

Chicago is currently in Phase 5. These recommendations replace the industry-specific guidelines. This guidance includes recommendations for all types of businesses and venues, customers, and employees in order to help maintain healthy environments and operations, as well as lower the risk of COVID-19 spread.

The following are recommended prevention strategies that recognize that while Chicago has made substantial progress in vaccinating its residents, a number of individuals remain ineligible or have not yet chosen to be vaccinated. Consistent use of prevention strategies will help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including customers, employees, and their families. As always, businesses and local municipalities may choose to implement additional prevention strategies as they deem appropriate. This guidance will be updated as the CDC and IDPH release new recommendations and is meant to supplement any federal or state guidance, safety laws, rules, regulations or business safety policies that may expressly require a face covering and/or social distancing. Continue to consult the [CDC](#), [IDPH](#), and [City of Chicago](#) websites for updated resources, guidelines, and rules related to [COVID-19 safety](#).

Vaccination Status

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and widely available across Illinois. Everyone aged 12 years and older should be [vaccinated](#) against COVID-19 as soon as possible to keep from getting and/or spreading COVID-19.
- If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have COVID-19, stay home and avoid public spaces except to get medical care.
- For businesses and venues where everyone present is [fully vaccinated](#), face coverings and social distancing in both indoor and outdoor settings are not required. Businesses and municipalities are permitted to continue requiring face coverings and social distancing as they deem appropriate.
- For indoor businesses and venues where everyone present is not [fully vaccinated](#), unvaccinated persons should wear a face covering and maintain six feet social distance. Businesses and venues may continue to require face coverings and/or social distancing. At outdoor businesses and venues, unvaccinated persons may choose not to wear a face covering when able to maintain a six-foot social distance while outdoors, unless required to do so by a business or municipality.

Social Distancing

- All businesses and venues should support social distancing to the extent possible, especially in indoor settings. Businesses and venues should apply best practices in managing distancing at such places as concessions/counters, public restrooms, and lines/queuing.

Masks

- Although people who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear a face covering, businesses and venues should be supportive of customers and employees who choose to wear a face covering.

- Persons who are immunocompromised should consider wearing face coverings when in settings where others may not be fully vaccinated.
- All unvaccinated persons should wear face coverings in crowded settings, both indoors and outdoors, especially when youth are present. See [CDC guidance](#) for further information.

Travel Order

- Chicago's Emergency Travel Order is now a [Travel Advisory](#).
- Unvaccinated travelers should avoid non-essential travel. Returning travelers who live or work in Chicago, or visitors to Chicago who have travelled domestically are not required to quarantine if they are asymptomatic and fully vaccinated.
- If you are not vaccinated and are traveling from a state with at or above 15.0 average daily cases per 100,000 population, you should receive a negative COVID-19 test result no earlier than 72 hours prior to arrival and have proof of negative results OR plan to quarantine for 10 days upon arrival.
- Masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.

Public Gatherings Guidance

For public gatherings and events, it is recommended that event organizers require attendees to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a negative COVID-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to attending. To create a safer event, CDPH recommends checking documentation of vaccination or negative test status, if feasible. If vaccination or negative test status cannot be checked, CDPH recommends that all attendees, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks whenever social distancing cannot be maintained.