

Response to Order of the Acting Secretary of Health of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Directing  
Face Coverings in School Entities

**Will the order be implemented and enforced by the Upper Dauphin Area School District?**

Yes, the UDASD will implement and enforce the face covering order. The Order requires all teachers, students, staff and visitors to wear a face covering indoors at school.

**Does this order apply to outdoor classroom activities or outdoor extracurricular activities for students, staff, visitors, or spectators?**

No.

**Does this order affect the requirement to wear face coverings on busses?**

No, face coverings are still required on district transportation including busses and vans.

**Will contact tracing still need to occur for positive cases?**

Contact tracing will still occur. As was specified in the Addendum to the 2021-22 Health and Safety Plan dated August 26, 2021, "If a student otherwise meets the definition of a close contact, but the student and the positive person were wearing masks, the student does not have to quarantine. Please note that this does not apply to adults." Since the use of face coverings will be significantly increased under this order, fewer students will be negatively impacted by contact tracing and fewer students will need to be quarantined due to close contact. However, there is still the potential for quarantines for situations where face coverings are not worn such as lunch and extracurricular activities.

**What documentation is needed for students and staff members who wish to claim a medical exemption?**

Children two years and older are required to wear a face covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team.

**Do staff members need to wear face coverings when working alone in offices or classrooms?**

No, there is an exemption when working alone and isolated from others.

**Do students need to wear face coverings when eating lunch?**

No, there is an exemption when eating or drinking.

**Do students need to wear face coverings when playing an instrument?**

No, there is an exemption when playing instruments. However, musical faculty are advised to spread students out to six feet and even use outdoor spaces when playing musical instruments.

**Do students need to wear face coverings during indoor physical education classes?**

No, there is an exemption for indoor physical education classes as long as it is in a well ventilated area and students are able maintain six feet of separation from others.

**Do students need to wear face coverings when playing an indoor sport during a practice or contest?**

No, there is an exemption when playing indoor sports. However, face coverings must be worn when not actually participating in indoor sports including in the locker room, during team meetings, and when not able to maintain six feet of separation from others.

**Do adults at indoor sporting practices and events including coaches and spectators need to wear masks?**

Yes.