



Los Angeles County

WHEN YOU NEED TO WEAR A MASK

11-18-22: Masks are still required in some settings and strongly recommended in others—see the summary below and details in the [Health Officer Order](#) and the LA County [COVID-19 Response Plan](#).

YOU* MUST wear a mask:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In healthcare settings. • In congregate care facilities, such as long-term care settings and adult/senior care facilities. • In any other location where it is the policy of the business or venue. • If you have COVID-19. You must wear a highly protective mask (even at home) when you are around others until you end isolation. If you are eligible to end isolation after Day 5 because you have a negative test result, it is strongly recommended that you continue to wear a mask through Day 10. In workplace settings, you must wear a mask through Day 10. • If you are a close contact to someone with COVID-19. You must wear a highly protective mask when you are around others indoors for 10 days after your last day of exposure. • If there has been a recent outbreak at your workplace or the congregate setting where you live.
It is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that you wear a mask (Unless required – see <i>You must wear a mask</i> above)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On all forms of public transit, including trains, buses, shuttle buses, taxis, ride-shares, and medical transport. • In all transportation hubs, including airport and bus terminals, train and subway stations, seaports or other indoor port terminals, or any other indoor area that serves as a transportation hub • In state and local correctional facilities and detention centers • Homeless and emergency shelters • In all other indoor public settings, businesses, government offices, childcare, TK-12 schools, and higher education settings. • Note: If you are at risk for severe illness it is especially important to wear a highly protective mask when you are in a higher risk setting. These include any of the “three Cs”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Closed spaces with poor air flow ○ Crowded places with many people nearby, and ○ Close contact settings especially where people are talking (or breathing heavily) close together.

No one can be prevented from wearing a mask to participate in an activity or enter a business.

Note: When masks are required, you are allowed to take off your mask while you are:

- Actively eating or drinking.
- Alone in a separate room or space.
- Showering or swimming.
- Receiving medical, dental, cosmetic, personal hygiene or personal care services (like a facial or shave) that cannot be done without removing your mask.
- Receiving or providing a speech, occupational or language therapy session where temporary removal of the mask is necessary, as determined by the therapy provider.

***There are some people who should not wear a mask**, such as children younger than 2, people with certain medical conditions or disabilities, and people instructed by their medical provider not to wear a mask. See [Who should not wear a mask](#) and [Special considerations for persons with communication difficulties or certain disabilities](#) for details and information on alternative types of face coverings.

To learn more about types of masks and rules and recommendations in LA County, visit ph.lacounty.gov/masks.

