

Updated Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings

Frequently Asked Questions

Created November 17, 2020; Updated June 28, 2021

The

[Updated Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#)
(/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Updated%20Order%20of%20th
CoveringsSe%20Secretary%20Requiring%20Universal%20Face%20Coverings.pdf)


was lifted on June 28, 2021. There is no longer a statewide requirement to wear masks.


Pennsylvanians should follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for wearing a mask where required by law, rule, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance and policies. In addition, all individuals should still follow guidance at workplaces, local businesses, long-term and residential care facilities, hospitals, prisons and homeless shelters.

What can I do now that I am fully vaccinated? Should I still wear a mask if I am fully vaccinated?

If you've been fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic. **This does not apply to patients, staff or visitors within a healthcare setting.**

- You can resume activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.

- If you [travel in the United States](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid-19.html) , you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.

- You need to pay close attention to [the situation at your international destination](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html) .

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>)

before traveling outside the United States.

- You do NOT need to get tested **before** leaving the United States unless your destination requires it.

- You still need to [show a negative test result](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html) [or](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html) documentation of recovery from COVID-19 **before** boarding an international flight to the United States.
 - You should still get tested 3-5 days **after** international travel.
 - You do NOT need to self-quarantine **after** arriving in the United States.
 - If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
 - However, if you live or work in a correctional or detention facility, a residential facility, or a homeless shelter and are around someone who has COVID-19, it is recommended you still get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.
- For now, if you've been fully vaccinated:
- You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace, in healthcare settings, and in local businesses.
 - If you [travel](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html), you should still take steps to [protect yourself and others](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html). You will still be [required to wear a mask](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/face-masks-public-transportation.html) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Fully vaccinated [international travelers](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html) arriving in the United States are still [required to get tested](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html) 3 days before travel by air into the United States (or show documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past 3 months) and should still get tested 3-5 days after their trip.
 - You should still watch out for [symptoms of COVID-19](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html), especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get [tested](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/diagnostic-testing.html) and [stay home](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html) and away from others.
 - People who have a condition or are taking medications that weaken the immune system, should talk to their healthcare provider to discuss their activities. They may need to keep taking all [precautions](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html) to prevent COVID-19.

View more

information for vaccinated Pennsylvanians

(/topics/disease/coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/Guidance/Vaccinated-Individuals-FAQs.aspx)

Do I still need to wear a mask in a health care setting?

Regardless of vaccine status, you will still need to follow guidance in healthcare settings. Different facilities may have different guidance – you should always check with the facility if you are uncertain of current guidance for masking and other COVID-19 disease control measures.

All **health care personnel** should follow the

CDC guidance for source control [\[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701\]](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701)

and PPE use [\[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360721943\]](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360721943)

in

health care settings.

All **patients and residents** of a health care setting should follow the

CDC guidance for source control [\[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701\]](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701)

, which continues to recommend universal mask wearing for patients and residents with very minimal exceptions.

All **visitors** in a health care setting should follow the

CDC guidance for source control [\[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701\]](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701)

, which continues to recommend universal mask wearing for visitors with very minimal exceptions.

View more information for various

health care settings [\[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701\]](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#anchor_1604360738701)