

NEW FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT

(WA State Department of Health, eff. 08/23/2021)

Every person in Washington State must wear a face covering that covers their nose and mouth when they are in a place where any person from outside their household is present or in a place that is generally accessible to any person from outside their household, subject to the exceptions and exemptions below.

NOTE: Masks are generally not required when outdoors. However, DOH strongly recommends all people, regardless of vaccination status, wear face coverings in crowded outdoor settings ... where there is decreased ability to consistently maintain physical distance between non-household members.

People Exempt from General Face Covering Requirement

The following people are exempt from the requirement to wear a face covering:

- Children younger than five years old;
- Children who are younger than two years old should never wear face coverings due to the risk of suffocation.
- Children who are two, three, or four years old, with the assistance and close supervision of an adult, are strongly recommended to wear a face covering at all times in public settings when around non-household members; and
- People with a medical condition, mental health condition, developmental or cognitive condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, people with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

NOTE: Those serving in leadership roles during Mass may remove face coverings while leading specific parts of the service, provided they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.