

REDUCING COVID-19 RISK

June 15, 2021

At this point in the COVID-19 pandemic, California is prepared to enter a new phase. We have made significant progress in vaccinating individuals and reducing community transmission thanks to the steps taken by Californians. The State of California has determined that on June 15, most industries across the state can return to usual operations with common-sense risk reduction measures such as masking and vaccinations (the Blueprint for a Safer Economy will no longer be in effect). The City of Pasadena will align with the new State Orders.

What COVID-19 risk-reduction requirements will be in place after June 15?

Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards

Business operators and employers must continue to comply with the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) [Emergency Temporary Standards \(ETS\)](#) for safe worksites and infection prevention for workers. For more information, visit <https://saferatwork.covid19.ca.gov/> and the Cal OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Masking

The Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) will align with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) [Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings](#) that reflects the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations and provides information about higher risk settings where masks are required. (For masking requirements specific to worksites, see the Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards.)

Starting Tuesday, June 15, 2021, masks will not be required for fully-vaccinated individuals, except in the following settings where masks are required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status:

- On public transit (examples: buses, airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, taxis, and ride-shares) and in transportation hubs (examples: bus terminal, train station, airport, marina, seaport or other port, subway station, or any other area that provides transportation).
- Indoors in TK-12 schools, childcare and other youth settings
 - Note: This may change as updated TK-12 schools guidance is forthcoming, pending updates for TK-12 operational guidance from the CDC and CDPH.
- Healthcare settings (including long term care facilities)
- State and local correctional facilities and detention centers
- Homeless shelters, emergency shelters and cooling centers

Masks will be required for unvaccinated individuals in indoor public settings and businesses (examples: retail, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers, meetings, state and local government offices serving the public).

In settings where masks are required only for unvaccinated individuals, businesses, venue operators or hosts may choose to:

- Provide information to all patrons, guests and attendees regarding vaccination requirements and allow vaccinated individuals to self-attest that they are in compliance prior to entry
- Implement vaccine verification to determine whether individuals are required to wear a mask
- Require all patrons to wear masks

No person can be prevented from wearing a mask as a condition of participation in an activity or entry into a business.

Exemptions to mask requirements are listed in the [CDPH guidance](#).

Isolation for Individuals with COVID-19 and Quarantine for Contacts

- Everyone sick with COVID-19 is required to maintain isolation from others for a minimum of 10 days from symptom onset or until 24 hours after fever and symptoms resolve (without use of fever-reducing medications), whichever is longer, in accordance with the [Public Health Emergency Isolation Order](#).
- Everyone who is a close contact to someone confirmed with COVID-19 must self-quarantine for 10 days from last contact with someone with COVID-19, unless fully vaccinated. Anyone who is a close contact with someone with COVID-19 must check for symptoms for 14 days regardless of vaccination status. Quarantine must be maintained for 10 days plus 4 additional days of symptom monitoring, even if test results are negative (no virus detected), in accordance with the [Public Health Emergency Quarantine Order](#). The employee must isolate from others immediately if symptoms develop within 14 days of exposure.

Large-Scale Events

Additional requirements and recommendations for indoor and outdoor large-scale events, also known as mega events, are in place currently and expected to continue through October 1, 2021. Indoor and outdoor large-scale events include, but are not limited to, conventions, conferences, expos, concerts, shows, nightclubs, sporting events, live events and entertainment, fairs, festivals, parades, theme parks, amusement parks, water parks, large private events or gatherings, large races, marathons or endurance events, and car shows.

- Indoor Events with over 5,000 Attendees: Verification of fully vaccinated status or negative test results is **required** for all attendees. Unvaccinated individuals may be permitted to attend with a negative diagnostic test within 72 hours, but must wear a face mask at the indoor event.
- Outdoor Events with over 10,000 Attendees: Verification of fully vaccinated status or negative test results, or face coverings are strongly **recommended** for all attendees.

How do I report a COVID-19 case or outbreak in my establishment?

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, establishments must take steps to reduce the risk of an outbreak occurring among employees. Depending on the situation, public notification of an exposure to COVID-19 may be required. Help ensure employees are enrolled in health insurance and have an established relationship with a primary care doctor. Employees can call 211 for information on access to health insurance and primary care physicians.

