Los Angeles County
WHEN YOU NEED TO WEAR A MASK

9-23-22: Masks are still required in some settings and strongly recommended in others—see the summary below and details in the Health Officer Order and the LA County COVID-19 Response Plan.

YOU* MUST wear a mask:
• **In healthcare settings.** • **In congregate care facilities**, such as long-term care settings and adult/senior care facilities. • **In any other location where it is the policy of the business or venue.** • **If you have COVID-19.** You must wear a highly protective mask (even at home) when you are around others until you end isolation. If you are eligible to end isolation after Day 5 because you have a negative test result, it is strongly recommended that you continue to wear a mask through Day 10. In workplace settings, you must wear a mask through Day 10. • **If you are a close contact to someone with COVID-19.** You must wear a highly protective mask when you are around others indoors for 10 days after your last day of exposure. • **If there has been a recent outbreak** at your workplace or the congregate setting where you live.
It is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that you wear a mask (Unless required – see *You must wear a mask* above)

• **On all forms of public transit**, including trains, buses, shuttle buses, taxis, ride-shares, and medical transport.
• **In all transportation hubs**, including airport and bus terminals, train and subway stations, seaports or other indoor port terminals, or any other indoor area that serves as a transportation hub
• **If you are at risk for severe illness** wear a highly protective mask **when you are in a higher risk setting.** These include any of the "**three Cs":**
  ○ **C**losed spaces with poor air flow
  ○ **C**rowded places with many people nearby, and
  ○ **C**lose contact settings especially where people are talking (or breathing heavily) close together.

INDIVIDUAL PREFERENCE whether you wear a mask (Unless required – see *You must wear a mask* above)
• **In state and local correctional facilities and detention centers** • **Homeless and emergency shelters** • **In all other indoor public settings, businesses, and government offices**

No one can be prevented from wearing a mask to participate in an activity or enter a business.

Note: When masks are required, you are allowed to take off your mask while you are:

- Actively eating or drinking.
- Alone in a separate room or space.
- Showering or swimming.
- Receiving medical, dental, cosmetic, personal hygiene or personal care services (like a facial or shave) that cannot be done without removing your mask.
- Receiving or providing a speech, occupational or language therapy session where temporary removal of the mask is necessary, as determined by the therapy provider.

***There are some people who should not wear a mask**, such as children younger than 2, people with certain medical conditions or disabilities, and people instructed by their medical provider not to wear a mask. See Who should not wear a mask and Special considerations for persons with communication difficulties or certain disabilities for details and information on alternative types of face coverings.

To learn more about types of masks and rules and recommendations in LA County, visit ph.lacounty.gov/masks.