

Important Update to the Department's Masking Guidance

Effective immediately, in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's updated [Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#) issued on July 27, 2021 and guidance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), all Federal employees, onsite contractors, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, **must wear a mask inside of DOL facilities in areas of substantial or high community transmission.**

You can find community transmission levels for your area, by county on the [COVID Data Tracker](#), which is regularly updated by the CDC. To use the tracker, first select your state and then your county or metro area. If the community transmission level in your county is listed as a "substantial" or "high", you are required to wear a mask inside of DOL facilities.

At this time, the other components of the DOL COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan and the DOL Reentry Plan remain in place. For example, Federal employees, onsite contractors, and visitors who are not fully vaccinated need to continue to wear masks and physically distance regardless of community transmission level, consistent with CDC guidance. We will continue to update our Plans based on Federal government and public health guidance.

These changes are consistent with Executive Order 13991 on Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing, which charged Federal agencies to "require compliance with CDC guidelines with respect to wearing masks" and OMB guidance memoranda [M-21-15](#) (January 24, 2021) and [M-21-25](#) (June 10, 2021).

CDC continues to emphasize that fully vaccinated people are at substantially reduced risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 compared with unvaccinated people. If you are still in need of a COVID-19 Vaccine, search [vaccines.gov](#), text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you. Additional information on COVID-19 Vaccine Information page can be found on [LaborNet](#).

The DOL COVID-19 Coordination Team will follow-up with additional guidance on implementing this updated policy and answer frequently asked questions from DOL agencies and staff regarding these changes. Please check the [COVID-19 Guidance and Resources](#) page on LaborNet and send your questions to [REDACTED]

Thank you for your cooperation.

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