

West Valley-Mission Community College District COVID-19 Guidelines

FACE COVERINGS

APPENDIX C

DATE: Updated August 2, 2021

The West Valley-Mission Community College District requires all individuals, while at District owned, operated, or controlled facilities, to comply with all applicable public health orders. This includes the use of face coverings when required by the California Department of Public Health, Santa Clara County Public Health Department, Cal/OSHA regulations, or the District's COVID-19 Prevention Plan.

Face coverings are not intended to be a replacement for other illness prevention measures including staying home when sick, frequent hand washing, and avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth when possible.

On August 2, 2021, the Santa Clara County Public Health Department issued a health order requiring all persons, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a face covering while indoors with some exceptions. The California Department of Public Health and Cal/OSHA have also issued guidance or regulations regarding face coverings. Employees are required to adhere to all applicable requirements and should review and be familiar with this information prior to arriving at work.

Santa Clara County Public Health – Order Requiring Face Coverings

<https://covid19.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb766/files/documents/Health-Officer-Order-August-2-2021.pdf>

California Department of Public Health – Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>

District COVID-19 Prevention Plan

<https://wvm.edu/covid-19/Pages/Employee-Prevention-Plan.aspx>

District Guidelines (summary)

1. "Face Covering" means either a surgical mask, a respirator including KN95 or N95 masks, or a tightly woven fabric or non-woven material of at least two layers. A face covering has no holes or openings and must cover the mouth and nose. A face covering does not include a scarf, ski mask, balaclava, bandana, turtleneck, collar, or single layer of fabric.
2. All individuals, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a face covering while on campus and inside a building, except in the following situations:
 - While working in a closed room or office alone

- When actively performing an activity that cannot be done while wearing a face covering (e.g., actively eating or drinking, swimming, or showering in a fitness facility)
 - When specifically exempted from the use of face coverings under the guidance of the California Department of Public Health:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>
3. Individuals may also be exempted from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability. However, exempted individuals must wear an effective non-restrictive alternative such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom if their condition or disability permits it.
 4. Face coverings may be worn on campus, both indoors or outdoors and regardless of vaccination status, without fear of retaliation.
 5. Individuals are expected to come to campus with their own face covering.
 6. All Employees can request a face covering from the District. Unvaccinated employees that are working indoors or in a vehicle with more than one person may request an N-95 respirator from the District. Face coverings and respirators will be provided at no charge.
 7. Face coverings shall not display any offensive words, slogans, or pictures.
 8. Employees involved in high contact/high risk positions (custodial staff, health services, public safety, etc.) will be provided with additional personal protective equipment as may be required.

Distribution

1. Employees requesting a face covering or respirator at work should make the request through their immediate supervisor/manager/dean.
2. Designated supervisors/managers/deans will track employee requests and maintain local inventory.
3. Designated supervisors/managers/deans should contact the District/College PPE Manager to request replenishment of face coverings.