



## **EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 052 GUIDANCE**

As Nevada continues to recover from the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 pandemic, and tools to combat the severity of illness are more widely available, [Emergency Directive 052](#) lifts the requirements for face masks statewide.

Since the early days of the pandemic, masks have been a critical tool to help slow the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. They will continue to be a useful tool in times of high transmission, for people with underlying health conditions, and for those who make a personal decision for the added protection of wearing a mask.

### **School Settings**

County school districts, charter schools and private schools can adopt a face mask policy that outlines if face mask are required for students and staff while in school buildings or on school campuses. These policies cannot conflict with any face mask requirements by a county government or local health authority.

Regardless of a county school district, charter school or private school's policy, if an outbreak of COVID-19 is identified by a local health authority, masks and other mitigation measures may be required for all students and staff and must be immediately implemented at the direction of the local health authority. The mask requirement and any other mitigation measures will be in effect until the local health authority determines the outbreak is closed.

### **Higher Education**

The Nevada System of Higher Education and other higher education institutions in the state may adopt a mask requirement for their students, staff and visitors to their campus. These institutions may implement a mask requirement generally or in response to an outbreak on their campus.

### **Correctional Settings**

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will continue to work closely to ensure the proper policies remain in place to prevent infections in staff, residents and visitors. The health and safety of inmates, staff and visitors is the highest priority and infection prevention protocols will continue to be implemented by NDOC in consultation with DHHS.

### **Public Transportation**

On January 29, 2021, CDC issued an Order that required face masks to be worn by all people while on public transportation, which includes all passengers and all personnel operating vehicles traveling into, within, or out of the United States. The Order also required all people to wear masks while at indoor transportation hubs (e.g., airports, bus terminals, train stations, U.S. ports of entry, and other locations where people board public transportation in the United States).

The types of public transportation that masks are still required include airplanes, trains, subways, buses (including school busses), taxis, ride-shares, monorails, maritime transportation, trolleys and cable cars.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Can masks still be required in Nevada?**

Yes, counties, cities, school districts, businesses and other settings are still allowed to require masks. This directive lifts the state-wide mask requirement, but it does not prevent an entity to require masks in settings they have jurisdiction in or own.

### **Can someone still wear masks?**

Absolutely! These individuals should feel comfortable being in our communities while still wearing a mask and they should not be asked to remove them unless it is necessary to temporarily lower or remove the mask to verify one's identity such as during a security screening, verifying one's age when it is required or when asked to do so by any law enforcement official.

### **When should someone consider wearing a mask?**

Masks are still encouraged for those that might have health conditions, might live or interact with someone that is immunocompromised or is just not comfortable being in a public setting without a mask. If there is a period of high transmission in your community, it is recommended you wear a face covering, even when it is not required.

### **Can an employee still wear a mask at work?**

Yes, employees can continue to wear a mask if they choose to do so. An employer should not create a policy preventing the use of masks by any employees.