- **Establishments are required to make an immediate report to the Pasadena Public Health Department any time an employee with COVID-19 (confirmed by a lab test or physician diagnosis) was at the establishment while sick or up to 48 hours before showing symptoms or receiving a positive test (if asymptomatic).** Operators must email nursing@cityofpasadena.net or call (626) 744-6089 and provide all information requested by the Health Department. The employer is expected to provide or ensure testing for all employees who have had a possible exposure and must follow the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [guidance](#) for cleaning and disinfecting the facility. Testing resources can be found through the employee's physician, and also at <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/covid-19/> and <https://covid19.lacounty.gov/>.
- **Educate employees to contact their supervisor if they are feeling sick.** The supervisor should send the ill employee home immediately, taking care to maintain that person's privacy and observing physical distancing. If the person cannot leave the premises right away, utilize a safe, designated space for isolation (6 feet or more away from others). If the illness is work-related, the employer should facilitate appropriate care for the employee, the worker's compensation process, leave time, and California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) record keeping.
- **Work with the Pasadena Public Health Department to investigate any COVID-19 illness.** Prepare employee records, facility floor plans, and shift/attendance logs to provide information as quickly as possible to the Health Department, including accurate contact information (phone, address, email) of all employees and visitors (if possible) who were in contact within 6 feet of the infectious employee for a cumulative 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period, and other individuals as specified by the Health Department. Implement measures recommended by the Health Department.

Where can I find more information about the vaccine or about verifying vaccination status and pre-entry negative testing?

Access to the Vaccine

Individuals ages 12 years and older are currently eligible to obtain a vaccine effective against COVID-19. Provide information and registration assistance to staff. Individuals may arrive without an appointment at any [Pasadena Public Health Department clinic](#), sign up for an appointment at myturn.ca.gov, or call the CA COVID-19 Hotline 1-833-422-4255 or Pasadena Citizen Service Center 626-744-7311 for assistance. Links to vaccine appointments at pharmacies and other federal, state, and county sites are available at the [PPHD website](#).

Verifying Full Vaccination

Employers and business operators may be required to verify an employee or customer's vaccination status. Individuals are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19:

- 2 weeks or more after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose vaccine series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or

- 2 weeks or more after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen).

With a photo ID, the following are acceptable as proof of full vaccination for COVID-19 and must include the name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided and date last dose was administered (a photo ID is not required for children/minors):

- Vaccination card or
- A printed or digital photo of the person's vaccination card stored on a phone or electronic device or
- Documentation of full vaccination from a healthcare provider

Pre-entry Negative Testing

- Definition: Testing must be conducted within 72 hours before event start time (both PCR and antigen are acceptable). Results of the test must be available prior to entry into the event or venue.
- Verification: The following are acceptable as proof of a negative COVID-19 test result: printed document (from the test provider or laboratory) OR an email or text message displayed on a phone from the test provider or laboratory. The information should include person's name, type of test performed, and negative test result (date of test must be within prior 72 hours). Businesses and venue operators may also utilize self-attestation at point of registration, during ticket purchase or on the day of the event prior to entry into the venue

What additional measures can I implement to reduce risk?

These measures are not currently required by Health Orders, but taking multiple steps to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission is still strongly recommended to keep your business or workplace safer.

Employee Health Screening

- Employees should conduct daily symptom checks before or upon arrival to the workplace. The screening prior to arrival should include asking if the employee has had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, and whether the individual is currently under isolation or quarantine orders. Consult the CDC website for the most current list of COVID-19 [symptoms](#).
- Send employees home immediately if they arrive sick or become sick during the day. Encourage sick employees to contact their medical provider. Employees who need information on health insurance or providers can call 211.
- Notify employees that they are not to come to work if sick or if they are exposed to a person who has COVID-19. Employers must comply with Cal/OSHA or CDPH requirements for quarantine and isolation, if stricter than the Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD). For the purposes of PPHD, employees who are [fully vaccinated](#) for COVID-19 do not need to quarantine

after exposure to someone with COVID-19 if asymptomatic, and may come to work if asymptomatic.

