

# Maine Community College System

## Face Covering Protocols

The Maine Community College System has implemented a variety of precautionary measures aimed at reducing the risk of transmission on campus of the virus that causes COVID-19. One significant precautionary measure advocated by public health officials and adopted by MCCS is the requirement to wear a disposable or cloth face covering. The following protocols govern the wearing of face coverings on Maine Community College System property.

### I. Where a Face Covering is Required

#### A. Indoors.

Except as otherwise provided, a face covering is required to be worn over the nose, mouth and chin indoors in all indoor public and shared/communal spaces. Until further notice, the following are exempt from the face covering requirement:

1. Employees who submit a copy of their vaccination card to and are confirmed as fully vaccinated by the president's designee. Employees must continue to wear a face covering until they receive written confirmation from the designee. The designee shall cc the employee's supervisor on the notice of confirmation, or otherwise provide a timely copy.
2. At such time as a college may implement a procedure under which the fully vaccinated status of a student is confirmed in writing, students confirmed by the college as fully vaccinated. Until a procedure is implemented and written confirmation is received, students must continue to comply with the face covering requirement.
3. Students who are alone in their own bedroom in campus housing and the door is closed.
4. Employees who are alone in an office with the door closed.
5. Any person when eating or drinking in a space where eating and drinking is permitted and only for the duration necessary to consume the food and/or beverage; and
6. Children under 5 in a daycare setting and all other children under 2 years of age.

#### B. Outdoors

Face coverings are not required to be worn out of doors, other than when in a dense crowd. Physical distancing is also not required outdoors.

Physical distancing is not a substitute for wearing a face covering in locations where a face covering is required.

Any person not wearing a face covering, or an acceptable face covering, where required will be asked to put one on or leave the location where a face covering is required.

## **II. Type of Face Covering Required**

A face covering must be a disposable or cloth mask made of multiple layers of tightly woven fabric that fits snugly around the face, covers the nose, mouth and chin and secures with ear loops or ties behind the head.

Homemade and commercially manufactured masks that meet this definition are acceptable forms of face coverings.

Examples of face coverings that are not acceptable include:

1. Bandanas;
2. Neck gaiters; and
3. Masks with a valve or vent

## **III. Requests for Accommodations**

Persons with a documented disability who have been determined by a medical professional to be unable to wear a disposable or cloth face covering should contact [the college's Office of Student Disability /Accessibility Services or ADA officer] prior to coming to campus to determine whether a reasonable accommodation is available.

## **IV. Off Campus**

Because we truly are in this together, taking these steps will help to minimize the risk of transmission on campus and benefit all students, employees and their families. We also ask that all members of the campus community continue to wear a disposable or cloth face covering during visits to off campus indoor public settings where distancing is not practical.

Effective 5/24/21