



University of Michigan Face Covering Policy for COVID-19
Effective May 2, 2022

Masks are optional for indoor spaces on the University of Michigan campuses with the exception that masks remain **required** in patient care areas (e.g Michigan Medicine, University Health Service and the Dental School clinical areas), and at U-M Covid-19 testing sites. The policy is in line with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Covid-19 community level guidance](#) which provides a measure of the impact of COVID-19 illness on health and healthcare systems in addition to current case activity to allow communities to make decisions on mitigation measures as appropriate for their area.

Mask use is still suggested as an effective strategy for enhanced personal protection, especially for those with compromised immune status, those who are not vaccinated or up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations, and anyone with a perceived increased situational risk.

This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff and visitors – **regardless of vaccination status** – on the Ann Arbor, Flint and Dearborn campuses as well as U-M controlled properties off campus. Certain units', such as University of Michigan – Health, local level policies that supersede this policy must be followed as applicable. Additionally, each of the Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint campuses may adopt campus-specific practices in light of differing local conditions.

NOTE: Positive or exposed individuals are still required to mask while around others through Day 10 of their isolation or self-monitoring period.

As exceptions to the requirement stated above, instances where an individual is not required to wear a face covering are when that individual is:

1. under the age of 2 years old;
2. someone who is unable to remove a face covering without assistance;
3. required to wear assigned respiratory protection for the job tasks they are performing;
4. granted a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
5. involved in an activity where wearing a face covering may present an impediment to instruction or present a safety hazard provided that a risk assessment is performed and reviewed by U-M EHS;
6. 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);
7. receiving a service for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
8. removing a face covering for brief periods to allow for photography-When utilizing this exception distancing from others remains strongly recommended.
9. asked to temporarily remove a face covering for identification purposes.

For information on requesting such accommodations, please contact the [Equity Civil Rights and Title IX Office](#).