

# Frequently Asked Questions About K-12 Mask Mandate 333-019-1015:

## What is the new mandate?

The Executive Order is OAR 333-019-1015 and is available at this link:

[https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=280183&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=280183&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

## What does the mandate require?

All individuals, including but not limited to staff, students, contractors and visitors wear a mask if they are over the age of 2 years old when in an indoor setting:

- At school during regular school hours;
- Engaged in educational activities such as field trips or off-campus classes during regular school hours; and
- At school engaged in educational activities outside of regular school hours.
- A face shield may be worn instead of a mask if an individual cannot wear a mask for medical reasons.
- Nothing in this rule is intended to prohibit a school from complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

## When is an individual NOT required to wear a mask?

- Actively eating or drinking.
- Sleeping.
- Playing a musical instrument that requires using the mouth.
- Engaged in a sport during physical education class such as swimming, other water sports, or a sport where wearing a mask could be a strangulation hazard such as gymnastics or wrestling.
- Alone in a private office enclosed by walls on all sides with a door that is closed.
- Is under the age of two (2)

## When did the rule take effect?

**Effective August 2, 2021**

**Subject to enforcement August 12, 2021**

The rule should be applied to summer school and the beginning of the 21-22 school year.

## Why was this mandate issued?

The goal is to ensure that every student in Oregon is able to attend school in-person, every school day for the entire 21-22 school year.

Universal and correct use of face coverings can keep students learning in-person by reducing infections and quarantines, especially when paired with other layered mitigation efforts.

## What happens if a school does not comply?

- A school that violates this rule is subject to a civil penalty of \$500 per day per violation.
- OHA has authority/responsibility under ORS 431A.010 for additional action

### **Is this rule for the full 21-22 school year?**

No. The goal is to go back to local decision-making. OHA will review the situation at least monthly.

### **Are masks required at the district office and other non-school sites? What about Board meetings?**

No. This is a local decision. The statewide requirement applies to:

- At school during regular school hours;
- Engaged in educational activities such as field trips or off-campus classes during regular school hours; and
- At school engaged in educational activities outside of regular school hours.

### **Where can I get more information about back to school for the 21-22 school year?**

*Ready Schools, Safe Learners Resiliency Framework* contains rules and guidelines from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Oregon Health Authority and is available at this link:

[https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Documents/Ready%20Schools%20Safe%20Learners%20Resiliency%20Framework%20for%20the%202021-22%20School%20Year.pdf?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Documents/Ready%20Schools%20Safe%20Learners%20Resiliency%20Framework%20for%20the%202021-22%20School%20Year.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

Also, visit the ODE Ready Schools website here:

<https://www.oregon.gov/ode/readyschools/Pages/default.aspx>