



**ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
DIRECTING ALL INDIVIDUALS IN THE COUNTY TO WEAR FACE
COVERINGS INDOORS IN WORKPLACES AND PUBLIC SETTINGS**

DATE OF ORDER: July 29, 2021

BACKGROUND

Since June 15, 2021 when most restrictions from the State of California’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy were lifted, the average daily incident case rate of COVID-19 in Sacramento County has increased 5.5-fold to reach the “High Transmission” level of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Indicators for Levels of Community Transmission. The testing positivity rate in Sacramento County has also risen 4.3-fold since June 15. Hospitalizations from COVID-19 in Sacramento County have risen from 60 patients on June 15 to 175 patients on July 27.

The significantly more transmissible Delta variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus has become the predominant strain in the US and in Sacramento County. Since June 15, nearly two thirds (64.8 Percent) of positive specimens collected from Sacramento County residents and genotyped were identified as the Delta variant.

In considering options to stem this rapid increase in COVID-19 transmission, a continued increase in the proportion of the population vaccinated is the best protection against this virus. Universal indoor use of face coverings, also known as masking, is the least disruptive and most immediately impactful additional measure to take. All individuals, especially those who are unvaccinated or at higher risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19, should take personal measures to reduce risk in addition to masking.

CDC recommends that vaccinated individuals wear face coverings in indoor public settings in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>).

CDPH requires face coverings in specific indoor public settings and recommends that individuals wear face coverings in all other indoor public settings, regardless of their vaccination status.

(<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>)

This Order is necessary to control and reduce the rate of community spread and to reinforce the need for safe interactions. The Health Officer will continue to assess the public health situation as it evolves and may modify this Order, or issue additional Orders, related to COVID-19, as changing circumstances dictate.

ORDER

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, 120175, AND 120220, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO ("HEALTH OFFICER") HEREBY ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Order **shall become effective July 30, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.** and will continue to be in effect until rescinded or amended in writing by the Health Officer.
2. Except as otherwise set forth herein, the June 24, 2021 Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), as may be amended from time to time, continues to apply throughout the County.
(<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>)
3. This Order directs that face coverings shall be worn, regardless of vaccination status, over the mouth and nose, in all indoor public settings, venues, gatherings, and workplaces, such as, but not limited to: offices, retail stores, restaurants and bars, theaters, family entertainment centers, conference centers, and State and local government offices serving the public.
4. Individuals, businesses, venue operators, hosts, and others responsible for the operation of indoor public settings must:
 - a. Require all patrons to wear face coverings for all indoor settings, regardless of their vaccination status; and

- b. Post clearly visible and easy-to-read signage at all entry points for indoor settings to communicate the masking requirements to all patrons.
 - c. In addition, those responsible for indoor public settings are strongly encouraged to provide face coverings at no cost to individuals required to wear them.
- 5. Individuals are **not required** to wear face coverings in the following circumstances:
 - a. Persons who are working alone in a closed office or room;
 - b. Persons who are actively eating and/or drinking;
 - c. Persons swimming or showering in a fitness facility;
 - d. Persons who are obtaining a medical or cosmetic service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
 - e. Persons who are specifically exempted from wearing face masks pursuant to other CDPH guidance.
- 6. Employers and businesses subject to the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) and/or the Cal/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Standards should consult the applicable regulations for additional requirements. The ETS allow local health jurisdictions to mandate more protective measures. This Order, which requires face coverings for all individuals in indoor settings and businesses, regardless of vaccination status, takes precedence over the more permissive ETS regarding employee face coverings.
- 7. The following requirements apply to Mega-Events:
 - a. Indoor Mega-Events: All attendees of indoor mega-events (defined as 5,000 or more attendees) must wear face coverings while indoors and must otherwise comply with the restrictions set forth in the CDPH guidance Beyond the Blueprint for Industries and Sectors.
(<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Beyond-Blueprint-Framework.aspx>)

- b. Outdoor Mega-Events: Attendees of outdoor mega-events (defined as 10,000 or more attendees) are required to wear face coverings while in an indoor setting and in areas where 50% of the structure has adjacent impermeable walls, such as concourses and concession stands, and must otherwise comply with the restrictions set forth in the CDPH guidance Beyond the Blueprint for Industries and Sectors.

(<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Beyond-Blueprint-Framework.aspx>)

- 8. Persons should continue to follow CDC guidance for unvaccinated people (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>) and for fully vaccinated people (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>) to protect themselves and others, including:

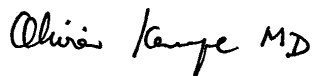
- a. wearing a well-fitted face covering (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>)
- b. avoiding crowds
- c. avoiding poorly ventilated spaces
- d. covering coughs and sneezes
- e. washing hands often (<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>)
- f. following any applicable workplace, school, or business sector guidance or requirements including the Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards.

People should still watch for symptoms of COVID-19, especially following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>). If symptoms develop, all people, regardless of vaccination status, should isolate and be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, including SARS-CoV-2 testing. Anyone testing positive for SARS-CoV-2, regardless of vaccination status, must follow the General Isolation Order of the Sacramento County Health Officer (<https://dhs.saccounty.net/PUB/Documents/Communicable-Disease->

[Control/ME-COVID19IsolationOrder.pdf](#)).

9. This Order **shall become effective July 30, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.** and will continue to be in effect until rescinded or amended in writing by the Health Officer.
10. All State orders and guidance documents referenced in State orders are complementary to this Order. By way of this Order, the Health Officer adopts such directives as orders as well. Where a conflict exists between a local order and any State public health order related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the most restrictive provision controls pursuant to, and consistent with, California Health and Safety Code § 131080.
11. **Copies of Order.** Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) made available at the County Administration Building at 700 H Street, Sacramento 95814, First Floor; (2) posted on the Sacramento County COVID-19 website (COVID19.saccounty.net) and County Health Department's website (dhs.saccounty.net/PUB); and (3) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.
12. **Severability.** If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

IT IS SO ORDERED:



Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Health Officer of the County of Sacramento

Dated: July 29, 2021