

Memorandum

To: Food Service Premises Owners/Operators
From: CK Public Health
Date: October 28, 2021
Re: Amended Rules for Areas at Step 3 - Information for Food Premises

Dear Food Service Premises Owner/Operator:

Effective Monday, October 25th at 12:01 a.m., Ontario has lifted capacity limits in food and drink establishments without dance facilities. Please note the following changes:

- Indoor and outdoor capacity limits have been lifted
- A sign indicating capacity limits is no longer required
- Physical distancing/barrier between patrons seated at different tables is no longer required

Food or drink establishments permitted to open under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, are required under [O. Reg. 364/20: RULES FOR AREAS AT STEP 3 AND AT THE ROADMAP EXIT STEP](#) to continue to adhere to the following **measures**:

- **Proof of vaccination:** Require each indoor dining patron to provide at the point of entry, proof of identification and proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. **See attached guidelines.**
- **Indoor/outdoor dining** - Active screening of dine-in patrons is required. This can be completed by:
 - Having patrons complete the [online provincial screening tool](#) on their cell phone and show they passed,
 - Having patrons self-screen by reading all screening questions and signing off that they passed at the entrance (see attached printable version of provincial screening tool), or
 - Having a staff member asking the questions at the entrance (see attached printable version of provincial screening tool).
- **Indoor/outdoor dining** - Require and record contact information for **all** dine-in patrons. **See attached 'COVID-19 Patron log'.**
- **Quick Service Restaurant**
 - Establishment that requires all dine-in patrons to order or select their food or drink at a counter, food bar or cafeteria line and pay before receiving their order. Quick service restaurants:
 - are not required to actively screen patrons and record patron contact information
 - may check proof of identification and proof of vaccination at the counter, food bar or cafeteria line.
- **Buffet-style food and beverage service** is permitted with the following stipulations:
 - Hand sanitizer must be provided for patron use prior to self-service, and
 - Patrons must wear masks when moving around the establishment

- Establishments must ensure that staff and patrons wear masks or face coverings indoors, with [limited exceptions](#).
- A [Safety plan](#) must be prepared and made available upon request. A copy must be posted in a conspicuous place where it is most likely to come to the attention of individuals working in or attending the business.
- **Staff/servers** who come within 2 metres of unmasked patrons (i.e. patrons who are seated and eating/drinking) in an indoor area **must wear full facial PPE**. Full facial PPE includes wearing a mask and safety goggles/glasses or a face shield. In an **outdoor** area, it is **strongly recommended** that staff wear full facial PPE. This is particularly important for staff who are not immunized against COVID-19. See attached graphic for clarification on PPE options.
- Outdoor dining areas covered by a roof, canopy, tent, awning or other element must have at least two full sides of the entire outdoor dining area open to the outdoors and not substantially blocked by any walls or other impermeable physical barriers.
- Line-ups and patrons congregating outside the establishment must be managed by the establishment; patrons must maintain physical distance of at least 2 metres.
- Line-ups of patrons inside the establishment must be managed by the establishment; patrons must maintain physical distance of at least 2 metres **AND** wear a mask or face covering.
- Dancing is only permitted at food and drink establishments with dance facilities.
- Singing and performing live music is permitted with restrictions.

Food or drink establishments where **dance facilities** are provided, including nightclubs, restoclubs and other similar establishments, may open if they comply with the following conditions during any time when patrons are permitted to make use of the dance facilities:

- **Proof of vaccination:** Require each patron to provide at the point of entry, proof of identification and proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. **See attached guidelines**
- **Capacity limits:** Indoor establishments are limited to the **lesser** of
 - 25% capacity determined in accordance with subsection 3(4) of Schedule 1, or
 - 250 persons, whichever is less
- Outdoor establishments are limited to the **lesser** of
 - 75% capacity determined in accordance with subsection 3(2) of Schedule 1, or
 - 5000 persons, whichever is less
- **Active Screening** of patrons is required.
- Require and **record contact information** for **all** patrons. See attached 'COVID-19 Patron log'.
- A **sign** indicating the capacity limit under which the establishment is permitted to operate must be posted in a location visible to the public. **See attached 'capacity template'**.
- The establishment must be configured so that patrons seated at different tables are separated by a distance of at least 2 metres or an impermeable barrier.
- Patrons are exempt from physical distancing when dancing.
- Patrons must wear a mask or face covering at all times (includes **outdoor establishments**) with the following exceptions:
 - when seated and separated by a distance of at least 2 metres / behind an impermeable barrier OR
 - Temporarily removed to consume food or drink

If you have any further questions, please contact CK Public Health COVID-19 intake line at 519.355.1071 x 1900.

RESOURCES:

[What to do if an employee is showing symptoms of COVID-19](#)

[If you are showing signs of COVID-19 at work](#)

Poster for Workplaces: [Workplace Poster](#)

Physical Distancing Poster: [Physical Distancing](#)

Passive Screening Poster: [COVID-19 Screening for public places](#)

Cleaning and Disinfecting Resource: [Cleaning and Disinfection](#)