.

#### U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

- OSHA COVID-19 Webpage
- OSHA Enforcement Guidelines Webpage
- OSHA Fact Sheet Protecting Workers During a Pandemic

#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations
- CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus
   Disease (updated 3/21/20)

#### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

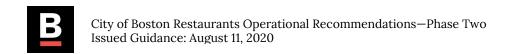
List of EPA-approved disinfectants:

• https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2

#### U.S. Department of Labor

Information on employee leave rights:

• Department of Labor Families First Coronavirus Response Act



#### RESTAURANTS OPERATIONAL CHECKLISTS

The following workplace safety standards are organized around four distinct categories covering Physical Space and Social Distancing; Management and Employee; Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Hygiene Protocols; and Confirmed Cases. This Operational Guidance is based on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Sector Specific Workplace Safety Standards for Restaurants, updated as of July 6, 2020. Please note: For all the following checklists, items listed in bold are standards that have been issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Items not listed in bold are additional standards required or recommended by the City of Boston.

### PHYSICAL SPACE AND SOCIAL DISTANCING CHECKLIST

Restaurant management and employee personnel must implement physical amendments and procedures to ensure social distancing is available and followed for all workers and customers. Restaurant operators should also consider implementing items listed as "Best Practices/Recommendations" when appropriate and feasible.

Mandatory Requirements	Status
While indoor table service is permitted, restaurants are encouraged to structure operations to operate as much as possible through outdoor table service and to strictly limit indoor table service to assure effective compliance with social distancing requirements and to limit activities within confined spaces.	□ Ongoing
Restaurants must comply with the following sector specific social distancing rules for providing dining services in all customer seating areas:	
<ul> <li>Tables must be positioned so to maintain at least a 6-foot distance from all other tables and any high-foot traffic areas (e.g., routes to bathrooms, entrances, exits); tables may be positioned closer if separated by protective/non-porous barriers (e.g., structural walls or plexiglass dividers) not less than 6 feet high installed between tables and high-foot traffic areas.</li> </ul>	
The size of a party seated at a table cannot exceed six people.	
<ul> <li>Restaurants may not seat any customers at the bar, but, subject to any applicable building and fire code requirements, bar areas may be re-configured to accommodate table seating that complies with all spacing and other requirements in these COVID-19 safety standards.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>All customers must be seated; eat-in service to standing customers (e.g., around bar areas) is prohibited.</li> </ul>	



<ul> <li>Restaurants may provide carry-out or delivery service, but all safety standards for table separation, size of party, and hygiene must be maintained for any indoor or outdoor table seating that is available to carry-out patrons.</li> <li>Restaurants may provide carry-out or delivery service, but all safety standards for table separation, size of party, and hygiene must be maintained for any indoor or outdoor table seating that is available to</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>All other amenities and areas not employed for food and beverage service (e.g., dance floors, pool tables, playgrounds, etc.) must be closed or removed to prevent gathering of customers.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Ensure separation of 6 feet or more between all individuals (workers, vendors, and customers) unless this creates a safety hazard due to the nature of the work or the configuration of the workspace:</li> <li>Close or reconfigure worker common spaces and high density areas where workers are likely to congregate (e.g., break rooms, eating areas) to allow 6 feet of physical distancing; redesign work stations to ensure physical distancing (e.g., separate tables, stagger workstations on either side of processing lines so workers are not face-to-face, use distance markers to assure spacing including in the kitchen area).</li> <li>Establish directional hallways and passageways for foot traffic if possible, to minimize contact (e.g., one-way entrance and exit to the restaurant). Post clearly visible signage regarding these policies.</li> <li>Prohibit lingering in common areas (e.g., waiting areas, bathrooms) and ensure social distancing in common areas by marking 6 feet spacing with tape or paint on the floor and signage.</li> <li>All customer-facing workers (e.g., servers, bus staff) must minimize time spent within 6 feet of customers.</li> </ul>	□ Ongoing
Designate assigned working areas to workers where possible to limit movement throughout the restaurant and limit contact between workers (e.g., assigning zones to servers).	□ Ongoing
Stagger work schedules and staff meal and break times, regulating maximum number of people in one place and ensuring at least 6 feet of physical distancing.	□ Ongoing
Minimize the use of confined spaces (e.g., elevators, vehicles) by more than one individual at a time.	□ Ongoing
Require face coverings for all customers and workers at all times, except where an individual is unable to wear a face covering due to medical condition or disability.	□ Ongoing
Customers may remove face coverings while seated at tables.	☐ Ongoing



Best Practices/Recommendations	Status
Designate assigned working areas to workers where possible to limit movement throughout the restaurant and limit contact between workers (e.g., assigning zones to servers.	□ Ongoing

# RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEE CHECKLIST

Restaurant management and employee personnel must ensure these mandated staffing and operations requirements are being implemented and followed at all times. Restaurant management should also consider implementing items listed as "Best Practices/Recommendations" when appropriate and feasible.

