



INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

THESE INSTRUCTIONS REPLACE AND SUPERCEDE
INSTRUCTIONS EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 21, 2020 AT 12:00 p.m.

DATE: February 12, 2021

EFFECTIVE: February 16, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.

TO: All persons who own and/or operate the following types of business, place, facility, or establishment located in Halton Region:

- A. Shopping malls**
- B. Retail stores, including stores located in shopping malls**

The Province of Ontario has issued regulations under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (ROA). The Regulations applicable to Halton Region require the person responsible for a business or organization that is open to operate the business or organization in compliance with the instructions of public health officials, including instructions on physical distancing.

The following instructions issued by Dr. Hamidah Meghani, Medical Officer of Health for Halton Region, are intended to supplement the Regulations, by requiring owners/operators to actively monitor and take all necessary steps to ensure ongoing compliance with all requirements. Preventing congregating in breach of physical distancing and masking requirements is of particular concern. Our shared objective is to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19 in Halton Region, especially as the risk of transmitting new and potentially more dangerous variants of the virus present in our community.

A. SHOPPING MALLS

All persons who own and/or operate a shopping mall must:

1. Comply with all requirements that apply to your business, place, facility, or establishment as set out under the ROA and the applicable regulations, as well as the requirements set out in these instructions. Where these instructions impose one or more additional requirements not set out in the ROA, the requirement(s) under these instructions must be followed.
2. Actively monitor compliance with the required capacity limit and ensure that physical distancing of two metres is maintained by patrons, store staff and mall staff in all common areas, stores, washrooms, hallways, entrances, etc., at all times and that all patrons, store staff and mall staff wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin unless entitled to an exception from this requirement.
3. Ensure all stores within the shopping mall set a maximum capacity limit and monitor the capacity limit to ensure physical distancing of at least two meters is maintained by patrons, store staff and mall staff at all times and that all patrons, store staff and mall staff wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin unless entitled to an exception from this requirement.
4. Actively manage all line-ups or patrons congregating and ensure all patrons waiting in line-ups inside or outside the shopping mall maintain physical distancing of at least two metres and that all patrons, store staff and mall staff wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin unless entitled to an exception from this requirement.

Regional Municipality of Halton

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5. Follow all further instructions from Halton Region Public Health pertaining to COVID-19 that apply to your shopping mall.

B. RETAIL STORES, INCLUDING STORES LOCATED IN SHOPPING MALLS

All persons who own and/or operate a retail store, including a store located in a shopping mall must:

1. Comply with all requirements that apply to your business, place, facility, or establishment as set out under the ROA and the applicable regulations, as well as the requirements set out in these instructions. Where these instructions impose one or more additional requirements not set out in the ROA, the requirement(s) under these instructions must be followed.
2. Actively monitor compliance with the required capacity limit and ensure that physical distancing of at least two metres is maintained by patrons and store staff within the retail store and in all common areas, washrooms, hallways, entrances, etc., at all times and that all patrons, store staff and mall staff wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin unless entitled to an exception from this requirement.
3. Actively manage all line-ups or patrons congregating and ensure all patrons waiting in line-ups inside or outside the retail store maintain physical distancing of at least two metres and that all patrons, store staff and mall staff wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin unless entitled to an exception from this requirement.
4. Follow all further instructions from Halton Region Public Health pertaining to COVID-19 that apply to your retail store.



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