



EMPLOYEE SAFETY ALERT

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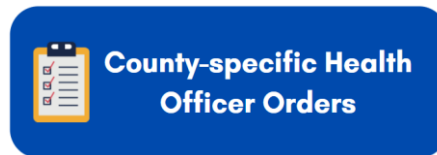
State of California Releases New Face Covering Information

The California Department of Public Health announced new masking [guidance](#) for California. Effective March 1, 2022, masks continue to be required for everyone in high transmission settings like public transit, emergency shelters, health care settings, correctional facilities, homeless shelters and long-term care facilities.

In all other settings, it is *strongly recommended* all individuals wear a mask indoors irrespective of vaccination status, *however, unvaccinated individuals are no longer required to mask indoors.*

Local health departments have the authority to warrant local masking requirements based on a combination of factors. Employees working in a county where the local health jurisdiction issues additional public health guidelines tailored for the situation in their communities should continue to follow the local public health guidelines related to masks. Please continue to monitor local public health announcements in counties where you have offices and employees.

The Office of Employee Health and Safety is monitoring county health officer order information here: <https://hs.onramp.dot.ca.gov/county-specific-health-orders>



The requirement for state employees who have not verified their vaccination status to test at least weekly for COVID-19 has not changed. Exemptions to weekly testing remain in place. This includes, having COVID in the prior 90 days or teleworking full-time in a week.

As face coverings remain highly recommended, learn more about types of face coverings, the most effective face coverings, and ensuring a well-fitted face covering by referring to CDPH: [Get the Most out of Masking](#) and CDC: [When to Wear a Mask or Respirator](#).