



COVID-19 Interim Indoor Masking Policy: When fully vaccinated persons can unmask indoors

As COVID-19 transmission continues to decline it is anticipated that Los Angeles County will reach the [Moderate Rate](#) level of transmission by mid-March. After 7 days at this level, the Los Angeles County Health Officer will remove the indoor masking mandate for fully vaccinated persons in most indoor public places.

In the interim, businesses, establishments, and venues now have two options for lifting the indoor mask requirement for fully vaccinated people if they meet certain requirements.

- *Option 1:* allows fully vaccinated customers and fully vaccinated workers to unmask indoors
- *Option 2:* allows only fully vaccinated customers to unmask indoors, while all workers remained masked

If a business decides to take advantage of this opportunity, they must meet the criteria for the option that they choose. The fact sheet below lists the criteria or requirements. Businesses may also choose to continue to require indoor masking for everyone.

Please note that state and federal rules require masks to be worn indoors at all times in some settings regardless of vaccination status (see end for details). In addition, because of current State regulations, masks are required indoors for customers and employees that are not fully vaccinated, regardless of negative test.

Summary Table of the Interim Indoor Masking Policy Options

| | Customers | | Employees | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Fully Vaccinated | Not Fully Vaccinated* | Fully Vaccinated | Not Fully Vaccinated |
| Option 1: Applies to Customers and Workers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide proof of full vaccination or negative test to enter • May unmask indoors only if they provide proof of full vaccination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide proof of a recent negative test to enter • Must wear a mask indoors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide proof of full vaccination or negative test to enter • May unmask indoors only if they provide proof of full vaccination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide proof of a recent negative test to enter • Must wear a mask indoors |
| Option 2: Applies to customers only | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide proof of full vaccination or negative test to enter • May unmask indoors only if they provide proof of full vaccination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide proof of a recent negative test to enter • Must wear a mask indoors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must continue to wear a mask indoors (no testing or proof of vaccination required to enter) | |

*Or business is unable to verify that they are fully vaccinated.





COVID-19 HEALTH OFFICER ORDER

Overview: Interim Indoor Masking Policy



Indoor Masking Options

Option #1 – Allow fully vaccinated customers and fully vaccinated workers to unmask indoors.

If you chose this option, you must verify that 100% of your **customers (age 5 and older) and onsite workers** are either fully vaccinated or that they have recently tested negative for COVID-19.

Before they go indoors, all customers and workers must:

- a. Provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or
- b. Provide proof of a recent negative COVID-19 viral test result. Test must have been taken within 2 days prior to entry if a PCR/NAAT test or within 1 day if an antigen test.

In addition, you must adhere to the following mask requirements:

- a. Customers and employees that are not fully vaccinated (and who provided proof of a negative COVID-19 viral test result) must wear a well-fitting mask while indoors (as required by the state), except when actively eating or drinking.
- b. Onsite workers must be offered a respirator (e.g., N95, KN95, N94) for voluntary use during work and at no cost to the worker.

If you have met these requirements, all customers and workers with proof of full vaccination may choose to not wear a mask indoors.

Option #2 – Allow fully vaccinated customers only to unmask indoors, while all onsite workers, including contractors, must mask indoors, regardless of their vaccination status.

If you chose this option, you must verify that 100% of your **customers (5 and older)** are fully vaccinated or have recently tested negative for COVID-19.

Before they go indoors, customers must:

- a. Provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or
- b. Provide proof of a recent negative COVID-19 viral test result. Test must have been taken within 2 days prior to entry if a PCR/NAAT test or within 1 day if an antigen test.

In addition, you must adhere to the following mask requirements:

- a. Customers that are not fully vaccinated (and who provided proof of a negative COVID-19 tests) must continue to wear a well-fitting mask while indoors (as required by the state), except when actively eating or drinking.
- b. Onsite workers, regardless of their vaccination status, must remain masked the entire time indoors.
- c. Onsite employees must offer a respirator (e.g., N95, KN95, N94) for voluntary use during work and at no cost to the worker.





COVID-19 HEALTH OFFICER ORDER

Overview: Interim Indoor Masking Policy



If you have met these requirements, all customers with proof that they are fully vaccinated may choose to not wear a mask while indoors.

How to verify that a customer or employee is fully vaccinated for COVID-19

- ☑ Check that the name and the birthdate, if listed, on the vaccination record matches a photo ID, AND
- ☑ Check the vaccination record for the COVID-19 vaccine type and date(s) of vaccination
 - If Johnson & Johnson (J&J), verify single dose at least 14 days ago.
 - If Pfizer or Moderna, verify two doses with the second dose at least 14 days ago.

See the [Visual Guidance for Verifying Vaccination Status](#) for step-by-step instructions and examples of vaccination records.

How to verify that a customer or employee has recently tested negative for COVID-19

- ☑ Check that the name and, if listed, the birthdate on the test result matches their photo ID, AND
- ☑ Check that the COVID-19 viral test result shows:
 - The test result is negative, AND
 - The type of test is antigen (Ag) or PCR/NAAT COVID-19 or SARS-CoV-2, AND
 - The test was taken within the last 2 days (if PCR/NAAT) or 1 day (if antigen), AND
 - The result is from a laboratory or healthcare or test provider or patient platform for the healthcare provider (e.g., Healthvana, CommonPass, CLEAR Health Pass)
 - NOTE: A COVID-19 self-test, sometimes referred to as “home test,” is not acceptable for customers. Home tests are acceptable for employees if they are administered in compliance with [Cal/OSHA rules](#).

Employees also have the option of submitting a negative test result every 3 days.

See the [Visual Guidance for Verifying a Negative Test Result](#) for step-by-step instructions and examples of negative test results.

Enforcement

Facilities that choose Option 1 or 2 must:

1. Demonstrate consistent pre-entry verification of COVID-19 vaccination status and negative COVID-19 viral test results for customers, guests, and, if applicable, workers.
2. Maintain a log of fully vaccinated workers and contractors, including the dates of verification of the vaccination status for each person.
3. Maintain a log of unvaccinated or partially vaccinated workers and contractors including dates of verification of each negative test result for each person.





4. Have a supply of well-fitting respirators to offer employees.
5. Have clearly visible and easy to understand signage at each entry notifying the public of the verification and masking requirements.

Exceptions

Situations when verification is not required

Individuals do not need to meet the vaccination/negative test verification requirements to enter the indoor portion of the facility in the following situations, as long as they wear a well-fitting mask:

1. As part of their employment to make a delivery or pick-up, provide a service or repair to the facility, or for an emergency or regulatory purpose,
2. To get to the outdoor portion of the facility,
3. To use an indoor restroom, or
4. To order, pick-up, or pay for food or drink "to go."

Settings where masks must be worn at all times, regardless of vaccination status

Because of state and federal rules, masks continue to be required for everyone, 2 years of age and older, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in the following settings:

1. On public transit (examples: airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, buses, taxis, and ride-shares),
2. In transportation hubs (examples: airport, bus terminal, marina, train station, seaport or other port, subway station, or any other area that provides transportation),
3. Indoors in K-12 schools, childcare, and other youth settings (See, [Appendix T1 for K-12 School](#) masking requirements),
4. Healthcare settings (including long term care facilities),
5. State and local correctional facilities and detention centers,
6. Homeless shelters, emergency shelters, and cooling centers, and
7. All indoor public settings, venues, gatherings, and public and private businesses that **elect not to meet the above criteria for one of the options to remove the indoor masking requirement** (some examples: offices, manufacturing, warehouses, retail, food and beverage services, theaters, family entertainment centers, meetings, and state and local government offices serving the public, and Indoor Mega Events, among others).