Mandatory Requirements	Status
When possible, reservations or call-ahead seating should be encouraged; managers must ensure that diners waiting for tables do not congregate in common areas or form lines.	□ Ongoing
When taking reservations and when seating walk-in customers, restaurants should retain a phone number of someone in the party for possible contact tracing.	□ Ongoing
Restaurants may not provide customers with buzzers or other devices to provide alerts that seating is available or orders are ready; restaurants should instead use no-touch methods such as audio announcements, text messaging, and notices on fixed video screens or blackboards.	□ Ongoing
Provide training to workers on up-to-date safety information and precautions including hygiene and other measures aimed at reducing disease transmission, including:	
<ul> <li>Social distancing, handwashing, and requirements for proper use of face coverings;</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Modifying practices for serving to minimize time spent within 6 feet of customers;</li> </ul>	□ Ongoing
<ul> <li>Self-screening at home, including temperature or symptom checks;</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Reinforcing that staff may not come to work if sick;</li> </ul>	
When to seek medical attention if symptoms become severe; and,	
Which underlying health conditions may make individuals more susceptible to contracting and suffering from a severe case of the virus.	
Restaurant operators should establish adjusted workplace hours and shifts for workers to minimize contact across workers and reduce congestion at entry points.	□ Ongoing



Limit visitors and vendors on site; shipping and deliveries should be completed in designated areas.	□ Ongoing
Workers should not appear for work if feeling ill.	☐ Ongoing
<ul> <li>Restaurants must screen workers at each shift by ensuring the following:</li> <li>Worker is not experiencing any symptoms such as fever (100°F and above) or chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, fatigue, headache, muscle/body aches, runny nose/congestion, new loss of taste or smell, or nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Worker has not had "close contact" with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19. "Close contact" means living in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, caring for a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 being within 6 feet of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more, or coming in direct contact with secretions (e.g., sharing utensils, being coughed on) from a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, while that person was symptomatic.</li> </ul>	□ Ongoing
Worker has not been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by their doctor or a local public health official.	
Workers who fail to meet the above criteria must be sent home.	
Anyone showing signs of illness may be denied entry.	□ Ongoing
Workers must stay home if feeling ill.	☐ Ongoing
Encourage workers who test positive for COVID-19 to disclose to the employer for purposes of cleaning/disinfecting and contact tracing. If the employer is notified of a positive case at the workplace, the employer shall notify the local Board of Health (LBOH) in the city or town where the workplace is located and assist the LBOH as reasonably requested to advise likely contacts to isolate and self-quarantine. Testing of other workers may be recommended consistent with guidance and/or at the request of the LBOH.	□ Ongoing
Notify workers that they may not work if they test positive for COVID-19 (they should be isolated at home) or are found to be a close contact of someone with COVID-19 (they should be quarantined at home).	□ Ongoing
Post notice to workers and customers of important health information and relevant safety measures as outlined in the Commonwealth's Mandatory Safety Standards for Workplace.	□ Ongoing
Designate the Person in Charge (105 CMR 590) for each shift to oversee implementation of the guidelines in this document.	□ Ongoing



