



## MASKING EXCEPTION OPTION FOR LARGE EVENTS WITHIN COUNTIES WITH "SUBSTANTIAL" OR "HIGH" COVID-19 COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION

### DIRECTIVE 049 AUTHORIZES AN EXCEPTION TO THE MASK REQUIREMENT FOR LARGE EVENTS THAT REQUIRE ALL ATTENDEES TO BE VACCINATED.

[Directive 049](#) creates an exception to the mask requirement for eligible large events in counties with "substantial" or "high" transmission rates *if* all attendees are vaccinated. This gives an option for event organizers to choose between requiring masks indoors for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status, or ensuring that all attendees are vaccinated, in which case fully-vaccinated attendees can remove their masks.

This is *not a* requirement to show proof of vaccination to attend a large event. It is an optional *exception* to the general mask requirement if the event operator chooses to require proof of vaccination for all attendees.

**STATEWIDE MASK REQUIREMENT:** As set forth in Emergency Directive 047: *all persons in counties with "substantial" or "high" community transmission rates will be required to wear face coverings while in public indoor spaces regardless of vaccination status.*

**EXCEPTION FOR LARGE EVENTS REQUIRING PROOF OF VACCINATION:** Masks are not required for FULLY VACCINATED persons at indoor large events in counties with "substantial" or "high" transmission rates if ALL of the following conditions are met:

- It is held at an indoor venue with fixed seating capacity of 4,000 or greater;
- The event is for a discrete period of time;
- The event requires tickets or registration;
- The event is open only to those who hold tickets or registration;
- The event operator maintains access control that effectively prevents unticketed or unregistered or otherwise unauthorized persons from entering or attending the event; and,
- The event operator requires proof of at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination for every attendee at that event. If someone fails to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination, they MUST NOT be admitted.

Additionally, event operators MUST implement a **method of verifying vaccination status** that is *accurate, effective and reliable*. Staff must be sufficient in number and adequately trained to implement the system.

Event operators may admit attendees who are only partially vaccinated (e.g. have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination). However, attendees who are only **partially vaccinated MUST continue to wear a mask** during the event.

Event operators may admit attendees who, *because of their age*, are ineligible to receive a vaccination against COVID-19. However, all such attendees age **2 and over MUST continue to wear a face covering** during the event.



Event operators **MUST implement a system of distinguishing attendees who are fully vaccinated from those who are only partially vaccinated** or who, due to age, are ineligible to receive a vaccine, and **MUST** enforce the face covering requirement for all attendees who are not fully vaccinated during the event.

**CERTIFICATION FORM for Participating Event Operators:** Eligible event operators who wish to hold an event where fully vaccinated persons are not required to wear face coverings pursuant to this Guidance must submit a Large Event Masking Exception COVID-19 Certification Form ("Mask Exception Certification") listing the event venue, the date(s) of the event(s), if known, and certifying that the event operator will comply with all requirements of [Directive 049](#). The certification form must be submitted to the State Department of Business and Industry and to the applicable local health authority.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the Large Event Masking Exception COVID-19 Certification Form.

**What does it mean to be "Fully Vaccinated"?** In general, people are considered [fully vaccinated](#):

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

If you don't meet these requirements, you are NOT fully vaccinated.

**What type of proof of vaccination is required?** The exact method of determining vaccination status may vary by venue. However, the venue must have an *effective* and *reliable* system in place. Venues should additionally warn attendees that buying, selling, or using a fake vaccination card may be a criminal offense.

**What about kids?** Children who are NOT eligible for vaccination due to their age may attend the event but **MUST** wear a mask. Children who are eligible for vaccine, must meet the requirements noted above for full vaccination in order to be unmasked at the event.

**What if a vaccine is approved for kids under 12 years old?** In the event a vaccine is approved for children under 12, event operators must begin verifying vaccination status for children, based on the vaccine age recommendations available. Until they are fully vaccinated, all children must continue to wear a mask during the event.

**What about event staff?** Fully vaccinated staff may remove their face coverings inside the venue during the event if all requirements are met. Partially vaccinated or unvaccinated staff must still wear a face covering.

**What about people who cannot be vaccinated or who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition?** Medical exemptions cannot be accommodated.

**What about people who cannot be vaccinated or who cannot wear a mask for religious reasons?** Religious exemptions cannot be accommodated.

**Who will enforce?** The appropriate state and local agencies will be responsible for enforcement.



## BACKGROUND

In accordance with [Declaration of Emergency Directive 047](#) (effective July 20, 2021), all persons in counties with **“substantial” or “high” community transmission** rates will be required to wear face coverings while in public indoor spaces regardless of vaccination status. This mandate became effective at 12:01am on Friday, July 30, 2021.

In counties with **“low” or “moderate” transmission**, the mask requirement remains the same as it was before the CDC's July 27th announcement. That is: unvaccinated individuals **MUST** wear a mask while indoors or while in crowded outdoor settings. Vaccinated individuals do not need to wear a mask either indoors or outdoors. However, wearing a mask is now recommended when in a crowded setting, especially indoors.

County transmission data is reviewed **weekly every Tuesday**, by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) based on the data available on [CDC county tracker](#). DHHS will provide updates weekly every Tuesday to counties and the public informing them of their status. [CLICK HERE to view the latest list of county status.](#)

For a county to change masking requirement status, **it must remain in a transmission classification for two consecutive weeks before the mask requirement will be either increased or relaxed.** If a county's status changes, it will have until that Friday of the same week to implement that change.