



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS, 55TH WING (ACC)**  
**OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, NEBRASKA**

2 March 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE PERSONNEL

FROM: Offutt AFB Installation Commander

SUBJECT: Offutt Air Force Base Face Covering Policy, Amendment 8

Reference: (a) USD(P&R) memo, "Updated Guidance for Mask and Screening Testing for all Department of Defense Installations and Other Facilities," 1 March 2022  
(b) USD(P&R) memo, "Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 23) Revision 3 – Department of Defense Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Attestation, Screening Testing, and Vaccination Verification," 20 December 2021  
(c) SecDef memo, "Use of Masks and Other Public Health Measures," 4 February 2021  
(d) SecAF memo, "Department of the Air Force Guidance on Use of Masks," 16 February 2021  
(e) AFCAT DIR – GENADMIN – A4 Guidance Related to Face Covering Policy, 7 April 2020

1. Effective immediately, all individuals on the installation will follow the guidance specified in reference (a). Commanders may maintain more rigorous health protection measures for all individuals at locations where appropriate or mandated by other guidance (e.g. Child Development Centers, Ehrling Bergquist Clinic, etc.).

a. High CDC COVID-19 Community Level: indoor mask-wearing is required regardless of vaccination status. The screening testing program specified in reference (b) is also required.

b. Medium CDC COVID-19 Community Level: indoor mask-wearing is not required. However, the screening testing program specified in reference (b) is required.

c. Low CDC COVID-19 Community Level: indoor mask-wearing and the screening testing program specified in reference (b) are not required.

d. Regardless of the CDC COVID-19 Community Level, DoD Force Health Protection Guidance for workplace access and mask-wearing for DoD personnel with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure for someone with COVID-19 remains in effect.

e. Individuals may choose to wear a mask regardless of the CDC COVID-19 Community Level.

2. In situations where mask wear is required per reference (a), the identified exceptions for mask wear in references (c) and (d), and pursuant to the authority delegated to me in reference (d), the following categorical exemptions apply to Offutt AFB:

*The Sun Never Sets on the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*

- a. Aircrew members during all phases of flight when clear communications is required for safety of flight and/or mission accomplishment.
  - b. Security forces and emergency services personnel when clear communications is required during security incidents or emergencies.
  - c. Command Post and operations center personnel (e.g. Maintenance Operations Center, Base Defense Operations Center, etc.) when clear communications is required for command and control activities.
  - d. Air Traffic Controllers when clear communication is required for safety of flight.
  - e. Select members of the Heartland of American Band (e.g. brass, woodwind, etc.) when preparing for or performing musical missions.
3. All cloth face coverings when worn in uniform will be professional and, per reference (e), should be black (all uniform combinations) or coyote brown (OCP). The color scheme described in reference (e) is for Air Force personnel only; other service members should follow guidance issued by their service. Per reference (c), novelty or non-protective masks, masks with ventilation valves, or face shields are not authorized as a substitute for masks. Masks must fit properly (i.e. snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face).
4. If you have any questions, please contact the 55 WG/DS office at (402) 232-7566 or 55WG.DS@us.af.mil.



KRISTEN D. THOMPSON, Colonel, USAF  
Installation Commander



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

**UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**  
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

**MAR - 1 2022**

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP  
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS  
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Updated Guidance for Mask and Screening Testing for all Department of Defense Installations and Other Facilities

In accordance with the updated guidance released by the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force on February 28, 2022, beginning immediately, the following masking and screening testing guidance requirements based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Community Levels<sup>1</sup> will apply to all Department of Defense (DoD) installations and other facilities owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by DoD:

- When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is high in the county where a DoD installation or facility is located<sup>2</sup>, indoor mask-wearing is required for all Service members, DoD civilian employees, onsite DoD contractor personnel (collectively, "DoD personnel"), and visitors, regardless of vaccination status. The screening testing program required by reference (a) shall be utilized in that installation or facility.
- When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is medium in the county where a DoD installation or facility is located, indoor mask-wearing is not required for DoD personnel or visitors. The screening testing program required by reference (a) shall be utilized in that installation or facility.
- When the CDC COVID-19 Community Level is low in the county where a DoD installation or facility is located, indoor mask-wearing is not required for DoD personnel or visitors. The screening testing program contained in reference (a) is not required for that installation or facility.
- Individuals may choose to wear a mask regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level.

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<sup>1</sup> Community levels may be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>. Find community levels by "State or Territory" and then by "County or Metro Area." Jurisdictions which are not counties, such as the District of Columbia, also are listed under "County or Metro Area." Definitions of low, medium, and high risk may be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>.

<sup>2</sup> The Pentagon is located in Arlington County, Virginia.

- Regardless of the CDC COVID-19 Community Level, DoD force health protection guidance for workplace access and mask wearing for DoD personnel with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 remains in effect.
- When mask wearing is required, any previously-approved exceptions to the masking requirement remain in effect.
- DoD installations, other facilities, and worksites shall, as soon as possible, post signs and post information on their websites clarifying what masking requirements apply on each installation and at each facility.
- All other force health protection guidance remains in effect, including guidance regarding workplace access, occupancy levels, physical distancing, travel, and meetings. Individual must follow more rigorous workplace mask mandates when commanders and supervisors determine that it is required to protect health and safety in the workplace, such as mask wearing by health care workers.
- Installations outside the U.S. should consult country-level data for their Host Nations (HN) if local community-level data is unavailable. Case-rate information is available from the CDC at <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#global-counts-rates> and the World Health Organization at <https://covid19.who.int/>. Other sources of data include HN public health authorities, academic institutions, and the World Health Organization.
- DoD Components will comply with any applicable labor relations obligations when implementing this policy.

References (b) and (c) (Attachment 1) are rescinded.

Please direct any questions or comments to the following email address:  
[dha.ncr.ha-support.list.policy-hrpo-kmc-owners@mail.mil](mailto:dha.ncr.ha-support.list.policy-hrpo-kmc-owners@mail.mil).



Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.

Attachment:  
As stated

**ATTACHMENT 1**  
**References**

- (a) Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, “Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 23) Revision 3 – Department of Defense Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Vaccination Attestation, Screening Testing, and Vaccination Verification,” dated December 20, 2021
- (b) Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Memorandum, “Force Health Protection Guidance (Supplement 17) Revision 1 – Department of Defense Guidance for the Use of Masks, Personal Protective Equipment, and Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic,” dated June 22, 2021 (hereby rescinded)
- (c) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Updated Mask Guidance for all DoD Installations and Other Facilities,” dated July 28, 2021 (hereby rescinded)