FACE COVERING POLICY

REFERENCES

Principles for Responsible Operation of University Locations in Light of the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic (https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/may20/b2.pdf)

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program issued by the University of California’s Office of the President” (available at https://policy.ucop.edu/doc/5000695/SARS-Cov-2 ) ("Covid-19 Vaccination Program Policy").

POLICY STATEMENT

A. DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the same meaning as in the Covid-19 Vaccination Program Policy:

- Fully Vaccinated
- Location
- Physical Presence

A face covering or face mask is a surgical mask, a respirator (N-95 or KN-95), or a tightly woven (cloth) fabric face mask of at least two layers. A face covering/face mask has no visible holes or openings and must cover the nose and mouth. A face covering/face mask DOES NOT include a scarf, ski mask, balaclava, bandana, gaiter, turtleneck, collar, plastic face shield, or single layer of fabric.

B. FACE MASK REQUIREMENTS

All persons shall have a face mask with them at all times while Physically Present at a Location.

Regardless of vaccination status, all persons must wear a face mask when indoors at a Location, which includes on public transit, unless an exception listed below in Section C applies. The campus recommends the use of N-95 and KN-95 masks.

All students who live in on-campus provided housing must wear a face mask in accordance with the Student Housing Safety Rules located at https://returntolearn.ucsd.edu/return-to-campus/student-housing-safety/index.html.

Attendees at an outdoor campus event must wear a face mask if required by the event organizer.
C. EXEMPTIONS FROM FACE MASK REQUIREMENTS

Face masks are not required in the following circumstances:

1. While eating or drinking at a campus eatery
2. When alone in a closed office or closed room
3. For vaccinated employees, while actively eating or drinking at the employee’s workstation or while actively eating or drinking in an employee break room
4. For vaccinated individuals, while actively eating or drinking at a meeting or event where the cognizant Vice Chancellor has approved the consumption of food and drink at the meeting or event and where attendance at the meeting or event is either voluntary or, if attendance is required, an option for virtual attendance is provided
5. Within an individual’s residence (unless required by the Student Housing Safety Rules)
6. While driving in a vehicle alone or solely with members of your household
7. While 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
8. For workers who wear respiratory protection
9. For people with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that precludes wearing a mask
10. For people younger than two years old
11. For people who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication or persons for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines
12. For people for whom wearing a mask would create a risk as they work as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines
13. For people who are performing tasks required by the University when those tasks cannot be performed with a face covering, as determined by supervisors for employees and the Vice Chancellor – Student Affairs for students
14. For performers, while engaged in performing or rehearsing for a Department of Theatre and Dance performance, provided such performers are in compliance with the Theatre and Dance Maskless Rehearsal and Performance Protocol.

D. MORE PROTECTIVE RULES

Nothing in this Policy limits more protective rules and regulations promulgated by the UC San Diego Health System for appropriate conduct, including face coverings, social distancing, and other behaviors, within the hospital or other facilities where clinical care and related activities take place.

Nothing in this Policy limits more protective workplace safety rules and regulations, including rules regarding required personal protective equipment.

REVISION HISTORY

08/20/2020 Policy issued.
09/03/2021 This policy was reviewed, revised and reformatted.
09/09/2021 Link added for Student Housing Safety Rules.
10/20/2021 Exemptions to policy updated.
11/03/2021 Exemptions to policy updated.