

Town of Southwick Board of Health and Select Board COVID-19 Update for December 4, 2020

As of Friday, December 4, 2020, there have been 215 positive cases of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick. The Southwick Board of Health would like to stress that this is not a complete profile of the status of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick. This number reflects those individuals who have received positive test results and *not* those awaiting results, untested symptomatic individuals, and those who might currently be asymptomatic. Additional information on case numbers can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>.

Effective **December 7, 2020**, the Town Southwick must revert to **step 1 of phase 3** of the Commonwealth's reopening plan, as outlined in COVID-19 [order 56](#). The order specifies that a community must revert to step 1 of phase 3 if it is designated in the "**red**" category for three consecutive Department of Public Health weekly reports. For the Town of Southwick, the "**red**" category is reached when we have more than 25 positive cases of COVID-19 in a week (a chart describing the categories is found at the end of this update). This reversion to **step 1 of phase 3** effects business in Town in the following ways:

- The following types of businesses are prohibited from operating during step 1 of phase 3: indoor theaters and performance venues, roller skating rinks, trampoline parks, obstacle courses, laser tag and escape rooms.
- The following types of businesses must reduce capacity to 40% (currently 50%) when operating during step 1 of phase 3: driving/flight schools, gyms, libraries, museums, arcades, and lower-contact indoor and outdoor recreation businesses.
- During step 1, outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings are limited to 50 people.
- During step 1, outdoor theater and performance venues may operate at 25% capacity but no more than 50 people.

Following this update is a chart that outlines the differences between step 1 and step 2. This document will be available at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-communities-not-designated-lower-risk> in other languages. Information on sector-specific protocols can be found at www.mass.gov/reopening-protocols.

All visitors and returning residents entering Massachusetts must follow the [new travel orders](#). All travelers arriving to Massachusetts – including Massachusetts residents returning home – are instructed to complete the [Massachusetts Travel Form](#) prior to arrival and to self-quarantine for 14 days, **except travelers from Hawaii**. All persons are instructed not to travel to Massachusetts if they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19. For more information, including the most current list of lower-risk states, exemptions, business guidance and other details, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>.

The Town Hall north side lobby is open to the public for Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, and Assessors services. All other offices are available by phone, on-line, and by appointment. Due to the nature of our operations during the pandemic, please call these other offices before visiting Town Hall. All efforts have been made to ensure that customers and staff are kept safe. The Town of Southwick asks all visitors entering the building to abide by all posted signage.

Due to the recent increase in cases of COVID-19 in Massachusetts, residents are urged to continue to follow all public health precautions for reducing the spread of COVID-19: stay home unless absolutely necessary; if you

must go out in public, practicing social distancing and proper hygiene etiquette; wear face coverings when inside retail stores and when social distancing cannot be maintained; and if you are experiencing signs of illness - fever, cough, shortness of breath – call your primary care provider for advice.

The Southwick Board of Health and Select Board continue to post case numbers and updated information regarding COVID-19 every week at southwickma.org. For additional up-to-date information please visit mass.gov/2019coronavirus and cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov. For non-emergency information and assistance, please call 2-1-1 or visit mass211.org.

CITY & TOWN METRICS

Population			
Group	Under 10k	10k - 50k	Over 50k
Grey	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 15 total cases
Green	Less than or equal to 15 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >10 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >15 total cases
Yellow	Less than or equal to 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥4% pos rate
Red	More than 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥4% pos rate

Learn more at Mass.gov/StopCOVID19



Business sector guidance for Phase 3, Steps 1 & 2

A community that has been classified as Lower Risk must revert back to Phase 3, Step 1 if it becomes classified and remains a High Risk/Red community for 3 consecutive weeks.

	Phase 3, Step 1	Phase 3, Step 2
Indoor Theaters and Performance Venues	Closed	Open - 50% capacity but no more than 250 people
Outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings	50 person limit	100 person limit
Outdoor Theater and Performance Venues	Open - 25% capacity but no more than 50 people	Open - 50% capacity but no more than 250 people
Roller Skating Rinks, Trampolines, Obstacle Courses, Laser Tag, and Escape Rooms	Closed	Open, 50% capacity
Arcades, Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Businesses - lower contact activities	Open, 40% capacity	Open, 50% capacity
Driving/Flight Schools	Open, 40% capacity	Open, 50% capacity
Gyms	Open, 40% capacity	Open, 50% capacity
Libraries	Open, 40% capacity	Open, 50% capacity
Museums	Open, 40% capacity	Open, 50% capacity
Restaurants	Music performances allowed indoors but no wind or brass instruments or singing	Music performances allowed indoors but no singing
Retail - fitting rooms	Open for businesses where operation is necessary	Open for all retail stores

For additional details and information visit mass.gov/reopening-protocols

