Massachusetts Reopening Guidelines
Update for 8am call
May 20, 2020

Suzanne Blake
Director, MIT Emergency Management
Administrative Director, MIT EMS ambulance service
smblake@mit.edu
Governor’s Re-Opening Guidelines: Phases

Each phase will last at least three weeks. The first phase is expected to last more than three weeks. The first phase also has multiple start dates.
Governor’s Re-Opening Guidelines: Indicators

Below is the status as of May 18, 2020:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 COVID-19 positive test rate</td>
<td>Positive trend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Number of individuals who died from COVID-19</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Number of patients with COVID-19 in hospitals</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Healthcare system readiness</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Testing capacity</td>
<td>Positive trend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Contact tracing capabilities</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The indicator dashboard will inform the need for Massachusetts to move up a phase or down a phase.
Governor’s Re-Opening Guidelines: Phase 1

REOPENING: PHASE 1 – START

The phased reopening gives businesses permission to reopen, but reopening is not mandatory. Businesses should refer to the Sector-Specific Protocols and best practices for detailed guidance on reopening and should follow a self-certification process.

Phase 1: Start

The following businesses will be eligible to reopen, subject to their ability to comply with all mandatory safety standards:

On May 18th

- Essential businesses stay open and continue to operate. Must comply with safety standards, and must self-certify by May 25, 2020
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Worship
- Hospitals and community health centers who attest to specific public health/safety standards can provide high priority preventative care, pediatric care and treatment for high risk patients

On May 25th

- Laboratory and life sciences facilities
- Offices, excluding those in City of Boston; work from home strongly encouraged; businesses should restrict workforce presence to <25% maximum occupancy
- Hair salons and barbershops by appointment only
- Pet grooming by appointment only (curbside pet drop-off and pick-up)
- Car washes exterior car washing allowed
- Recreation and outdoor with guidelines
- Other health care providers who attest to specific public health/safety standards can provide high priority preventative care, pediatric care and treatment for high risk patients
- Retail remote fulfilment and curbside pickup

On June 1st

- Offices in the City of Boston, following applicable guidelines for the rest of the Commonwealth
Governor’s Re-Opening Guidelines: Higher Ed

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

Massachusetts’ diverse higher education institutions continue to foster teaching, learning, student support, and essential research remotely throughout this time. They are working together and in partnership with the state to ensure a safe and gradual return to campus life. In the upcoming weeks, institutions will develop customized reopening plans to ensure the safety of their communities.

Four key principles will guide the return to campus life for Massachusetts’ higher education institutions:

- Protect the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and people in surrounding communities.
- Enable students to make meaningful progress towards their educational goals.
- Contribute to research and innovation.
- Minimize adverse economic impact on families, employees and the Massachusetts economy.

Institutions will craft their own campus reopening plans for each phase, to be implemented once common key enablers are met.

*In all phases: Safety guidelines and health monitoring protocols will be implemented* throughout all elements of campus life — including classrooms, housing, dining, facilities and services.

In Phase 1: Higher education institutions can repopulate research laboratories and medical, dental, veterinary and allied health clinical education and services, and restart functions necessary to prepare campuses to reopen. All activities must observe applicable social distance guidance.

*In Phases 2 and 3: Following public health guidance, each institution will develop its own plans for course delivery which will likely involve a combination of in-person and remote learning in order to allow for social distancing on campus.*
“It’s mostly reopening for purposes of what I would describe as sort of lab work and research, with guidelines, okay? Both. They have to abide by the general guidelines, and they have to abide by industry-specific guidelines. The conversation about the fall, the discussion there is ongoing, and I would expect that to get resolved at some point over the course of the next four or five weeks; but that hasn’t been answered yet.” – Gov. Baker

Higher education working group (part of the reopening task force)
Governor’s Re-Opening Guidelines: Mandatory Requirements

- Every sector must complete a self-certification prior to re-opening, and essential services already operating must complete this prior to May 25th
  - Mandatory safety standards for workplaces
  - Sector circulars and sector checklists:
    - Social distancing
    - Hygiene protocols
    - Staffing and operations
    - Cleaning and disinfecting

More information: [https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts)