

ORDER OF PUBLIC HEALTH MADISON & DANE COUNTY

DATE OF ORDER: April 29, 2021
Goes into effect May 5, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.

EMERGENCY ORDER #16

Since Emergency Order #15, Dane County has sustained the longest plateau period since May 2020. Case levels have wavered up and down slightly since the end of February, but overall we are in a period of sustained stability. The fact that stability is occurring as neighboring states are seeing increasing case rates bolstered by the presence of the more transmissible variant, B.1.1.7, is promising. On April 7, when Emergency Order #15 was enacted, the 7-day case average was 78 and the 7-day hospitalization average was 23. As of April 26, the case average has decreased to 64 cases per day, and 7-day hospitalization average has slightly increased to 32. Hospitalization levels remain five-fold lower than the fall 2020 peak.

Reducing the spread of illness, preventing severe outcomes, and death remains a foundational public health goal of managing the pandemic—a goal that is becoming more attainable as case rates decrease and vaccination coverage increases. As of April 27, 92.7% of people aged 65 and older in Dane County had received at least one dose of vaccine—a critical step in protecting the population most at risk of severe outcomes and death. County-wide, the vaccination rate is approaching 60% with at least one dose. The increase in coverage has been most rapid among the 16-17 year old age group—currently, 51.5% have at least one dose in Dane County. People between 35 and 64 have high coverage as well—all over 70% with at least one dose. Our county’s population is approaching a high level of vaccination-conferred immunity.

A cautious, and stepwise reopening has remained Dane County’s approach—an approach that has likely contributed to Dane County having one of the lowest case rates in the state despite it being a population center. Masking, distancing, and staying outdoors remain key prevention tools, particularly given that a more transmissible variant of concern has been detected in Dane County. However, now we have an even more impactful prevention tool—vaccination.

In response to the steady trend in cases and hospitalizations alongside the increasing rate of vaccination, these orders take continued steps toward reopening.

Based upon the foregoing, I, Janel Heinrich, Public Health Officer of Madison and Dane County, by the authority vested in me by the Laws of the State, including, but not limited to, Wis. Stats. Secs. 252.03(1), (2) and (4), order the following as necessary to prevent, suppress, and control the spread of COVID-19:

1. Face Coverings. Face covering means a piece of cloth or other material that is worn to cover the nose and mouth completely. A face covering must be secured to the head with ties, ear loops, or elastic bands that go behind the head and must fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face. Cloth face coverings must be made with two or more layers of breathable fabric that is tightly woven (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source). A face covering does not include bandanas, single layer neck gaiters, face shields, goggles, scarves, ski masks, balaclavas, shirt or sweater collars pulled up over the mouth and nose, or masks with slits, exhalation valves, or punctures.

a. Face Covering Required. Every individual, age five (5) and older, shall wear a face covering when:

- i. In any enclosed building where other people, except for members of the person's own household or living unit are present.
- ii. In line to enter any enclosed building.
- iii. Driving or riding in any vehicle where other people, except for members of the person's own household or living unit are present.

Face coverings are strongly recommended in all other settings, including outdoors, when it is not possible to maintain six (6) feet physical distancing.

b. Exceptions. Individuals who are otherwise required to wear a face covering may remove the face covering in the following situations:

- i. While eating or drinking.
- ii. When communicating with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing and communication cannot be achieved through other means.
- iii. While obtaining a service that requires the temporary removal of the face covering, such as dental services.
- iv. While sleeping.

- v. While swimming or on duty as a lifeguard.
 - vi. When engaging in work where wearing a face covering would create a risk to the individual, as determined by government safety guidelines.
 - vii. When necessary to confirm the individual's identity, including when entering a financial institution.
 - viii. When federal or state law or regulations prohibit wearing a face covering.
 - ix. When actively playing a wind instrument that has a fabric bell cover, or similar cover, that acts as a face covering over the instrument, as long as individuals are spaced at least six (6) feet apart at all times.
- c. The following individuals are exempt from the face covering requirement in Section 1.a. of this Order:
 - i. Children under the age of 5.
 - ii. Individuals who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
 - iii. Individuals with medical conditions, intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental health conditions, or other sensory sensitivities that prevent the individual from wearing a face covering.

2. **Gatherings.** A Gathering is a planned event such as a concert, festival, meeting, training, conference, performance, show, sporting event, or party. Individuals that are members of the same household or living unit do not count towards the Gathering numbers in their own household or living unit.