pat	staurants will be allowed to maximize outdoor dining space, including cios and parking lots where available, where municipal approval is cained.	□ Ongoing
tho und to a	ditional on-site amenities and services may only open and operate when ose amenities or services would otherwise be authorized to operate der the Commonwealth's Phased Reopening Plan and then must adhere all sector-specific safety protocols, available on the Reopening Plan bsite, applicable to the amenity or service. Examples include the lowing:	
•	Pool tables, darts, and other indoor games: Must remain closed.	
•	Musical and other performances: Must follow the latest <u>Theater and Performance guidance document</u> .	□ Ongoing
•	Venue guidance, including distance between performers and between performers and attendees. Performances at indoor venues may not include singing or the playing of wind or brass instruments.	
•	Dance floors: Must remain closed until Phase 4.	
•	Gift shops: Must follow the latest <u>Retail guidance document</u> .	
Ado	ditional City of Boston recommendations:	
•	Communicate workplace policies clearly, frequently, and through various channels.	
•	Consider daily team all-staff conference calls or virtual check-ins to disseminate information and policy changes.	
•	Prevent stigma and discrimination in the workplace by keeping health information private in compliance with state and federal laws.	☐ Ongoing
•	Uphold stringent anti-discrimination policies, with a zero-tolerance policy for any assumption of COVID-19 risk or infection status based on race or country of origin and offer a safe way for workers to report an instance of discrimination.	
	Best Practices/Recommendations	Status
pei	courage use of technological solutions where possible to reduce son-to-person interaction (e.g., contactless payment, mobile ordering, t on arrival for seating).	□ Ongoing
(e.g	orkers who are particularly high risk to COVID-19 according to the CDC g., due to age or underlying conditions) are encouraged to stay home or ange an alternate work assignment.	□ Ongoing
	orkers are strongly encouraged to self-identify symptoms or any close ntact to a known or suspected COVID-19 case to the employer.	□ Ongoing



Consider setting aside specific hours of operation exclusively for vulnerable populations.	□ Ongoing
Limit employees to discrete work zones to minimize overlap where possible.	☐ Ongoing
Restaurant operators should perform symptom-screening checks as customers enter the restaurant. Encourage customers to return home if there are potential COVID-19 symptoms indicated by the customer or possibly by someone in the household. Draft: "In the last 2–14 days, have you or a person in the household been exposed to the COVID-19 virus and/or are experiencing the following COVID-19 symptoms?	
Fever or chills	
• Cough	
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	
Fatigue	☐ Ongoing
Muscle or body aches	
Headache	
New loss of taste or smell	
Sore throat	
Congestion or runny nose	
Nausea or vomiting	
• Diarrhea"	
If possible, implement a reservation system for the restaurant. Use the reservation system to contact customers with reservations 24 hours before their scheduled arrival to confirm their reservation and ask if they or someone in their household is exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms. If the customer answers in the affirmative, the customer should be reminded that he or she should only visit the facility if he or she does not pose a health risk to other customers or restaurant staff. Such communication can be done via app, email, or text, if possible.	□ Ongoing
Use an Emergency Notification System and maintain updated contact information for employees.	□ Ongoing
Provide employees with personal protective equipment.	☐ Ongoing
Encourage workers to report any safety and health concerns.	☐ Ongoing
Provide temperature and/or symptom screenings for all workers at the beginning of their shift and for any vendors or contractors entering the facility. Make sure the temperature and/or symptom screener avoids close contact with workers to the extent possible	□ Ongoing



If providing temperature screenings on-site is not feasible, self-screening at home may be implemented. Ensure that screening is performed prior to the worker leaving the home for his or her shift and follows CDC guidelines.	□ Ongoing
When possible, allow for flexibility in working hours so employees can commute during non-peak times.	□ Ongoing
Encourage employees to wash their hands as quickly as possible upon entering the workplace.	□ Ongoing

### CLEANING, DISINFECTING, AND HYGIENE CHECKLIST

Restaurant management and employees must ensure these mandated cleaning and hygiene requirements are implemented and being followed at all times. Management should also consider implementing items listed as "Best Practices/Recommendations" when appropriate and feasible.

Mandatory Requirements	Status
All workers must wash their hands frequently and table servers wash their hands or apply hand sanitizer between each table interaction.	□ Ongoing
Ensure access to handwashing facilities on-site, including soap and running water, and allow sufficient break time for workers to wash hands frequently; alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol may be used as an alternative.	□ Ongoing
Alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol should be made available at entrances, exits, and in the dining area.	□ Ongoing
Supply workers at workplace locations with adequate cleaning products (e.g., sanitizer, disinfecting wipes).	□ Ongoing
Post visible signage throughout the site to remind workers and customers of hygiene and safety protocols.	□ Ongoing
Self-serve, unattended buffets, topping bars, drink stations, and other communal serving areas must remain closed.	□ Ongoing
Condiments and similar products (e.g., salt, pepper, and salad dressing) should not be pre-set on tables and should instead only be provided upon request either in single-serving portions (e.g., individual packages or cups) or in serving containers that are sanitized between each use.	□ Ongoing
Menus must be one of the following: paper, single-use menus disposed after each use; 2) displayed menu (e.g., digital, whiteboard, chalkboard); or electronic menus viewed on customers' phones/mobile devices.	□ Ongoing
Utensils and place settings must be either single-use or sanitized after each use; utensils should be rolled or packaged. Tables should not be pre-set to reduce opportunity for exposure.	□ Ongoing



