

# CLINTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## **Public Health Emergency Order County of Clinton Order 20-03**

WHEREAS, the existence and spread of the COVID -19 virus has resulted in the declaration of a worldwide pandemic, and it is necessary and appropriate to continue protective action to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and to reduce the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets; and

WHEREAS, School Districts and the Clinton County Health Department share a mutual obligation to protect the health and welfare of students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton County Health Department has worked, and continues to work in concert with school districts within Clinton County to plan and prepare for re-opening of schools during the ongoing Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, I, Blair E Shock, Administrator of Public Health for the Clinton County Health Department and Health Officer for the County of Clinton do find the aforementioned conditions constitute a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Clinton County, and creates a Public Health Emergency situation within the meaning of Chapter 192 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri and Title 19 Division 20, Chapter 20 of the MO Code of State Regulations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, under the power vested in me under appropriate local, state and federal regulations and other enabling provisions, I, Blair E. Shock, Administrator of Public Health for the Clinton County Health Department and Health Officer for the County of Clinton do hereby order the following:**

School Districts with educational facilities located within Clinton County shall:

- Develop and implement a COVID-19 policy to mitigate, as much as possible, risk of contagion among faculty, staff, and students within their respective districts.
- Implement policies consistent with guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, and Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. These policies shall include multiple protective measures, including:
  - cohorting of students
  - exclusion of exposed or symptomatic students and staff
  - implementation of barriers when appropriate
  - changes in facility use and spacing as appropriate to reduce risk
  - other strategies identified by school administration which will reduce the risk of contagion within school facilities
- These policies shall include mandatory masking of all students, faculty, and staff except during outdoor activities, physical conditioning, consuming food or beverages, when seeing the mouth is essential for learning or communicating. These policies shall include exemptions for



medical and physical contraindications. School Districts shall have discretion on how to best implement these policies.

- Suspend policies which incentivize attendance for students until such time as the Public Health Emergency in the State of Missouri for COVID-19 is declared over or rescinded.
- Develop procedures for isolation of students and staff who develop symptoms compatible with COVID-19 while present in school facilities.
- Develop policies to mitigate risk for activities which have shown to increase risk of COVID-19 contagion, including but not limited to group singing, playing of musical instruments, high-exertion activities, and activities of larger groups of students.

Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers of Students who attend public school facilities located within Clinton County shall:

- Adhere to guidance issued by medical staff and Public Health Authorities pertaining to isolation and/or quarantine of students and household contacts of students who have contracted, may have contracted, or have been in close contact with a patient who has contracted COVID-19.
- Adhere to school district policies regarding exclusion of students displaying symptoms of illness.

Violation of this order constitutes an imminent threat to the public health, and shall be in violation of RSMo 192.300(4)

This order shall begin at 12:01AM on Monday, August 10, 2020 and shall remain in effect until 11:59PM on Thursday December 31, 2020 unless earlier amended or revoked by the County Health Officer of Clinton County.

It is so ordered this 6<sup>th</sup> Day of August, 2020

Blair Shock  
Administrator / County Health Officer  
Clinton County Health Department