

MASKING REQUIRED
beginning Aug. 13, 2021

Regardless of an individual's vaccination status, **face masks are required to be worn inside all campus buildings** due to the increased transmission of the delta variant of COVID-19 currently circulating in the United States.

Based on the current data and guidance provided by the CDC, the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in outdoor settings is minimal. In general, fully vaccinated people do not need to wear a mask outdoors. However, the CDC does encourage individuals to consider wearing a mask when outdoors in a crowded setting or participating in activities in close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated, particularly in areas with high numbers of cases.

Information regarding the masking requirement is subject to change based on guidance from local, state and federal health officials.

Individuals who are unable to wear a face covering due to a documented health condition or disability must request an exception through the Office for Students with Disabilities. Employees must request an exception through the Human Resources Office.

Exceptions:

- If wearing a face mask while working would create an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task as determined by local, state or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.
- If wearing a face mask would either cause a medical condition, or exacerbate an existing one, including respiratory issues that impede breathing, a mental health condition or a disability.
- When working alone and isolated from interaction with other people with little or no expectation of in-person interaction.
- While eating, drinking or taking medication for brief periods of time.
- While communicating for brief periods of time with a person who is hearing impaired when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- While obtaining a service that requires the temporary removal of the face mask.
- When necessary to temporarily lower or remove the mask to verify one's identity.

Additional face mask requirements:

- Face masks shall have two or more layers to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Masks are to fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, covering the nose and mouth. The mask shall not have an exhalation valve or vent.

- Face masks should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Face masks are not required to be worn when in the person's personal residential room or suite; however, face masks are mandatory while in community spaces such as hallways, stairways, elevators and laundry rooms.
- Face masks are required while playing instruments or singing indoors. While playing, woodwind and brass players shall use a surgical-style mask that includes a small, straight slit. The instrument's bell shall also be masked with a multi-layered filtering material, such as MERV 13 type or a non-stretchy surgical mask type material.
- Face masks are required to be worn in University provided vehicles with passengers.