

Massachusetts Registries of Deeds Reopening from COVID-19 Protocols as of June 3, 2021

Suffolk:

1. Registry is open for research, no time restriction.
2. In person recordings allowed.
3. NO closings allowed.
4. Deliveries can be made to examiners.

Middlesex South:

1. Yes, it is a limit of 6 people at a time and two-hour limit. You can't bring in scanners and set up like we used to. Not all of the public computers are working.
2. No in person recordings.
3. No closings.
4. No deliveries to examiners.

Middlesex North:

1. Probably never be open to research again; definitely not now and don't know when that will change.
2. No in person recording.
3. There is no designated space for closings. She said when building is open again (would not give me a date) it might be possible to find some corner to do a closing.
4. No deliveries to examiners.

Norfolk:

1. Norfolk will be fully open on **Monday June 7, 2021.**
 - a. Yes, as to research in the Registry.
 - b. Yes, to in person recordings.
 - c. Yes, to closings.
 - d. Yes, to deliveries to examiners.

Essex South:

1. Registry is open for research, no time restrictions. Examiners cannot set up and leave their stuff overnight.
2. In-person recordings allowed.
3. Closings allowed on first come first serve basis, no reservations at this time.
4. No deliveries to examiners.

Essex North:

1. Registry is not open for research. They have an ongoing issue with the computers which they haven't been able to resolve and they have no estimated time frame for its resolution. No in person research will be allowed until this issue can be resolved.
2. In person recordings allowed.
3. No closings, no time frame at this point for their return.
4. No deliveries to examiners

Worcester:

1. Registry is open to all, no masks, normal hours. BUT, the research computers are now all MassLand.
2. Yes, in person recording/filing.
3. Yes, closings, but there are limited spaces.
4. Yes deliveries.

Worcester North:

1. Registry is open to all, but you must make an appointment before you can go in. No walk-ins.
2. Yes, in person recording, filing, but by appointment. Research can be done for as long as you need, but still have to make an appointment by calling the registry.
3. No, closings.
4. No, deliveries.

Franklin:

1. Open for research, restricts amount of people at one time.
2. Yes, in person recording allowed, restrictions as to amount of people at one time.
3. Yes, however limited to One Attorney and One Client at a time. No extended families, etc., and only one closing room.
4. Yes, deliveries can be made to examiners in the Registry.

Hampshire:

1. No, not open for research (deciding on next week when will open).
2. Yes, in person recordings allowed. Must wait in hall, socially distanced & with mask.
3. No closings allowed.
4. Deliveries can be made to examiners.

Hampden:

1. No, registry not open for Research (they will decide next week as to when they will open).
2. Yes, in person recordings allowed. Must have a mask, social distancing, wait in the hall and have a number.

Bristol North:

1. Registry is open for research.
2. Yes, in person recordings allowed.
3. Yes, closings.
4. Yes, deliveries to examiners.

Bristol South:

1. Registry is open for research by appointment only. Closed from 12pm-1pm for lunch.
2. Yes, in person recordings allowed – but prefer e-recording.

Bristol Fall River:

1. Registry is open for research.
2. Yes, in person recordings allowed.

Berkshire Middle:

1. Registry is open for research by appointment only, for one hour only. On June 15, they will NOT be fully open.
2. No in-person recordings. E-filing or drop-off only.
3. No closings.
4. No deliveries.

Berkshire North:

1. Open for research.
2. Can record in person.
3. Open to closings, but would like parties to call first and limit number of people at closing.
4. No deliveries to examiners.

Berkshire South:

1. Fully open for research
2. Recordings: yes, in person
 - PLEASE WEAR A MASK UPON ENTERINGREGISTERED LAND DOCUMENTS:
 - EMAIL REGISTERED LAND DOCUMENTS TO MICHELLE FOR APPROVAL BEFORE COMING TO THE REGISTRY TO RECORD:
michelle.laramee-jenny@sec.state.ma.us
3. Closings – yes
4. FedEx/mail – yes

Dukes County:

1. Visiting the Registry of Deeds and Appointments:

We will no longer require appointments to visit the Registry of Deeds. There will be a limit of number of visitors at one time yet to be determined, and all visitors must continue adhere to the following masking and social distancing guidelines. Mask required.

2. Recording Documents:

We look forward to seeing you, however, we would encourage attorneys to continue to e-file whenever possible. You may also file your documents in person or continue to use the drop box located behind the Courthouse (Call us when using the drop box so there are no delays)

3. Closings: Yes

4. Drop off: Yes, but only to examiners they know they'll sign for a package

Nantucket:

1. Research by appointment only. Please call the office to schedule.

2. Recordings: e-File Recorded, otherwise

Nantucket Registry of Deeds will be accepting documents for recording and registration by e-filing (recorded land only), mail, FedEx, UPS and drop off. Drop offs will be accepted inside at the office service door or via the drop box on the main steps of 16 Broad Street.

Any packages with deeds requiring Land Bank approval can be sent to/dropped off at the Land Bank and they will be dropped off at the Registry after they are processed.

Staff is available by phone or email Monday through Friday 8am-4pm.

3. Due to limited space, we do not allow closings in the registry.

4. No, they do not allow deliveries to examiners.

Barnstable:

For a memo regarding Barnstable's reopening, [click here](#).

1. Open to the public, no time restriction other than their operating hours, also don't bring a suitcase and plan on unpacking.

2. In-person recordings allowed, but you are in the queue with e-filing.

3. No closings allowed.

4. No deliveries for examiners.

Plymouth:

1. Open for regular hours for research.

2. No masks required unless un-vaccinated.

3. No closings at this time.

4. In terms of recordings, FedEx, UPS, Mail and Courier are accepted.

5. In person recordings are allowed.

6. They encourage e-filing to limit contact.