



BRISTOL-BURLINGTON HEALTH DISTRICT

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April 16, 2021

To: All BBHD Licensed Foodservice Establishments

From: Marco Palmeri, Director of Health

Re: COVID-19: Compliance with the revised sector rules for reopening in Connecticut

Attention all owners and operators of foodservice establishments serving alcohol. On March 17, 2021 you were sent a letter regarding the revised Sector Rules in Connecticut effective March 19, 2021.

Existing protocols like face coverings, six (6) feet social distancing, cleaning and sanitizing measures were not revised or loosened and are still required.

In addition, [food must continue to be served to those ordering alcoholic beverages \(see attached DCP letter\)](#). Service bars that only serve beverages must remain closed and all restaurants are subject to an 11:00 PM closing time.

Foodservice establishments serving alcohol must comply with the following:

- Face masks required if staff and customers are not eating or drinking.
- Six (6) feet social distance or a non-porous barrier required between tables, with an 8-person maximum per table capacity.
- Food service required with alcohol service.
- No standing bar service or congregating at the bar is allowed. Bars that only serve beverages must remain closed.*
- All restaurants are subject to an 11:00 PM closing time.
- Employees that cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition must provide documentation to their employer and should be assigned to duties that do not require interaction in close contact (within 6 ft.) with customers.
- Food Establishments must continue to follow CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting guidelines.
- Performers and musical vocalists at restaurants, outdoor and indoor events, and performing arts venues are allowed, subject to the following: 12 ft. spacing or more from the nearest person dining or working (for example, workstations or walking paths used by employees must be included in the 12 ft. distancing). To maximize the protection of their patrons and employees, businesses/organizations are strongly encouraged to require performers to obtain a negative COVID-19 test (PCR) within 72 hours prior to performing.

The Best Practices for Reopening Restaurant document from Governor Ned Lamont dated March 19, 2021, should be treated as recommended best practices. Businesses should take these best practices as the **minimum baseline** of precautions needed to protect public health in Connecticut. Individual businesses should take additional measures as recommended by industry guidelines or by common sense applied to their particular situation. For example, a best practice that should be continued is making hand sanitizer available at entrance points and common areas, where possible.

* Bar seating is permitted so long as the following conditions are met: Staff working behind the bar follow all personal protection requirements and work behind the bar is limited to pouring/serving beverages, taking/processing orders, serving food, and delivering/picking up the bill. All mixing of drinks and other work performed behind the bar must be performed at a distance of 6 ft. from customers seated at the bar or a physical barrier (e.g. Plexiglas) must be used if within the 6 ft. spacing. The Plexiglas barrier must be at least 30 inches high and a gap/opening at the bottom of the barrier is allowed for food and drink service as long as the gap/opening is no more than 8 inches high. Parties must be spaced at least 6 ft. from other parties or a physical barrier (e.g. Plexiglas) must be used.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Please confirm receipt of this notice by responding back with the name and address of your business to:
NicoletteArrotti@bristolct.