

# COVID-19 Administrative Order Updates

Judiciary, Safety and General Services Committee  
Meeting

January 20, 2022



MILWAUKEE  
COUNTY

# Background

Milwaukee County administration continues to monitor changes in the COVID-19 pandemic and has maintained and updated policies to manage the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on its operations.

Given the significant surge of COVID-19 cases community-wide, as well as several related changes in guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), County Administration has made a number of modifications across Administrative Orders.



# Administrative Order Updates

- Administrative Order 20-7 - Procedures for Responding to Individuals with Confirmed Cases of, Symptoms of, or Exposure to COVID-19
- Administrative Order 20-14 - Universal Face Mask Policy and Procedure
- Administrative Order 21-1 - 2021 Expanded Paid Sick Leave
- Administrative Order 21-3 - Vaccine Mandate for Milwaukee County
- Administrative Order 22-1 - Facility Capacity Limits



# Key Changes

- Extension and modification of the Expanded Paid Sick Leave policy
- Increase in precautions across various procedures due to high COVID case counts and new information about the Omicron variant
- Modifications to quarantine and isolation procedures that incorporate new CDC guidance
- Vaccine booster incentive and a mandate for high-risk facilities



# Expanded Paid Sick Leave Policy

- The 2021 banks of EPSL, awarded to employees on January 1, 2021, will continue to be available into 2022 and will expire on March 31, 2022.
- Vaccinated employees and unvaccinated employees with exemptions approved by the Department of Human Resources may continue to use EPSL to: Receive booster shots or COVID-19 vaccinations, be tested and/or quarantine if exposed, Quarantine and be tested if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, Isolate if infected with a break-through case of COVID-19, Care for a dependent who must quarantine following a documented exposure at school or daycare.
- Unvaccinated employees may use EPSL only to: Receive COVID-19 vaccinations, Care for a dependent who must quarantine following a documented exposure at school or daycare.

These updates were effective for all employees on Thursday, December 2, 2021



# Precautions Due to High Case Counts

- Reduction in facility capacity for non-essential County facilities. Capacity at Milwaukee County Facilities were reduced to whatever is the least: 1 person per 30-square-feet, 50 percent of stated capacity, or 100 attendees. These limits affect all County rental spaces. These limits do not affect essential facilities such as the airport, courts, healthcare and correctional facilities.
- Requirement of KN-95 masks for employees, contractors and volunteers working in-person. Specifically, cloth face masks are not acceptable as they are less effective against the Omicron variant. As a result, KN-95 masks will be distributed and required for all staff, contractors and volunteers. If KN-95 masks are unavailable, surgical masks are acceptable. Surgical masks are highly recommended for all visitors
- Reminder to staff that remote work is required when possible. All staff whose work can be done remotely are required to telework.

These updates were effective for all employees on Friday, January 7, 2022



# Modification to Quarantine and Isolation Procedures

- New procedures for COVID-19 exposures, where only employees who are “up to date” with their vaccine (i.e., have received a booster dose if they are eligible) may continue working after being exposed. Exceptions still remain for employees at high-risk facilities and for critical infrastructure employees
- New, narrowly-defined circumstances when COVID-positive staff may return to in-person work prior to 10 days
- New eligibility guidelines for boosters after five months for Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

These updates were effective for all employees on Tuesday, January 18, 2022



# Vaccine Booster Incentive and Mandate

- Incentives for staff who provide verification for a completed vaccine booster; the County announced a weekly \$250 drawing for those who submit verification from January 14 to March 11, 2022.
- Booster mandate for staff, contractors, and volunteers at high-risk facilities (Milwaukee County Jail, the House of Correction (HOC), the Division of Youth and Family Service Detention Center, and Behavioral Health hospital service)
  - Individuals who are eligible for a vaccine booster will have until February 4, 2022, to comply with the mandate.
  - Individuals who are not yet eligible (if it has been less than 2 months since their J&J vaccine or less than 5 months since the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine), their effective date will be 21 days after the day of eligibility.
  - Staff who received a verified exemption will be similarly exempt from the vaccine booster mandate.

