

From: [Communications](#)
To: [CRC.MailList](#)
Subject: Mask Wearing Guidance
Date: Thursday, July 15, 2021 1:06:28 PM

Hi team, we hope you've been enjoying the sunny weather!

The following information is being shared with employees at the Community Resource Center and the Administrators & Supervisors team. We will be sharing this with district staff next week.

On July 6, 2021, the Washington Department of Health (DOH) released updated guidance ([K-12 COVID-19 Requirements for Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year](#)) changing facial covering requirements for staff, students and visitors. This guidance was in response to the recent changes from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and to align with the [Secretary of Health's Mask Order](#) and [Governor's Proclamation 20-25](#).

A more comprehensive update in consideration of [CDC recommendations](#) will be completed later this summer. DOH has committed to continue to work with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to ensure districts, schools, and families have timely access to updated K-12 School 2021-2022 Guidance.

To comply with these changes, employers are required to verify the vaccine status of all employees. The intent of this communication is to update all staff on the facial covering requirements and, if the employee elects to, verify their vaccine status, so the employee is not required to wear their face covering indoors if children under the age of 18 are not present.

Indoor Facial Covering Requirements

- All school personnel, volunteers, visitors, and students must wear cloth face coverings or an acceptable alternative (e.g., surgical mask) at school when indoors and students are present regardless of vaccination status.
- Fully vaccinated staff must wear facial coverings indoors if children under the age of 18 are present, but they do not need to wear facial coverings indoors if no children are present and vaccination status has been verified. A person is considered fully vaccinated if it has been two weeks since their final dose of a two-dose series vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) or two weeks since receiving a one-dose vaccine (J&J/Janssen).
- Any vaccinated person who chooses to wear a mask should be supported in doing so.

What does this mean for you?

- **Fully vaccinated staff, at schools and district offices, may remove face coverings indoors when children under the age of 18 are NOT present.**
- To be eligible to NOT be required to wear a facial covering indoors, in areas in which no children under the age of 18 are present, your fully vaccinated status must be verified by your supervisor.
- To meet the requirement of verifying employees are fully vaccinated, employees

wishing to choose NOT to wear a mask must complete an online attestation. In the next few days, you will be receiving a Safe Schools attestation to verify your vaccination status.

- If you are not fully vaccinated, or do not want to share your vaccine status, you are required to continue to wear a mask at all times while indoors on district property.
- Your vaccine status may be shared with your supervisor to aid in mask compliance as well as COVID-19 contact tracing. Fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact.
- All visitors to school buildings and the CRC are required to wear masks while indoors regardless of vaccination status. Staff should wear a mask when interacting with visitors under the age of 18 (students).

Outdoor Facial Covering Requirements

- Masks are not required outdoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masks are strongly recommended for unvaccinated individuals when outdoors in crowded spaces or when in close contact with people from outside their household for a sustained period of time, as the risk of COVID-19 infection increases with the duration and closeness of contact between individuals. A space might be considered crowded when individuals are unable to maintain six feet of distance from each other.

What does this mean for you?

- **Students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, may remove face coverings while they are outdoors.** Students and staff should still maintain at least **6 feet** of physical distance (per DOH guidelines) while they are outdoors, and unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to wear face coverings outdoors when physical distance cannot be maintained.

As this is new and ever-changing information, please work with your supervisor if you need clarification or additional information. We will continue to update you as the guidance evolves and work to implement new changes as soon as practical. We appreciate your dedication and flexibility as we work through these changes **together!**

Stay safe and stay healthy!