



## University of Michigan Face Covering Policy for COVID-19

Effective June 21, 2021

Research shows that transmission of COVID-19 is greatly reduced, and lives are saved when all individuals wear face coverings while in public. Vaccination is also an effective tool to reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is the shared responsibility of the entire U-M community to protect not only their health but the health of those who are most vulnerable for serious illness and death from COVID-19.

Except as otherwise allowed by this policy, U-M requires all students, staff, faculty, and visitors to wear a face covering that covers the mouth and nose when indoors on U-M property (including the Ann Arbor, Dearborn and Flint campuses as well as properties off campus). Masks are also required on U-M public transportation and outdoors for areas where patients may be present (masks are not otherwise required when outdoors). Additionally, certain units, such as University of Michigan – Health, may issue local level policies that supersede this policy and must be followed.

Individuals who **are fully vaccinated and self-report their status** to the university are generally exempt from the indoor masking and social distancing requirements; however, such individuals must still wear a mask in classrooms, on U-M transportation, or in healthcare areas in patient settings. To qualify for this exemption, faculty, staff, and students must voluntarily report their vaccination status via the “[U-M COVID-19 Vaccination Self-Report Form](#).” Should a visitor to campus wish to qualify for this exception, such individual must complete the ResponsiBlue-Guest daily screening process and voluntarily answer the applicable questions about vaccination status.

Additional instances where a face covering is not required indoors (in addition to fully-vaccinated status that is voluntarily reported as outlined above) include **when you are**:

1. alone in a single enclosed private office with your door closed;
2. in your assigned residence hall room/suite or apartment;
3. eating or drinking;
4. under the age of 2 years old;
5. someone who is unable to remove a face covering without assistance;
6. required to wear assigned respiratory protection for the job tasks you are performing;
7. granted a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)<sup>1</sup>;
8. swimming;
9. involved in an activity, including certain types of instruction, where wearing a face covering may be infeasible or present a safety hazard provided that a risk assessment is performed and reviewed by U-M EHS;
10. communicating with someone who is hearing impaired or otherwise disabled and where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication (in such circumstances, alternatives such as clear face coverings and other accommodations must also be explored);
11. giving a speech for broadcast or an audience while maintaining physical distance of at least twelve feet from others;
12. receiving a service for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service; or
13. asked to temporarily remove a face covering for identification purposes.

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1. <sup>1</sup> For information on requesting such accommodations, please contact the [Office for Institutional Equity](#)