- a. **Gatherings Inside.** A Gathering inside where food or drink is offered or provided is limited to threehundred fifty (350) individuals or less, not including employees. A Gathering inside where food or drink is not offered or provided is limited to five hundred (500) individuals or less, not including employees. Numbers must be limited to ensure individuals who are not members of the same household or living unit maintain six (6) feet physical distancing at all times, except when in transit.
- b. **Gatherings Outside.** Numbers must be limited to ensure individuals who are not members of the same household or living unit maintain six (6) feet physical distancing at all times, except when in transit.

3. Education, child care, and youth activities.

- a. **Schools, child care, and youth activities.** Child care, youth activities, and public and private kindergarten through twelfth grade schools must abide by the following:
 - i. Develop and implement a written hygiene policy and procedure that includes:
 - a) Establishing expectations that anyone who has a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 do not come or remain at school or child care.
 - b) Establishing hand-washing expectations and ensuring supplies are available to employees, children, and students.
 - c) Describing proper cough and sneeze etiquette.
 - ii. Develop and implement a written cleaning policy and procedure that includes guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for cleaning.
 - iii. Develop and implement a written protective measure policy and procedure that includes:
 - a) Ensuring employees are provided with and wear face coverings at all times when required under Section 1 of this Order.
 - b) Ensuring procedures for distancing for students, children, and employees.
 - iv. Implement PHMDC's action plan for COVID-19 case(s) at a school. Available at
https://publichealthmdc.com/documents/school_action_plan.pdf
 - v. Document staff receipt, acknowledgement, or training on the policies in Sections 3.a.i-3.a.iv of this Order.
 - vi. Post PHMDC's Workplace requirements for employers and workers guidance document in a prominent location where all employees may access and view. Available at
<https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/forward-dane/requirements>
- b. **Continuing education and higher education institutions.** Continuing education and higher education institutions may determine policies and practices for safe operations. However, these institutions may not open congregate living situations including dormitories without strict policies

that ensure safe living conditions. These institutions must maintain six (6) feet physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. These institutions must comply with Section 1 of this Order.

4. Sports.

- a. Six (6) feet physical distancing is required at all times between individuals not from the same household or living unit except when individuals are actively participating in the sport.
- b. All individuals (such as, athletes, coaching staff, referees, and spectators) that are not actively participating in the sport must maintain six (6) feet physical distancing at all times.
- c. All sports must follow the gathering limits in Section 2 of this Order.
- d. All sports are subject to the following requirements:
 - i. Develop and implement a hygiene policy that includes:
 - a) Ensuring individuals who have a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to participate.
 - b) Establishing hand-washing expectations and ensuring supplies are available to individuals.
 - c) Describing proper cough and sneeze etiquette.
 - ii. Develop and implement a written cleaning policy and procedure that includes guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for cleaning.
 - iii. Develop and implement a written protective measure policy and procedure that address the requirements in Section 4.a and 4.b.
 - iv. Implement PHMDC's action plan for COVID-19 case(s) at sporting events. Available at:
https://publichealthmdc.com/documents/sports_action_plan.pdf
 - v. Document organizing entity receipt, acknowledgement, or training on the policies in Sections 4.d.i-iii of this Order.
Organizing entity must ensure that all individuals participating in sports are aware of Sections 4.d.i-iii of this Order.

5. Businesses. All businesses are subject to the following requirements:

- a. Limit capacity to 75% of approved capacity levels indoors.

- b.** Develop and implement a written hygiene policy and procedure that includes:
 - i.** Ensuring employees who have a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to work.
 - ii.** Establishing hand-washing expectations and ensuring supplies are available to employees.
 - iii.** Describing proper cough and sneeze etiquette.
- c.** Develop and implement a written cleaning policy and procedure that includes guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for cleaning.
- d.** Develop and implement a written protective measure policy and procedure that includes:
 - i.** Ensuring individuals are at least six (6) feet from others whenever possible.
 - ii.** Ensuring employees are provided with and wear face coverings at all times when required under Section 1 of this Order.
- e.** Document staff receipt, acknowledgement, or training on the policies in Sections 5.b.-5.d of this Order.
- f.** **Limit staff and customers in offices, facilities, and stores.** All businesses should, to the greatest extent possible, facilitate remote work and other measures that limit the number of individuals present at an office, facility, or store. Businesses to the greatest extent feasible should:
 - i.** Offer online or virtual services, including for, meeting with clients, providing counsel, or other professional services.
 - ii.** Hold meetings and collaborate online or by phone.
 - iii.** Alternate work teams or stagger shifts.
- g.** **Safe business requirements when remote work is not possible.** All businesses are required to take the following measures to limit exposure to COVID-19 to staff, customers, and the public when remote work is not possible:

