



# COVID-19 UPDATE

## UPDATED PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS



### MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT CEO/HR DIRECTOR

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has updated their guidance on the protocol for isolation and quarantine for members of the general population. Therefore, the Public Health Department has issued protocols to be followed if an employee has been exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 case or tests positive for COVID-19. In addition, the Protocols for First Responders and Health Care Personnel (HCP) in Health Care Settings including Skilled Nursing and Long-Term Care Facilities were also updated to align with the CDPH's guidance.

Some key updates to the Protocols for County Workers include the following:

- Everyone who tests positive for COVID-19 regardless of vaccination status, previous infection, or lack of symptoms should stay home for 5 days - **Isolation**.
  - Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving **AND** a diagnostic specimen<sup>1</sup> collected on day 5 or later tests negative.
  - If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or resolving, isolation can end after day 10.
  - Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings.
- Persons exposed<sup>2</sup> to someone with COVID-19 and are unvaccinated or vaccinated and booster eligible<sup>3</sup> but have not yet received their booster dose should stay home for at least 5 days after last contact with a person who has COVID-19 - **Quarantine**.
  - Test on day 5.
  - Quarantine can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present and a diagnostic specimen collected on day 5 or later tests negative.
  - If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or resolving, isolation can end after day 10.
  - Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings.

<sup>1</sup> Antigen test preferred.

<sup>2</sup> Exposure definition: close contact within six feet of an infected person for a cumulative 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

<sup>3</sup> A person becomes booster-eligible 6 months after their 2nd dose of a Moderna or Pfizer-Bioethics COVID-19 vaccine OR 2 months after the 1st dose of their Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen vaccine, OR 6 months after getting all recommended doses of a World Health Organization (WHO) emergency use listing (EUL) COVID-19 vaccine OR 6 months after getting all recommended doses of a mix and match series composed of any combination of FDA-approved, FDA-authorized, or WHO- EUL COVID-19 vaccines.

- Persons who are exposed to someone with COVID-19 and are boosted or vaccinated but not yet booster eligible - **No quarantine.**
  - Test on day 5.
  - Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings.
  - If testing positive, follow isolation recommendations above.
  - If symptoms develop test and stay home.

You may review the full Public Health protocols by clicking on the following link: <https://rivcoph.org/coronavirus>

On January 5, 2022, the CDPH extended the requirement for universal masking indoors through **February 15, 2022**. The [guidance on face coverings](#)<sup>4</sup> requires masks to be worn in all indoor public settings regardless of vaccination status and began on December 15, 2021. Exceptions to this order are provided by the CDPH and can be accessed using the link above. The State will continue to monitor the situation and will make further recommendations as needed in response to the pandemic after February 15, 2022. Please note that under this masking mandate, surgical masks or higher-level respirators (e.g., N95s, KN95s, KF94s) with good fit are recommended. For additional information on types of masks, the most effective masks, and ensuring a well-fitted mask, individuals should refer to the [CDPH](#) site using the link provided.

In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (OSHSB) adopted revisions to the current COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) on December 17, 2021. These revisions will take effect on January 14, 2022. Human Resources is currently reviewing the revisions and will issue further information on the impacts to all staff once they have been fully reviewed. Additional testing policies and procedures are also under review at this time and will be communicated to staff as soon as practicable once established. If you have additional questions, please reach out to your supervisor or manager for assistance.

Thank you for your service and your assistance in keeping both yourself and others safe.

  
BRENDA DIEDERICHS

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<sup>4</sup> "Face Covering" means a surgical mask, a medical procedure mask, a respirator worn voluntarily, or a tightly woven fabric or non-woven material of at least two layers. A face covering has no visible holes or openings and must cover the nose and mouth. A face covering does not include, a scarf, ski mask, balaclava, bandana, turtleneck, collar, or single layer fabric.