



TOWN OF GROTON INDOOR MASK MANDATE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the requirements of the mask mandate?

- The wearing of face masks or cloth face coverings that are compliant with CDC guidelines is required in any indoor public spaces, meaning municipal buildings and those to which any member of the public has access within the Town of Groton outside of the City of Groton and Groton Long Point.
- The wearing of face masks or cloth face coverings that are compliant with CDC guidelines is required in any private indoor business, and in any places of employment where social distancing is impractical, unlikely, or difficult to maintain within the Town of Groton outside of the City of Groton and Groton Long Point.
- Nothing in the order should be deemed or construed to counteract, reverse, withdraw, revoke or otherwise amend any previously or subsequently issued order, unless expressly stated.
- Those with relevant medical conditions rendering them unable to wear masks and face coverings; children under the age of 2; while eating and drinking at a commercial establishment that serves food and/or beverages; and for people who are alone in an office setting or are separated by a partition from other people, are exempt from this order.
- The protocols for buildings under the supervision and control of the Board of Education will continue to operate in accord with existing executive orders issued by the Governor
- The order shall remain in effect until such time as it is amended or terminated.

Where and when do I need to wear a mask or face covering?

- Churches
- Municipal buildings
- Grocery stores
- Gyms and indoor fitness centers
- Hair salons
- Museum and other indoor cultural destinations
- Restaurants except when actively eating and drinking
- Retail establishments
- When riding public transportation (e.g. buses)

Where does this mandate not apply to?

- Private residences
- Workspaces not accessible to the general public
- Indoor restaurants when seated at the table and actively eating or drinking

Is there a penalty for not wearing a mask when required?

- Violation of a municipal mask order under Section 28-8a is subject to a \$100 fine. See Section 1(b)(1) of EO 13A. The existing enforcement authority in the EO, and the process previously established, also applies to these violations.
- For employees not following the mask mandate, employers and managers may be fined.
- Fines can be levied per incident

How will the mask mandate be enforced?

- The Groton Town Police Department is empowered to enforce the mask mandate, though the intent is to gain voluntary compliance.

What metrics will the Town use in determining when to amend or rescind this mandate?

- The intent is for the mandate to remain in place until the Town experiences a consistent downward trend in transmission levels; or
- When the Governor's Emergency Powers terminate; or
- When the Governor's rescinds the authority of local municipalities to establish their own mask mandate.

If I have a question about whether this mandate applies to me or my business, who do I contact?

- Call the Town Manager's Office at 860-441-6630; or
- Email to Council@groton-ct.gov