- i. Where possible, offer curbside pick-up, curbside drop-off, and delivery of goods and services.
- ii. Where possible, offer online or phone payments, appointments, and reservations.
- iii. Ensure spacing of chairs in waiting rooms to ensure six (6) feet physical distancing is maintained between individuals.

h. Meetings, trainings, and conferences are considered Gatherings and must comply with Section 2 of this Order.

i. Adhere to PHMDC requirements and strongly consider implementing the PHMDC recommendations and guidelines.

j. Businesses must establish lines outside to regulate entry, with markings indicating where customers should stand to remain six (6) feet apart from one another while waiting to enter. Businesses should also offer alternatives to lines, including allowing customers to wait in their cars for a text message or phone call and scheduling pick-ups or entries to stores. Businesses must designate entrance and exit points and manage traffic flow such that customers remain six (6) feet apart from one another whenever possible.

k. Post PHMDC's "Workplace Requirements for Employers and Workers" guidance document in a prominent location where all employees may access and view. Available at <https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/forward-dane/requirements>

l. Follow all Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines with regards to face coverings.

m. Post PHMDC's "Face Covering" sign (or a similar sign) about face coverings being required that is visible upon entering the property. All residential properties (e.g., apartment buildings and condominiums) that have shared common indoor spaces (e.g., mailrooms, lobbies, hallways) are required to post PHMDC's "Face Covering" sign (or a similar sign) about masks being required that is visible upon entering the property. Available at <https://publichealthmdc.com/coronavirus/forward-dane/requirements>

6. Industry-specific requirements. In addition to complying with Section 5 of this Order, the following businesses have additional requirements:

- a. Stores that sell food or groceries,** including grocery stores, bakeries, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, food banks and food pantries, convenience stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of groceries, prepared food, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Such establishments shall:
 - i. Encourage pickup and delivery options.**
 - ii. Limit indoor dine-in capacity to 75% of approved seating capacity levels. Space tables and chairs to ensure at least six (6) feet physical distancing between customers who are not members of the same household or living unit. Customers must be seated at all times when not in transit.**
 - iii. Outdoor seating is allowed. Space tables and chairs to ensure at least six (6) feet physical distancing between customers who are not members of the same household or living unit. Customers must be seated at all times when not in transit.**
- b. Restaurants and taverns.** Restaurants and taverns shall:
 - i. “Restaurant” has the meaning as defined in Wis. Stats. Ch. 97.01 (14g) and whose sale of alcohol beverages accounts for 50% or less of the establishment’s gross receipts. A “tavern” is an establishment in which alcohol beverages are sold for consumption on said premises and whose sale of alcohol beverages accounts for 51% or more of the establishment’s gross receipts. “Tavern” includes breweries, brewpubs, wineries and distilleries. Wis. Stat. Sec. 125.07(3)(a)6 presumes that an establishment operated under both a Class “B” or “Class B” license or permit and a license under Wis. Stat. Sec. 97.30 for a restaurant, is a tavern. This presumption may be rebutted by competent evidence. To determine whether an establishment is a restaurant or a tavern, gross receipts for the period July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 will be considered. A restaurant or tavern shall provide receipts showing their gross sales of food and alcohol to PHMDC within seventy-two hours of a request by PHMDC for said receipts.**
 - ii. Encourage pick-up and delivery options.**
 - iii. Restaurants and taverns must limit indoor dine-in capacity to 75% of approved seating capacity levels. Space tables and chairs to**

ensure at least six (6) feet physical distancing between customers who are not members of the same household or living unit. Customers must be seated at all times when not in transit.

