



THE NEBRASKA WAY
PCDC

MASK MANDATE FAQ / ANSWERS

Declaring a public emergency, the Holdrege City Council passed Ordinance 2443 on December 7, 2020 effective December 9, 2020 through February 23, 2021.

The authority cited by the city is NEB. REV. STAT. §§16-238, 16-240 AND 16-246; TO ADD TO ARTICLE 1, SECTIONS 4-105 THROUGH 4-116 TO CHAPTER 4.

The ordinance applies to all premises open to the general public, including private clubs. This guide is a summary for use by businesses to achieve compliance. However, business operators should consult with the ordinance for detailed descriptions of its requirements as well as certain exceptions.

Generally, the ordinance directs that:

- ◆ **Masks are required when indoors at public places within Holdrege city limits if a minimum six feet of social distance separation cannot be maintained at all times**
- ◆ **Masks are NOT required when outdoors and with appropriate social distancing**
- ◆ **Individuals or entities open to the public must require patrons to wear a mask**
- ◆ **Establishments open to the public must post signs visible to patrons and workers**
- ◆ **Exceptions include:**
 - **Children under 5 are excluded from the mandate**
 - **When seated at a restaurant or bar following appropriate social distancing**
 - **When providing a speech or service that requires mask removal**
 - **When providing proof of identity for a lawful purpose**
 - **When swimming or showering during the course of a fitness routine**
 - **Other activities that require the use of one's mouth such as playing instruments**
 - **Additional exemptions are described in the ordinance**
- ◆ **Penalties for businesses could include declaration of a public nuisance**
- ◆ **Penalties for individuals could include ticketing and a \$25 fine**
- ◆ **The ordinance can be viewed at**

https://www.phelpscountyne.com/media/userfiles/subsite_82/files/2443_COVID_Mask_Mandate.pdf