

Massachusetts Legal Holidays

Holiday	2018	2019	2020
New Year's Day January First	Jan. 1, Mon.	Jan. 1, Tues.	Jan. 1, Wed.
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Third Monday in January	Jan. 15, Mon.	Jan. 21, Mon.	Jan. 20, Mon.
Washington's Birthday Third Monday in February	Feb. 19, Mon.	Feb. 18, Mon.	Feb. 17, Mon.
Patriots' Day Third Monday in April	Apr. 16, Mon.	Apr. 15, Mon.	Apr. 20, Mon.
Memorial Day Last Monday in May** (1A)	May 28, Mon.** (1A)	May 27, Mon.** (1A)	May 27, Mon.** (1A)
Independence Day July 4th**	July 4, Wed.**	July 4, Thurs.**	July 4, Sat.** (3)
Labor Day First Monday in September**	Sept. 3, Mon.**	Sept. 2, Mon.**	Sept. 7, Mon.**
Columbus Day Second Monday in October* (Restrictions until 12 noon) (2)	Oct. 8, Mon.* (2)	Oct. 14, Mon.* (2)	Oct. 12, Mon.* (2)
Veterans' Day November 11th* (Restrictions until 1pm) (2)	Nov. 11, Sun.* (2)(3)	Nov. 11, Mon.* (2)	Nov. 11, Wed.* (2)
Thanksgiving Day Customarily the fourth Thursday in November* (1)	Nov. 22, Thurs.* (1)	Nov. 28, Thurs.* (1)	Nov. 26, Thurs.* (1)
Christmas Day December 25th* (1)	Dec. 25, Tues.* (1)	Dec. 25, Wed.* (1)	Dec. 25, Fri.* (1)

* - Full restrictions apply for ALL commerce

** - Restrictions apply except to retail

(1) Liquor Stores must be closed for Thanksgiving and Christmas Days.

(1A) Liquor stores may not open prior to 12:00 noon Memorial Day.

(2) Many companies operate all day on these holidays, pending obtaining a local permit.

(3) All holidays falling on Sunday must be observed on Monday, under state law. Saturday holidays are observed on Saturday.

Above is a list of all legal holidays observed in Massachusetts. State, county, and municipal offices are closed on the days listed above. Federal offices are only closed on holidays which the federal government recognizes (i.e. New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). The term "federal holiday" is not applicable to individual states and the private sector since each state has jurisdiction over its holidays.

In Massachusetts certain holidays are subject to laws which restrict the type of work that may be performed as well as the kind of business and commercial activities that may remain open. Only those holidays followed by asterisks (*) have certain restrictions. On holidays not followed by asterisks, business and commercial activities may operate as usual.

Please note: Only retail establishments may open during the summer holidays of Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day. Retail establishments which operate on New Year's Day, Columbus Day after 12:00 p.m., or on November 11th after 1:00 p.m. are required to pay their employees time and one-half regardless of the number of employees on their payroll. Retail establishments which operate on the summer holidays of Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day must pay time and one-half if at least eight employees are on the payroll in the week the holiday falls (Sunday to Saturday).

For further information on holiday laws, contact Citizen Information Service:

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