

WUSM COVID-19 Policy effective from 07/01/2020 until further notice

## **FACE COVERING/MASK REQUIREMENTS ON THE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE CAMPUS:**

Public health and other data strongly supports that universal masking substantially reduces transmission of COVID-19. The main purpose of the mask is to prevent the wearer from expelling small virus-containing droplets of saliva or mucus into the air and infecting others. Wearing a mask reduces the likelihood that an infected individual could spread the virus to people around them (colleagues, co-workers, friends, etc). This is especially important for infected people who may be asymptomatic. It also protects the wearer. Therefore, to reduce the spread of the virus, and to protect the health of all our faculty, staff, and trainees, WashU School of Medicine is requiring universal masking.

### **All WashU personnel and visitors are required to wear a face covering while on the Medical campus.**

- This includes faculty, staff, trainees, contractors, vendors and other visitors.
- The face covering/mask should fit snugly cover the wearer's mouth and nose.
- Masks should be worn when inside WashU buildings, garages, and the link system.
- You may remove your mask while eating (be careful to keep at least 6 ft between you and other personnel).
- If you are alone in a room (e.g. your office), you may remove your mask.
- While outdoors, masks are not required unless you will be within 6 ft of others. For example, if you are walking on a busy sidewalk where you cannot separate from others by 6 feet, you should wear your mask.
- If you have a medical condition that may preclude mask wearing, please contact Occupational Health if you are an employee or student health if you are a student to discuss your condition and potential accommodations. Children under two do not have to wear a mask, however, in general, children shouldn't be on the campus at this time.

This public health policy will be strictly enforced. Violations of the policy may result in corrective and/or disciplinary action, including suspension or dismissal.

A few other related items:

- You may bring your own mask from home.
- The School of Medicine will provide cloth masks if needed for those who work outside of clinical areas. Limited masks may be available at [campus-access screening stations](#).
- Wash cloth masks before first use and after every subsequent use. The navy blue WUSM-provided masks should be hand-washed.
- Wash your hands before putting on the mask and after taking it off.
- Washington University endorses the CDC guidance on wearing face coverings in public settings. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>