



For immediate release:

Date: December 14, 2021

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State issues new guidance and mandates due to surge in COVID cases

The state's seven-day average case rate has increased 47% and hospitalization has increased 14%; therefore, the state has issued new guidance, which supersedes any prior guidance or mandates. On December 15, 2021, all new guidance will take effect. The following guidance have been issued by the state: travel advisory, face covering and mega events.

Travel Advisory: The State is issuing the following recommendations, which supersede all prior Travel Advisories:

- All travelers arriving in or returning to California from other states or countries should follow [CDC travel guidance](#).
- All travelers arriving in or returning to California from other states or countries should test 3-5 days upon arrival.
- All travelers who test positive or develop [symptoms of COVID-19](#) should [isolate](#) and follow [public health recommendations](#).

For the more information regarding the new travel advisory go to

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Travel-Advisory.aspx>

Face Covering: California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is requiring masks to be worn in all indoor public settings, regardless of vaccine status, for the next four weeks (December 15, 2021 through January 15, 2022).

- In workplaces, employers are subject to the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 [Emergency Temporary Standards \(ETS\)](#) or in some workplaces the [Cal/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Diseases \(ATD\)](#) Standard and should consult those regulations for additional applicable requirements.

Exemptions to masks requirements

The following individuals are exempt from wearing masks at all times:

- Persons younger than two years old. Very young children must not wear a mask because of the risk of suffocation.

- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a mask could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance.
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Persons for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

For more information regarding the face covering requirements go to

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>

Mega Events:

- Those who cannot provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination status must provide a negative COVID-19 test within 1 day for an antigen test and 2 days for a PCR test prior to entry into an event.
- Mega event: crowds greater than 1,000 (indoors) attendees: crowds greater than 10,000 (outdoors) attendees
- New requirement is **required for indoor** mega events and **recommended for outdoor** mega events

For more information regarding the new requirements for mega events go to

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Beyond-Blueprint-Framework.aspx>

Vaccination remains the single best defense against the spread of Covid-19; however due to the recent surge in case rates and the new Omicron variant, which has been deemed a variant of concern by the World Health Organization, the new measures bring additional protection to individuals, families and communities.

Vaccines for COVID-19 are free and available at local hospitals in Quincy and Portola, pharmacies in Chester, Quincy and Portola, and from the Plumas County Public Health Agency. More information about how to get the vaccine can be found on the Plumas County Public Health Agency web site:

<https://www.plumascounty.us/2839/COVID-19-Home.>