

POLICY GUIDANCE

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, as a result of increased infection rates and the higher transmissibility of the Delta variant, all eight of Connecticut's counties are considered area of substantial, or high transmission; and

WHEREAS, on the 5th day of August, 2021, Governor Ned Lamont issued Executive Order No. 13A ("State Order 13A") pursuant to emergency declaration of the Governor and in accordance with the requirements of Special Act 21-5, which among other things authorized individual municipalities "to require mask or face coverings in indoor settings regardless of vaccination status" pursuant to Sec. 28-8a of the Connecticut General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Section 28-8a of the Connecticut General Statutes (the "Statutes") authorizes the First Selectwoman of a municipality in which a major disaster or emergency occurs, or his designees, to take such action as he deems necessary to mitigate the major disaster or emergency; and

WHEREAS, Brenda L. Kupchick, in reliance on local and state health officials and recent guidance from the CDC, has determined that in order to slow the spread of the Delta variant, protect our residents and those visiting and conducting business within our communities, it is right, proper and consistent with good preventive public health practice to follow the current CDC guidelines on wearing masks or face coverings in indoor setting regardless of vaccination status in order to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and the Delta variant in particular;

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT, due to the above referenced declared civil preparedness emergency from the COVID-19 outbreak: Effective 8:00a.m. on Monday, August 23, 2021, it shall be required that masks or face coverings be worn in all indoor areas of any place of public accommodation including but not limited to retail businesses, restaurants and bars, within the Town of Fairfield, by all persons regardless of vaccination status, pursuant to the following guidelines:

This guidance is subject to change

Apartment buildings, Multifamily Dwellings, Office Buildings, and Houses of Worship:

1. Masks are required indoors in public areas of all buildings and businesses.
2. Masks are not required in private offices not accessible to the public.

Retail and Personal Services Businesses:

1. Masks are required to be worn by all staff and customers.

Restaurants:

1. Restaurant employees (chefs, line cooks, bussers, wait staff, hosts, delivery personnel etc.) shall wear a mask while working indoors.

2. While dining outdoors, patrons are not required to wear masks.
3. While dining indoors, patrons must wear masks when not actively eating or drinking. The presence of food and/or drink on the table will be considered "eating or drinking."
4. All patrons are required to wear masks at all other times when inside the restaurant.
5. This Executive Order does not affect occupancy levels, hours of operation, and does not require social distancing barriers.

Gyms and Sports Facilities:

1. Masks are required for indoor areas of gyms and sports facilities except for the following situations:
 - a. Masks must be worn during indoor athletic activities that involve contact (i.e. hockey, basketball). Athlete participants, coaches, officials, spectators and any others associated with athletic events are required to wear masks.
 - i. Masks are not required for no-contact sports where distance can be maintained, however, trainers are required to be masked.
 - b. Masks are not required for activities where individuals can keep a safe social distance (6 feet).
 - c. Masks should be removed when there is a possibility of getting wet during swimming.
2. Schools and university based sporting activities shall follow the CIAC, DPH and NCAA sports guidance.
3. Food service areas will follow restaurant guidelines.

General Enforcement

1. Businesses that fail to comply with the order are subject to fines.
2. Businesses having difficulty with non-compliant customers should call law enforcement.