This update was effective for all employees on Tuesday, January 18, 2022





# Transition to New Framework

- County Administration has utilized Administrative Orders (based on the original Emergency Order) as the tool for managing COVID-related policies since spring of 2020
- As discussed in previous Committee meetings, there is alignment that future COVID policy management should utilize more common tools
- We propose moving all relevant COVID policies that today exist as Administrative Orders to applicable policies and procedures in relevant departments (e.g. Human Resources, Facilities, others)



# Transition to New Framework

- Policies will be managed by relevant departments and will continue to be informed by CDC and State DHS guidance
- To ensure that policies across the County continue to be responsive to COVID-19 conditions, there will be a coordinating committee that will meet to discern any modifications needed
- The group will be guided by the County's Chief Health Policy Officer and both objective and subjective measures of COVID-19 activity in the community



# Measures Considered

The trigger for policy changes will be a combination of --

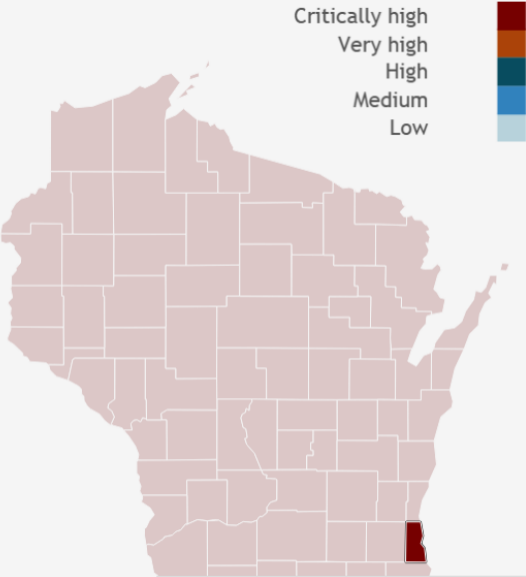
- Objective measure:
  - The [State of Wisconsin Disease Activity Composite Measure](#) (measure of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents and growth in cases over 14 days)
- Subjective measures intended to capture factors not immediately recognizable in pure data, such as:
  - The emergence of new variants, hospital capacity considerations, trends both in the U.S. and globally, and others



# Disease Activity Composite Measure

In Wisconsin between 1/5/2022 - 1/18/2022, the case activity level was **critically high**.

This page shows information on case burden (rate per 100,000) and trajectory (percent case change). Case activity is a combination of burden and trajectory. For definitions of burden, trajectory, and disease activity levels, see below "About our data: How we measure case activity". Confirmed case activity is an important starting metric to understand current COVID-19 levels in your community. For additional information beyond cases, look at the COVID-like illness (CLI) and influenza-like illness (ILI) sections which provide more insight into the levels of respiratory illness in your community.



### Case activity level by county (last two weeks)

Each circle represents a county.



Between 1/5/2022 - 1/18/2022, **Milwaukee county** had **critically high** case activity.

This categorization is created by combining Milwaukee county's critically high burden of 4,698.8 per 100,000 people and their trajectory showing growing in cases.

Wisconsin da



# Illustrative: Policies Aligned with Scenarios

Policy Area	Low Activity	Medium Activity	High/Very High Activity	Critically High Activity <i>(Here as of 1/6/22)</i>
<b>Telework</b>	Depts encouraged to follow long-term teleworking policies	Depts encouraged to bring back some staff as needed	Staff who can telework encouraged to do so	Access to facilities for essential staff only
<b>Masking</b>	Masking for those with symptoms	At department discretion for vaccinated staff; masks mandatory for unvaccinated staff	Masking for all staff at all times when on-site and in public areas	Masking for all staff at all times when on-site and in public areas
<b>Facility Capacity</b>	100% Capacity	100% Capacity	Decrease capacity as able given department discretion	Minimize capacity levels as able based on critical needs
<b>Health Screening at Facilities</b>	Self-screening for symptoms encouraged	Self-screening for symptoms encouraged	All staff entering facilities take online health screening	All staff entering facilities take online health screening
<b>Cleaning Standards</b>	Daily cleaning regimen	Daily cleaning regimen	Enhanced cleaning regimen in high volume spaces	Enhanced cleaning regimen in high volume spaces



Thank you!



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