



COVID-19 BUSINESS SAFETY

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMERS-RETURN TO WORK

THESE GUIDELINES ARE UNDER REVIEW AND DO NOT REFLECT RECENT CHANGES TO REGULATIONS.

As of February 3, 2023, the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards have been discontinued. The [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations](#) are now in effect until February 3, 2025. On March 13, 2023, Cal/OSHA released updated COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulation [FAQs](#) based on updates to the [California Department of Public Health Isolation and Quarantine Guidance](#). Please refer to the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations [webpage](#) for information and resources.

The following is a summary of requirements and precautions for the return to work of professional performers diagnosed with COVID-19 or who were close contacts to a COVID-19 case. For guidance on preventing infections in the workplace please refer to [LA County Department of Public Health's Best Practices in the Workplace to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19](#).

Requirements After Diagnosis of COVID-19 or Close Contact to a COVID-19 Case

Like other workers, performers diagnosed with COVID-19 or with close contact exposures to COVID-19 must adhere to the [isolation and quarantine](#) rules of the LA County Health Officer Order. The requirements for work exclusions and returning to work are outlined in Cal-OSHA [COVID-19 ETS \(FAQs\)](#) and summarized in DPH [Responding to COVID in the Workplace](#).

- **Masking for 10 days after COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure.** All employees returning to the workplace within 10 days of infection or exposure are *required* to wear highly protective masks while indoors around others. Because professional performers' work tasks typically require mask removal, the following modifications to the requirements for return-to-work and exceptions to the masking requirements may be used for professional performers returning to work after infection with COVID-19 or after exposure:
 - **Performers with a COVID-19 diagnosis or positive test within the past 10 days,** regardless of vaccination status, previous infection, or lack of symptoms, must be excluded from the workplace. If permitted by their employer, they may return to the workplace after Day 5 only if they have met all the specified criteria.¹ They may unmask to perform², only if they are tested³ and the result is negative on the day

1 Isolation can end and employee may return to the workplace after Day 5* ONLY if all of the following criteria are met:

- A COVID-19 viral test³ collected on Day 5 or later is negative, and
- No fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine, and
- Other symptoms are improving

2 Performers who have exited isolation after Day 5 and before Day 11 may only unmask when they are actively performing at indoor live or recorded settings or events such as music, acting, or singing and they have completed the required testing as described above.

3 The test must be a COVID-19 viral test such as an antigen or NAAT/PCR test. Antigen tests are recommended when testing any





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of, and prior to, any and all unmasked performances until Day 11. They must continue to wear a highly protective mask when around others and not performing.

- **Performers who were exposed to COVID-19 within the past 10 days** may continue to work provided they: 1) remain asymptomatic, 2) wear a highly protective mask around others until Day 11, and 3) have a negative test³ within 3-5 days after their last close contact. They may unmask to perform, only if they are tested and the result is negative on the day of, and prior to, any unmasked performances until Day 11. They must continue to wear a highly protective mask when around others and not performing.

Note: Close contacts with a positive COVID-19 viral test within the prior 90 days do not need to be tested unless symptoms develop, but they do need to mask.

- **The test result must be known by the employer before any unmasked performance work begins.**
- **Additional recommended precautions for 10 days after COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure:**
 - Performers should not engage in any intimate or high-exertion activities (e.g., kissing, sharing food/utensils, etc.) with others until Day 11:
 - Performers should maintain a distance of 6 feet from others when unmasked until Day 11.

persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days. Over-the-counter (OTC) tests can be used for return to work if they meet certain conditions, see [Cal-OSHA testing FAQs](#).

