

Statewide Mask/Face Covering Order

FAQ

What is considered a mask/face covering?

For the purposes of the Order, a facial covering (mask) is any material that covers an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

What does the Order actually require?

Ohio citizens in all 88 counties shall wear facial coverings at all times when:

- In any indoor location that is not a residence
- Outdoors and unable to consistently maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their household; or
- Waiting for, riding, driving, or operating public transportation, a taxi, a private care service, or a ride sharing vehicle. This does not apply to private or rental vehicles where members of a family are sharing a vehicle. This does not apply to vehicles engaged in direct travel through a county that does not stop in that county.

What businesses are covered by the order?

For the purposes of the Order, covered businesses include any for-profit, non-profit, educational entities, or governmental entities (other than federal) regardless of the nature of the service, the function it performs, or its corporate or entity structure.

Who will enforce the Order?

Butler County's local health departments will take all complaints from the public about persons not wearing masks, and will follow up as they are able. No fines are planned at this time unless a particular city has established its own face covering ordinance.

Who is excluded from wearing a face covering/mask?

The requirement to wear a facial covering does not apply when:

- The individual is under ten years of age,
- A medical condition, including those with respiratory conditions that restrict breathing, mental health conditions, or disability contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering,



Who is excluded from wearing a face covering/mask continued:

- The individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication
- The individual is alone in an enclosed space, such as an office, and which space is not intended for use or access by the public
- The individual is actively engaged in exercise in a gym or indoor facility so long as six or more feet of separation between individuals exists,
- The individual is actively participating in athletic practice, scrimmage, or competition that is permitted under a separate Department of Health Order
- The individual is actively engaged in a public safety capacity, including but not limited to law enforcement, firefighters or emergency medical personnel,
- The individual is seated and actively consuming food or beverage in a restaurant or bar,
- Facial coverings are prohibited by law or regulation,
- Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards,
- Facial coverings are in violation of a business's documented safety policies,
- Individual is actively participating in broadcast communications, or
- Individual is an officiant of a religious services

Where can I find the official Order?

The official Order is available on coronavirus.ohio.gov and can also be found on health.bcoho.us.