- Require a sick employee to stay home for at least 10 days, or until 24 hours after fever and symptoms resolve (without use of fever-reducing medications), whichever is longer.
- Review and modify workplace leave policies to ensure employees are not penalized when they stay home due to illness.
- Institute a plan in the event that one or more employees is diagnosed (by a physician or lab test) with COVID-19. The plan should include immediate isolation of the employee at home and self-quarantine of everyone that came into contact (within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, regardless of whether a mask was worn) with the ill employee, except fully vaccinated individuals who are asymptomatic. The plan should also include options for all employees identified as contacts to be tested for COVID-19 with an FDA-approved diagnostic test (for example PCR test and not a blood test) if they are not fully vaccinated. However, contacts must still maintain quarantine for 10 days, even with a negative test, if they are not fully vaccinated.

Provide Equitable Access to Services

Continue to offer curbside pickup and on-line services or transactions, and where possible, make accommodations for vulnerable populations to access services.

Communicate Risk Reduction Measures

Communicate to employees, customers, and the public with conspicuously placed signage at the business location, and with information on websites and social media, regarding the following:

- Masking requirements
- Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards related to worker safety
- Additional measures the business is taking to reduce risk such as vaccination policies, health screening, physical distancing, improved ventilation, or cleaning and disinfecting

Train Employees

Provide training to employees including:

- Information on [COVID-19](#), and guidance on how to identify [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 and how to self-screen and conduct symptom checks.
- The importance of not coming to work if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, or if someone they live with has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Proper use and care of face masks ([CDC guidance on masks](#)).
- Physical distancing measures, disinfection, and handwashing for risk reduction.
- Proper safety protocols for use of disinfecting solutions.
- Information on employer or government sponsored leave benefits the employee may be entitled to receive that would provide financial support to stay at home while ill. Provide additional information on [government programs](#) supporting sick leave and workers' compensation for COVID-19, including employee's sick leave rights under the [2021 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Law](#).

Improve Ventilation

Review and follow the California Department of Public Health's [Interim Guidance for Ventilation, Filtration, and Air Quality in Indoor Environments](#) to maximize ventilation and improve indoor air quality.

Implement Physical Distancing Measures

Implement measures to encourage physical distancing among employees, customers, and the public:

- Limit the number of employees who are on-site to the minimum number necessary, and institute work-from-home, alternate, or staggered schedules when possible.
- Reconfigure customer areas, office spaces, workstations, and breakrooms to allow for 6 feet of physical distancing between individuals. Utilize measures to promote physical distancing such as floor markers and signs.
- Where 6 feet of physical distance is not possible such as cashier counters and host stands, install protective, plastic barriers.
- Stagger customer arrival times and utilize waiting areas that allow for physical distancing.

Promote Hand Hygiene

Encourage hand hygiene by providing access to handwashing sinks stocked with soap, paper towels, and hands-free trash receptacles, and provide hand sanitizer effective against COVID-19 (at least 60% alcohol), tissues, and trashcans in customer or public areas.

Reduce Contact

Reduce contact with frequently touched surfaces:

- Provide no-contact methods of ordering, payment or other transactions.
- Install hands-free devices wherever possible such as trashcans, soap and paper towel dispensers, door openers, and light switches.
- Prop doors and gates open where possible and applicable to reduce touching of handles, consistent with the Health and Safety Code, fire codes and accessibility standards.

Clean and Disinfect

Develop an appropriate plan, in adherence to [CDC Guidance](#) that identifies the surfaces to be cleaned and disinfected, the frequency, and the person assigned to the task. Use products approved for use against COVID-19 on the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) List N and follow product instructions and Cal/OSHA requirements.

Ensure Building Water Safety

Stagnant water in pipes increases the risk for growth and spread of legionella bacteria. When reopening a building, it is important to flush both hot and cold water lines through all pipes and points of use including faucets and showers. Appropriate PPE including an N95 respirator must be worn. Information regarding this process can be found at the [CDC website](#).

How can I find more information?

Visit the [PPHD website](#), [CDC website](#), covid19.ca.gov, call the Pasadena Citizen Service Center at 626-744-7311, or visit <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/CSC> to submit questions.