Tables and chairs must be cleaned and sanitized thoroughly between each seating.	□ Ongoing
Clean commonly touched surfaces in restrooms (e.g., toilet seats, doorknobs, stall handles, sinks, paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers) frequently and in accordance with CDC guidelines.	□ Ongoing
Keep cleaning logs that include date, time, and scope of cleaning.	□ Ongoing
Conduct frequent disinfecting of heavy transit areas and high-touch surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, elevator buttons, staircases).	□ Ongoing
Implement procedures to increase cleaning/disinfecting in the back-of-house. Avoid all food contact surfaces when using disinfectants. Food contact surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized before use with a sanitizer approved for food contact surfaces. Non-food contact surfaces must be frequently cleaned.	□ Ongoing
In the event of a presumptive or actual positive COVID-19 case of a worker,	
patron, or vendor, the restaurant must be immediately shut down for 24 hours and then must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with current CDC guidance before re-opening.	□ Ongoing
patron, or vendor, the restaurant must be immediately shut down for 24 hours and then must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with current	□ Ongoing Status
patron, or vendor, the restaurant must be immediately shut down for 24 hours and then must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with current CDC guidance before re-opening.	
patron, or vendor, the restaurant must be immediately shut down for 24 hours and then must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with current CDC guidance before re-opening.  Best Practices/Recommendations	Status

### **CONFIRMED CASES CHECKLIST**

Confirmed COVID cases for Restaurant employees or previous customers will require review and adherence to this checklist.

Mandatory Requirements	Status
If the employer is notified of a positive case at the workplace (including	
from other employees, guests, vendors, delivery personnel, or anyone	
accessing the facility), the employer should notify the local Board of Health	☐ Ongoing
(LBOH) where the workplace is located and work with them to trace likely	
contacts in the workplace and advise workers and others who may have	
accessed the space to isolate and self-quarantine. Testing of others who	



accessed the same space may be recommended consistent with guidance	
and/or at the request of the LBOH.  In the event of an employee notifying an employer of a positive COVID case, the employee should obtain consent from the employee to show his or how	
the employer should obtain consent from the employee to share his or her personal information with the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). If the employer does not have consent to share the employee's information, the employer can still call BPHC for general guidance on closures and identifying close contacts. The employer cannot reveal information about the confirmed case to close contacts due to privacy concerns. This function may be supported by public health agencies other than BPHC depending on the location of the confirmed case.	
When calling BPHC, employers should be able to identify whether the employee worked 48 hours prior to onset of symptoms or was asymptomatic 48 hours prior to the test. The employer should also be able to identify if the employee was wearing a face covering at work, details of work conditions, locations of work (i.e., inside, outside), proximity to other employees or attendees, level of interaction with the public, and barriers or face coverings that were in place.	
The employer will help the LBOH to identify employee(s) who may have had contact with the confirmed case. The employer will notify these employees of the need to quarantine. The employer and LBOH will reach out to affected healthcare providers. Contacts to a confirmed case should be encouraged to have a COVID-19 test. Any employee who is identified as a close contact should not return to work for at least for 14 days.	
In the event of a presumptive or actual positive COVID-19 case of a worker, patron, or vendor, the restaurant must be immediately shut down for 24 hours and then must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with current CDC guidance before re-opening.	□ Ongoing
Best Practices/Recommendations	Status
Workers who test positive for COVID-19 should not be allowed to return to work until cleared by a medical professional as being symptom-free for at least 3 days and having been at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared.	□ Ongoing
Any previous customer who has notified the restaurant operator of a positive case should be encouraged to contact LBOH. The restaurant operator should also contact any employee and known customer(s) who may have come into contact with that customer.	□ Ongoing
Maintain and review customer and employee records as necessary for information to support contact-tracing efforts.	□ Ongoing