



June 29, 2020

COVID-19 Face Covering Enforcement in Businesses and Nonprofits

Dear Denton Business or Nonprofit:

At the request of the Denton City Council, City staff are contacting you to inform you that **all commercial and non-profit entities in the City of Denton that provide goods or services directly to the public must develop and implement a health and safety policy** in accordance with the Order of Council adopted on June 26, 2020. This order will be in effect until August 4, 2020, unless extended, modified, or terminated early. From the effective date of June 26, all commercial and non-profit entities in the City of Denton **must implement their health and safety policy within five (5) calendar days, or by July 1, 2020.**

The Policy must require, at a minimum, that **all employees, customers, and visitors to the entity's business premises or other facilities wear face coverings** when in an area or while performing an activity which will involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public. Acceptable face coverings may include homemade masks, scarves, bandanas, or a handkerchief. Businesses **must post the policy required by this Order in a publicly visible location sufficient to provide notice to employees and visitors of all health and safety requirements.** Attached to this letter, is a flyer that businesses may post, informing visitors of this new requirement.

The Policy may allow individuals with an operational need to remove a face covering so long as such operational needs are specifically addressed in the Policy. Operational needs include any instance in which a face covering would pose as a safety concern or impede an individual from performing essential work duties. The Policy may also include the implementation of other mitigating measures designed to control and reduce the transmission of COVID-19 such as temperature checks or health screenings.

The **requirement of a face covering does not apply if** covering the nose and mouth poses a significant mental or physical health risk to the individual, an individual is consuming a food or beverage, or an individual is receiving a service where the wearing of a face covering would impair the performance of the service. A face shield is recommended to be worn in the event a face covering cannot be safely worn.

Each business or nonprofit is able to determine how to best create and implement its own health and safety policy. While failing to create or attempt to implement a health and safety policy would violate the order and may result in a citation, the City will support and assist our business and nonprofit community in achieving compliance with the order.

In addition to face-covering requirements, to the greatest extent possible, establishments shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines promulgated by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Texas DSHS, including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public.

See the list on the next page for ways businesses and nonprofits may implement social distancing:

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- Install signage at the front as well as throughout the facility urging visitors to keep at least 6 feet from one another and wear face coverings.
- Both inside and outside of the establishment, place markings on the floor/ground in all areas where lines are potentially formed indicating a 6-foot spacing between individuals.
- Visitors at checkout registers should be asked to wait either through signage or behind a line indicated on the floor/ground until the visitor ahead of them has completed their order and walked away from the employee.
- Ask visitors paying with cash to place their payment on the credit terminal counter instead of in the cashier's hand.
- Place receipts in a bag rather than directly handing it to the visitor, sanitize their area, then allow the next person in line to load their items/groceries onto the conveyor belt.
- Open every other checkout register lane, including self-checkout to provide for additional distancing between visitors and employees.
- Ensure self-checkout stations are cleaned on a frequent basis and keep a logbook to track how often the facility, and areas with high visitor contact, is cleaned and disinfected.

The City's goal is to keep Denton businesses and nonprofits open to the public to the greatest extent possible. This can only happen if everyone is taking active and visible steps to keep COVID-19 contained. The City of Denton appreciates your cooperation in keeping Denton healthy and safe.

For a copy of the June 26, 2020 Order of Council and more COVID-19 business resources, visit www.cityofdenton.com/facecoverings

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