

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 31, 2020

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The City of Milwaukee Health Department issues Phase 4.1 of Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely COVID-19 orders

MILWAUKEE— On July 31st at 5:00 pm CT, the City of Milwaukee Health Department will advance its Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely COVID-19 health orders to Phase 4.1. The update includes the MKE Cares mask ordinance that went into effect on July 16th requiring masks or cloth face coverings to be worn by all persons in the City of Milwaukee over the age of three. Businesses are allowed to require this policy to provide service.

Under the new phase, restaurants and bars will also be required to submit a [safety plan](#) and [Risk Assessment Tool](#) by 11:59 p.m. CT on September 15th to continue serving patrons indoors without capacity limits. Documents should be sent to cehadmin@milwaukee.gov with the subject line “COVID SAFETY PLAN: [insert name and address].” All plans will be reviewed in the order that they have been received, and approval may take several days. Once a business has been approved, the operator will receive a certificate or seal from the Milwaukee Health Department indicating that they may operate safely.

On Thursday, August 6th at 2 p.m. CT the Milwaukee Health Department will host a 2-hour virtual workshop to assist restaurant and bar owners in writing their COVID-19 safety plans. [Register here.](#)

Under Phase 4.1, all schools—including K-12, trade schools, colleges, and universities—will be able to operate at 50% capacity for in-person sessions with a Milwaukee Health Department-approved safety plan. A checklist for plans based on State and CDC school reopening guidance will be available at milwaukee.gov/mmfs by the end of next week.

Gyms and athletic centers may now operate with the lesser of the three: 1) 50% of the total occupancy, 2) one person for every 30 square feet, or 3) 250 people. Gyms are required to comply with the mandatory mask requirements. Exceptions may be made during strenuous activities where social distancing can occur and mask wearing would cause difficulty breathing. In addition, sports teams, including youth sports teams, can submit a safety plan to the Health Department for approval to participate in the fall season.

Lastly, the City of Milwaukee key indicators for Moving Milwaukee Forward Safely have been updated as they are every Thursday and are available online at milwaukee.gov/coronavirus

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