

BWELL Saginaw

COVID-19 Guidance for Businesses

Updated March 2022

The CDC has published new COVID-19 Community Levels as a tool to help us determine prevention steps based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high, and are established by looking at hospital admissions, healthcare capacity, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area.

Saginaw County is considered at a “low” COVID-19 community level. At this level, masking in indoor public settings is no longer broadly recommended according to the CDC. At all levels, individuals can wear a mask based on preference or risk. Individuals with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

What This Means for Businesses & Organizations

Based on most recent CDC and MIOSHA standards, it means most of the mitigation strategies businesses are now routinely implementing are no longer required. It is well within your rights as a business to continue implementing these practices based on organizational preferences and beliefs. Whatever you decide, understand that you should:

- Take down old emergency orders or signage you may have taped up at your facility.
- Retire any reference to former CDC levels of low, moderate, substantial or high.
- Develop smart strategies to stop sickness (see next page).
- Know what is or is no longer required by reading and understanding our FAQs.
- Consult with the Saginaw County Health Department if you have specific questions or concerns surrounding your particular business.

FAQs There’s a long and short answer for each. Here’s the short version for quick reference.

Are we required to wear masks in the workplace?	NO
Are we required to screen or take temps of employees daily?	NO
Do employees testing positive still have to isolate at home?	YES
Do close contacts still have to quarantine? <i>(See new quarantine requirements at saginawpublichealth.org)</i>	NO
Can we hold in-person meetings?	YES
Can we hold events?	YES
Are we required to do social distancing?	NO
Are handwashing and hand sanitizer stations still required?	NO
Is it still a good idea to provide ample places for handwashing?	YES
Do we need to keep up plexiglass barriers in the workplace?	NO
Can we have food at meetings?	YES
Can we turn drinking fountains back on?	YES
Can we provide coffee for customers in our lobby?	YES
Do we need to limit the number of people in elevators?	NO
Should we still clean and disinfect shared office spaces and tools?	YES
Is there a specific requirement for ventilation?	NO
Are we still required by MIOSHA to provide a safe work environment?	YES

COVID-19 Guidance for Businesses

Smart Strategies to Stop Sickness

Educate employees on the importance of self-health practices

- Wash your hands!
- Don't touch your face, your nose, your mouth, your food with unwashed hands.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Keep your distance – 6 feet is safe if someone is coughing, sneezing, or sniffing.

STAY HOME or GO HOME IF YOU'RE SICK!

- Develop and review sick leave policies that encourage sick workers to stay home without fear of any reprisals.
- Advise employees to stay home when they are not well.
- They can return to work when their symptoms are improving, and they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medication.

Provide whatever you want to become your "practice"

- Provide tissues, hand sanitizer, and no-touch trash cans.
- By providing germ containing and killing products you are encouraging their use.
- Promote a culture of less sharing/more cleaning.
- If possible, provide your staff their own phones, keyboards, mouse, etc.
- Provide appropriate disinfecting cleaning wipes and establish routine cleaning practices of all commonly used and any shared objects.

Ensure workplace has proper ventilation.

Consider holding an on-site vaccination clinic (flu, COVID...) or allow time for employees to go get their vaccination(s).

More detail is available at saginawpublichealth.org.