- c. **Temporary and permanent retail stores.** Temporary and permanent retail stores shall:
 - i. Limit the number of individuals at the temporary or permanent retail store, not including employees, to 75% of approved capacity levels indoors.
 - ii. Temporary and permanent retail stores larger than 50,000 square feet must offer at least two hours per week of dedicated shopping time for vulnerable individuals. Vulnerable individuals include people over sixty-five (65) years of age, people that are pregnant, people in long-term care facilities, people with compromised or weakened immune systems, and people with serious underlying health conditions including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, serious heart conditions, liver disease, kidney disease requiring dialysis, diabetes, obesity, or asthma.
- d. **Salons and spas.** Facilities including hair salons, barber shops, nail salons, day spas, electrolysis providers, waxing salons, eyebrow-care establishments, tattoo and piercing parlors, body art establishments, tanning facilities and similar facilities shall:
 - i. Limit the number of customers or clients to 75% of approved capacity levels indoors.
 - ii. Space customer or client chairs, tables, or stations at least six (6) feet apart from each other.
- e. **Gyms and fitness centers.** Gyms, fitness centers, and similar facilities shall:
 - i. Limit the number of individuals in the business, not including employees, to 75% of the approved capacity limit indoors.
 - ii. To the extent possible, space equipment at least six (6) feet apart, especially for treadmills and other high-exertion aerobic fitness equipment.

- iii. Use floor markings to indicate spacing of individuals, particularly in areas where individuals congregate or cluster including drinking fountains, the front desk or reception area, and cleaning stations.
 - iv. Group exercise classes may only be offered if six (6) feet physical distancing can be maintained at all times and there is no person-to-person contact. Group exercises classes are considered Gatherings and must comply with Section 2 of this Order.
 - v. Saunas and steam rooms may open if capacity is limited to individuals from the same household or living unit at any given time period.
- f. **Places of amusement and activity.** Places of amusement and activity including water parks, licensed public or private swimming pools, aquariums, zoos, museums, bowling alleys, amusement parks, outdoor miniature golf, movie theaters, theaters, concert and music halls, golf courses, and similar places shall:
 - i. To the extent possible, all reservations and payments must be made in advance online or by phone.
 - ii. Businesses shall limit the number of individuals on the premises, not including employees, to 75% of approved capacity limits indoors. Events such as, but not limited to, concerts, festivals, carnivals, fairs, parades, movies, performances, and shows are considered Gatherings and must comply with Section 2 of this Order.
 - iii. Seating, stations, or recreational areas must be spaced to ensure at least six (6) feet of physical distancing between individuals not within the same household or living unit.
- 7. **Health care operations, public health operations, human services operations, infrastructure operations, manufacturing, and government functions.** These operations, as defined in Emergency Health Order #2, are required to only follow Sections 1, 5.b through 5.g. and 5.i. through 5.m. of this Order. Long-term care and assisted living facilities must follow all applicable Wisconsin Department of Health Services recommendations, all applicable U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations, and all applicable Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recommendations for prevention of COVID-19 in these facilities.

8. **Religious Entities and Groups.** Religious entities and groups are entities that are organized and operated for a religious purpose. Examples include, but are not limited to mosques, synagogues, temples, religious studies, churches and nondenominational ministries. Religious entities and groups shall comply with Sections 1, 5.a. through 5.g. and 5.i through 5.m. of this Order. Religious entities are exempt from Gathering requirements for religious services and religious practices only. Religious entities are not exempt from the Gathering requirements for other events outside of a religious service or practice such as picnics or staff meetings.
9. **Fully Vaccinated Individuals.** Individuals are fully vaccinated: Two (2) weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose vaccine series for COVID-19 (such as Pfizer-BioNTech's or Moderna's vaccine) or two (2) weeks after their first dose in a single-dose vaccine series for COVID-19 (such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine).
 - a. Individuals do not need to maintain six (6) feet of physical distancing or wear a face covering when outdoors or in an enclosed space:
 - i. Where all individuals are fully vaccinated;
 - ii. Where fully vaccinated individuals are with individuals from a single household or living unit who:
 - a) are not fully vaccinated and are not at an increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>; and
 - b) do not reside with anyone who is not fully vaccinated and at an increased risk increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found at:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>
 - b. Fully vaccinated individuals must continue to follow all aspects of this Order unless specifically exempted under this Section.
 10. Businesses must follow all regulatory and licensing requirements. If this Order contains provisions that are more restrictive than otherwise permitted in any regulatory or licensing requirement, the provisions of this Order shall control.

ENFORCEMENT AND APPLICABILITY

11. **Enforcement.** Violation or obstruction of this Order is a violation of Madison Municipal Ordinance Secs. 7.05(6) and 7.41 and Dane County Ordinance Sec. 46.40(2), and any subsequent or similar ordinance adopted by a local municipality in conformity therein.
12. **Severability.** If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.
13. **Duration.** This Order shall become effective Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. This Order shall remain in effect until June 2, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Janel Heinrich
Health Officer, Public Health Madison & Dane County