

# Important Revision to Congressional Coronavirus Mask Wear Requirements, May 13, 2021



Sending Office: Office of the Attending Physician

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The Centers for Disease Control published a major revision to SARS-CoV2 coronavirus pandemic protection guidelines on May 13, 2021 that significantly change mask wear requirements and social distancing guidelines for individuals that are fully vaccinated. The guidelines include provisions that institutions may require more stringent requirements in their operating procedures. [CDC: Fully Vaccinated Individuals](#).

A fully vaccinated individual is one who has completed all scheduled doses of their coronavirus vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson and Johnson) and two weeks have elapsed since the last dose. Recovery from natural infection is not equivalent to completion of a vaccination. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated or with medical conditions elevating their risk of infection, should continue to comply with mask wear and social distancing guidelines.

For the Hall Of The House: The present mask requirement and other guidelines remain unchanged until all Members and floor staff are fully vaccinated.

For House Office Buildings Spaces and all Other Areas:

IF YOU'VE BEEN FULLY VACCINATED: Resumption of Pre-Pandemic Activities

-You can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic.

-You can resume activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except when visiting a medical treatment facility (OAP Office and Health Units are required to maintain strict infection control measures).

-If you travel in the United States, you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel. International travel has very significant risks and had requirements for coronavirus testing specified in the CDC guidelines on travel.

IF YOU'VE BEEN FULLY VACCINATED: Ongoing Important Coronavirus Prevention Required Activities:

-If you travel, you should still take steps to protect yourself and others. You will still be required to wear a mask on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States, and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.

-You should still watch out for symptoms of COVID-19, and practice hand hygiene, especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, wear a mask, get tested and stay home and away from others.

-People who have a condition or are taking medications that weaken the immune system, should talk to their healthcare provider to discuss their activities. They may need to keep taking all precautions (mask

wear, 6-foot separations, etc.) to prevent COVID-19.

-A comprehensive Office of Attending Physician guideline revision incorporating these changes will be subsequently published. The OAP remains ready to provide for your Pfizer Coronavirus vaccinations by calling 202 225 VAXX (8299) for an appointment, often available on the day of your call. The only requirement for vaccination is a valid Congressional Agency Identification Card.

### **CONTACT OAP**

For medical concerns (COVID or non-COVID related) contact the OAP at the numbers below. A physician is available to discuss your concern and provide guidance for further evaluation as needed. 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM weekdays: Call the OAP Main Office at 202-225-5421

Further information is available at: <https://attendingphysician.house.gov>

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