

## Reminder: DOL COVID-19 Mask Policy

This email is intended for all DOL employees.

Good afternoon,

In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace and promote safe and healthy working conditions, it is the Department of Labor's policy that face masks will be worn by DOL employees, contractors, and visitors while accessing all federally-owned-and-leased buildings and/or space – including outdoor common areas (e.g., Frances Perkins Building rooftop). This policy applies **equally** to fully vaccinated individuals, those who have not been vaccinated, and those who are not yet fully vaccinated, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The President's Executive Order (EO) on Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing, effective January 20, 2021, states that on-duty or on-site Federal employees, on-site Federal contractors, and other individuals in Federal buildings and on Federal lands should all wear masks, maintain physical distance, and adhere to other public health measures, as provided in CDC guidelines. The Office of Management and Budget Memo M-21-15 states "to the extent funds are available, agencies may purchase masks to provide to staff and visitors, but are not required to provide masks. Agencies may determine that agency-supplied non-medical disposable masks should be worn rather than employee-supplied masks."

The Department of Labor will make masks available for all employees, contractors, and visitors. Masks are available at entrances for those who do not have one. If a DOL employee, contractor, or visitor arrives without a mask, they will be turned away unless someone from DOL is available on-site to provide them with one. Please note:

- Face masks are different than PPE (such as surgical or N95 respirator masks) as defined by OSHA. If such PPE is needed by a DOL employee to perform their duties, it will be provided by the agency just as it would be in a non-pandemic environment. The face masks provided under this policy will depend on availability but will comply with CDC and OSHA guidance.
- With the exception of the Frances Perkins Building or other DOL locations where masks can be stored and distributed by building security at the front entrance of the building, masks will be stored within each office or suite in a location that's as accessible to visitors as possible.
- DOL services must be made available to all visitors seeking government assistance. If a member of the public seeking DOL assistance refuses to wear a mask, they should be directed to an alternative means of accessing the information, to include a website, email address, or phone number.

This guidance will be adjusted as necessary.

Julia A. Tritz  
Director, Business Operations Center

**Last updated:** April 29, 2021