

Collier County
Face Covering Emergency/Executive Order No. 2020 - 05
Questions and Answers

Q. What is a face covering?

A. A "face covering" is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand or can be improvised from household items.

Q. Why are face coverings required?

A. To slow the spread of COVID-19.

Q. Who is required to wear a face covering?

A. An owner, manager, employee, customer or patron of a business establishment must wear a face covering while in that business establishment.

Q. What is a "business establishment?"

A. A "business establishment" means a location with a roof overhead under which any business is conducted, goods are made or stored or processed or where services are rendered. The term "business establishment" also includes locations where non-profit, governmental, and quasi-governmental entities facilitate public interactions and conduct business. The term does not include schools servicing students under the age of 18, or places of worship.

Q. Does this Order include outdoor spaces such as parks, trails, and beaches?

A. No. However, it is recommended that the public adhere to the CDC guidelines by voluntarily social distancing and using face coverings.

Q. What areas of Collier County are affected by the face covering Order?

A. The Order currently applies solely within unincorporated Collier County. Any of the Municipalities within Collier County may opt-in to this Order.

Q. Who does this Order NOT apply to?

A. The Order shall not apply to a child under nine years of age; an individual who has one or more medical conditions or disabilities that prevent wearing a face covering; an individual obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service; or an individual who works in a profession where use of a face covering will not be compatible with the duties of the profession.

Q. When are face masks not required in a business establishment?

- A.
1. Restaurant customers or patrons while dining and/or consuming beverages while seated at a table.
 2. A gym patron engaged in a workout or class where at least 6 feet of distancing exists with the next closest patron.
 3. Barbershop or beauty salon customers or patrons when wearing a face covering would reasonably interfere with receiving services.

4. Business owners, managers, and employees who are in an area of a business establishment that is not open to customers, patrons, or the public, provided that six feet of distance exists between employees. This exception does not apply to employees who are present in the kitchen or other food and beverage preparation area of a restaurant or food establishment. When an owner, manager, or employee is in their place of employment but not within six feet of another person, that owner, manager, or employee does not need to wear a mask.
5. Bar patrons while consuming beverages and/or food.
6. A lodging establishment guest when inside of the lodging unit including, but not limited to, a hotel room, motel room, vacation rental unit, timeshare unit, or similar unit.

Q. Who is responsible for ensuring that individuals inside a business are complying?

A. The owner, operator, manager, and employee of a business or lodging establishment shall ensure that every individual in that establishment complies.

Q. What happens when a customer of a business establishment asserts that he or she has a disability that prevents the individual from wearing a mask?

A. The owner, manager, or employee of the business establishment may exclude the individual, even if they have a disability, as they may pose a direct threat to the health and safety of employees and other customers, even if asymptomatic, and shall accommodate the disabled individual in a manner that does not fundamentally alter the operations of the business establishment nor jeopardize the health of that business's employees and other customers, such as providing curb service or delivery or other reasonable accommodation.

Q. When is the face covering order in effect?

A. The Order became effective July 21, 2020 and, unless otherwise extended or ended by the Board of County Commissioners, will expire midnight of September 3, 2020.

Q. How do I report a violation?

A. Call Collier County Code Enforcement at (239) 252-2440.

Q. What is the punishment for a violation?

A. A violation of the Order is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.