

Mask Update FAQ

How is the campus policy different from the CDC guidance?

The CDC guidance provides recommendations for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals as it relates to levels of risk associated with mask use and social distancing. The university has chosen to apply the guidance of requiring no masks for all individuals regardless of vaccination status due to the low COVID-19 case rate in Stillwater, Payne County and the State of Oklahoma as well as the administrative issues of enforcing compliance based upon vaccination status in the absence of knowing who is and is not vaccinated. Please remember that all OSU community members regardless of vaccination status have the ability to choose to wear masks.

Is this policy final or subject to change this fall?

All OSU policy statements are subject to change as circumstances shift. With the pandemic, our university has pivoted quickly to meet the needs of our students, faculty, and staff. We are grateful for the continued diligence and patience provided as we look toward the fall semester.

Can we require unvaccinated people to wear masks on campus?

No. Masks are no longer required on the OSU campus except for OSU Transit Buses due to the Department of Transportation grant requirements and areas of University Health Services.

Will we require students to be vaccinated?

No. At this time, the university will not require students to be vaccinated.

Can I ask for someone's vaccination status or proof of vaccination?

No. It is not appropriate to request or require proof of medical information such as vaccination status unless required through other policy or procedures. If you have questions, please contact your [HR Consultant](#) or email covid19@okstate.edu.

Can my department set our own mask policies?

No. The university has set forth guidance related to mask use on campus. It is inappropriate for departments to deviate from these statements.

Can my department set social distancing rules?

No. The university has set forth guidance related to social distancing on campus. It is inappropriate for departments to deviate from these statements. However, the department does have the ability to set up workspaces as it deems appropriate to meet the aesthetic and functional demands of the work. If you have questions, please contact your [HR Consultant](#) or email covid19@okstate.edu.

I'm immunocompromised...can I require my students to wear masks in my class?

No. At this time, OSU will not require the use of masks across campus including classes. If you have concerns related to your ability to conduct the essential functions of your position, please contact your [HR Consultant](#) or the [Office of Equal Opportunity](#).

Can I ask others to wear a mask around me?

Yes. You may request that others wear a mask; however, you may not require them to do so. You also may not refuse to conduct business transactions or work with others based upon their choice to wear or not wear a mask.

I'm still uncomfortable not wearing a mask despite being vaccinated. What should I do?

All individuals are able to choose to wear a mask. Please feel free to wear a mask if you feel more comfortable doing so.

I'm traveling to areas where mask mandates are still in place. Do I need to comply?

Yes. Local and state mandates will take precedence over university policy when traveling or working off-campus. Also, please comply with the requests of business owners if conducting business in establishments that post mask requirements.