

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need a doctor's note to prove I have a medical condition that prevents me from wearing a mask?

No. You do not need documentation proving you have a medical condition preventing you from wearing a face covering for the purposes of the ordinance. However, you may be required to provide certification to your employer.

Do I need to wear one in the gym?

If you are engaged in physical activity in the gym and distanced from others, you do not need to wear a mask. If you are not engaged in physical activity, or are not able to remain six (6) feet away from others, then one must be worn in a gym.

Do I need to wear a mask at special events or gatherings? Events such as weddings, funerals, celebrations, bazaars, festivals, galas and other large gatherings require wearing of a mask except while in the act of eating or drinking.

Do I need to wear one at a restaurant or bar?

Face coverings should be worn in restaurants and bars as you wait to be seated and while you walk to your table and through dining areas. Once seated, the mask can be removed if you feel safely distanced from others. The mask should be put on when you leave the table or are congregating with other groups.

Are child care providers required to wear face coverings?

Yes, child care providers are required to wear a mask. This includes in-home providers.

Where can I get a face covering if I do not have one?

Both reusable and cloth face masks can be purchased at many different locations. The Health Center has masks available.

I am an employer. Where can I get a face covering for my employees?

Employers can order face coverings through any supplier. One option is the Missouri PPE market place located on the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website at

<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/ppe.php>

Do I have to wear a face covering in my own home?

A face covering is not necessary when you are in your own home and with members of your own household. If you live in a multi-family unit, such as an apartment building, or staying in a hotel, wear a face covering in communal spaces, such as the laundry room and shared hallways.

If I wear a mask do I still social distance?

Yes, social distancing should always be practiced as face coverings act as an additional layer of protection in slowing the spread of COVID-19.

I am a business owner/manager. How do I notify customers of this order?

The order requires businesses and public facilities to place signs on all entrances to notify customers/visitors that face coverings or mask are required. Signage can be handwritten, typed, or printed from various online examples. The sign must be clearly visible at entry points. Signs are available at the Health Center.

Are businesses such as industries, offices, etc. that are not open to the public required to wear face covering in any scenario?

It may depend on the activity of the facility and process for employees. For example, in the case of a factory, the factory floor is often a setting which wearing a face covering may increase the risk of heat-related illnesses. As such, this setting is exempt and masks are encouraged but not required. However, if the factory has a reception area open to the public, masks would be required in the reception area.

Do plexiglass barriers serve the purpose of face coverings?

Plexiglass or plastic barriers between employees or customers are sufficient substitutes for face coverings. However, the employee or customer is required to wear a face covering if they cannot maintain six (6) foot social distancing on either side of the barrier from other persons. For example, this may work in office environments, but cannot in most large retail establishments.

Outside of face coverings, how else can I protect myself from COVID-19?

- Maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet from other individuals who are not part of your household.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds as frequently as possible, or use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home and isolate yourself from others if you are sick, suspected positive for COVID-19, or confirmed positive for COVID-19.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces often and communal equipment.