

SMC COVID MASK MANDATE DECISION MATRIX

Effective January 1, 2023

Community Transmission Levels		
Low/Moderate	Substantial	High
<p>Guiding Metrics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-49 cases per 100,000 &/or • 0%-7.9% positivity rate during the past 7 days 	<p>Guiding Metrics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-99 cases per 100,000 &/or • 8%-9.9% positivity rate during the past 7 days 	<p>Guiding Metrics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100+ cases per 100,000 &/or • >10% positivity rate during the past 7 days
<p>Everyone:</p> <p>People can wear a mask based on personal preference, informed by their own personal level of risk.</p> <p>Vulnerable people*:</p> <p>Consider wearing a mask in crowded indoor spaces. Ensure your mask provides the best fit and filtration (respirators like N95s, KN95s and KN94s are best).</p> <p>If you are a vulnerable person* or live with a vulnerable person*, consider taking additional precautions.</p>	<p>Everyone:</p> <p>Consider wearing a mask in indoor spaces. Ensure your mask provides the best fit and filtration (respirators like N95, KN95 and KN94 are best).</p> <p>Masking Required in the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Center • Transportation • 1 on 1 individual offices <p>Vulnerable people*:</p> <p>Wearing a mask is STRONGLY recommended in crowded indoor spaces. Ensure your mask provides the best fit and filtration (respirators like N95s, KN95s and KN94s are best).</p> <p>If you have household or social contact with a vulnerable person*, wearing a mask is recommended when indoors with them</p>	<p>Everyone:</p> <p>Wearing a mask is REQUIRED in indoor spaces. Ensure your mask provides the best fit and filtration (respirators like N95, KN95 and KN94 are best).</p> <p>Vulnerable people*:</p> <p>Wearing a mask is REQUIRED in indoor spaces. Ensure your mask provides the best fit and filtration (respirators like N95s, KN95s and KN94s are best).</p> <p>If you have household or social contact with a vulnerable person*, wearing a mask is recommended when indoors with them.</p>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO CONSIDER, ALONG SIDE GUIDING METRICS, WHEN DECIDING IF SMC WILL SHIFT SAFETY LEVELS:

- **Los Angeles County Department of Public Health current masking recommendation language:** Consideration of current LADPH Masking Guidelines and language used regarding indoor masking
- **SMC outbreaks:** Consideration of the location of the campus outbreak and number of cases involved in the outbreak

DEFINITIONS:

***VULNERABLE PEOPLE:** Those that are vulnerable include the unvaccinated, those that are immunocompromised, have certain disabilities, or have underlying health conditions, and those at risk of severe illness or death if they are infected with COVID-19. Such persons should consider taking extra precautions.

EMPLOYEES WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19: Employees who test positive for COVID-19, and are cleared to return to work, must wear face coverings around others for a total of 10 days after start of symptoms or from date of exposure.

EMPLOYEES WHO EXPERIENCE A CLOSE CONTACT EXPOSURE: Employees who are a close contact and have been cleared to return to work must wear a face covering around others for 10 days following the date of the close contact exposure.

PIVOT TIME VARIABLE: Changes to safety protocols, based on this decision matrix, would not occur until the metric was constant for at least two weeks. Upon a change, the EOT will announce the change to our masking policy. There will be a one-week grace period for the college to become compliant with the change.

AVAILABLE COVID DATA RESOURCES:

- **LINK TO CDC COVID-19 LOS ANGELES COUNTY SPECIFIC DATA:** [CDC COVID Data Tracker: County View](#)
- **LINK TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 DATA:** [LA County Daily COVID-19 Data - LA County Department of Public Health](#)

7 DAY CASE RATE CALCULATION: The COVID-19 7 day case rate is calculated by using the number of new cases in the county in the past 7 days divided by the population in the county (or other administrative level) multiplied by 100,000.

OUTBREAK: At least three suspected, probable, or confirmed COVID-19 cases* within a 14-day period among people who are epidemiologically linked† in the setting, and are not known to be close contacts‡ of each other in any other case investigation

ASYMPTOMATIC PERSONS: Asymptomatic COVID-19 is when you contract the coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, but don't develop any signs or symptoms that are commonly associated with the COVID-19 infection. With asymptomatic COVID-19, you can still transmit the coronavirus to other people. When symptoms do appear, they usually appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION: TABLE 1, CDC INDICATORS AND THRESHOLDS FOR COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19

Table 1. CDC Indicators and Thresholds for Community Transmission of COVID-19¹

Indicator	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days ²	0-9	10-49	50-99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs that are positive during the past 7 days ³	<5.0%	5.0%-7.9%	8.0%-9.9%	≥10.0%