

COVID-19 UPDATE

GUIDANCE FOR FACE COVERINGS

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT CEO/HR DIRECTOR

As you may have heard, the state of California is anticipated to reopen on June 15th, 2021. With the reopening and various organizations (California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH) providing guidance it's easy to get overwhelmed and confused by all the information being disseminated. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide clarity.

As an employer in California, the County is subject to the standards set by Cal/OSHA. In November 2020 Cal/OSHA adopted COVID-19 prevention Emergency Temporary Standards (ETS) to protect workers from COVID-19. While there were proposed revisions to the ETS to delineate between COVID-19 vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals those revisions ultimately were not adopted. As such, the County remains subject to the ETS in place since November 2020. As a reminder, here is a high-level overview of the ETS that remain in place regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status:

- The ETS applies to all employers and employees with the following exceptions:
 - Workplaces where this is only one employee who does not have contact with other people
 - Employees who are working from home
 - Employees who are covered by the [Aerosol Transmissible Diseases](#) regulation
- The ETS requires physical distancing of at least six feet unless it is not possible
- The ETS requires employees to wear face coverings and requires the County to ensure the face coverings are worn over the nose and mouth when indoors and outdoors, and within 6 feet of another. Exceptions include:
 - When an employee is alone in a room.
 - While eating and drinking at the workplace, provided employees are at least six feet apart and outside air supply to the area, if indoors, has been maximized to the extent possible.
 - Employees wearing respiratory protection in accordance with section 5144 or other title safety orders.

- Employees who cannot wear face coverings due to a medical or mental health condition or disability, or who are hearing-impaired or communicating with a hearing-impaired person.
- Specific tasks which cannot feasibly be performed with a face covering.

When/if the Cal/OHSA standards change, notification will be provided.

We encourage each of you to continue to protect yourselves by practicing physical distancing, washing, and/or sanitizing your hands regularly and taking good care of yourselves during these challenging times.

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



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